

Prime Time Crime!

While you're waiting for the latest episodes of your favorite shows, why not check out some of the books that inspired them?

Army Wives (Lifetime): Anecdotes in the nonfiction work [*Army Wives: The Unwritten Code of Military Marriage*](#), by Tanya Biank, influenced this popular series.

Boardwalk Empire (HBO). This Prohibition-era drama about a crime kingpin is loosely based on the book [*Boardwalk Empire: The Birth, High Times, and Corruption of Atlantic City*](#), by Nelson Johnson.

Bones (Fox). Temperance “Bones” Brennan, a brilliant forensic anthropologist with a notable lack of social skills, was created by Kathy Reichs – herself a forensic anthropologist. The books, in order of publication, are:

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| 1. Déjà Dead | 8. Cross Bones |
| 2. Death du Jour | 9. Break No Bones |
| 3. Deadly Decisions | 10. Bones to Ashes |
| 4. Fatal Voyage | 11. Devil Bones |
| 5. Grave Secrets | 12. 206 Bones |
| 6. Bare Bones | 13. Spider Bones |
| 7. Monday Mourning | 14. Flash and Bones |

Castle (ABC). This is a special case where the television series actually came first. The three “Nikki Heat” books are supposedly “written” by the fictional main character in the TV show, Richard Castle – a mystery novelist who helps the police solve crimes.

1. [Heat Wave](#)
2. [Naked Heat](#)
3. [Heat Rises](#)

Dexter (Showtime). Everyone's favorite sociopathic serial killer, Dexter Morgan, started his criminal-catching career in a series of novels by Jeff Lindsay.

1. [Darkly Dreaming Dexter](#)
2. [Dearly Devoted Dexter](#)
3. [Dexter in the Dark](#)
4. [Dexter by Design](#)
5. [Dexter is Delicious](#)
6. [Double Dexter](#)

Game of Thrones (HBO). Gritty, dark medieval fantasy with a complicated cast of characters, this show is based on George R.R. Martin's book series *A Song of Ice and Fire*.

1. [A Game of Thrones](#)
2. [A Clash of Kings](#)
3. [A Storm of Swords](#)
4. [A Feast for Crows](#)
5. [A Dance With Dragons](#)

Pretty Little Liars (ABC Family): This teen thriller/mystery series is adapted from the bestselling novels by young-adult author Sara Shepard.

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| 1. Pretty Little Liars | 7. Heartless |
| 2. Flawless | 8. Wanted |
| 3. Perfect | 9. Twisted |
| 4. Unbelievable | 10. Ruthless |
| 5. Wicked | 11. Stunning (coming in June) |
| 6. Killer | |

Rizzoli and Isles (TNT). Two best friends, police detective Jane Rizzoli and medical examiner Maura Isles, solve crimes together in these Boston-based police procedurals by Tess Gerritsen.

1. [The Surgeon](#) (introduces Rizzoli)
2. [The Apprentice](#) (introduces Isles)
3. [The Sinner](#)
4. [Body Double](#)
5. [Vanish](#)
6. [The Mephisto Club](#)
7. [The Keepsake](#)
8. [Ice Cold](#)
9. [The Silent Girl](#)

True Blood (HBO): These Southern supernatural mysteries feature the mind-reading waitress Sookie Stackhouse, and her vampire love-interest Bill. Both characters first appeared in books by Charlaine Harris:

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| 1. Dead Until Dark | 7. All Together Dead |
| 2. Living Dead in Dallas | 8. From Dead to Worse |
| 3. Club Dead | 9. Dead and Gone |
| 4. Dead to the World | 10. Dead in the Family |
| 5. Dead as a Doornail | 11. Dead Reckoning |
| 6. Definitely Dead | 12. Deadlocked (coming in May) |

Vampire Diaries (The CW): Young-adult novels by L. J. Smith were the basis for this series about a supernatural love triangle in the small town of Mystic Falls, Virginia.

1. [The Awakening](#)
2. [The Struggle](#)
3. [The Fury](#)
4. [Dark Reunion](#)
5. [The Return: Nightfall](#)
6. [The Return: Shadow Souls](#)
7. [The Return: Midnight](#)

The Walking Dead (AMC): An acclaimed series of graphic novels by writer Robert Kirkman and artist Tony Moore inspired this vision of a zombie apocalypse.

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| 1. <u>Days Gone Bye</u> | 9. <u>Here We Remain</u> |
| 2. <u>Miles Behind Us</u> | 10. <u>What We Become</u> |
| 3. <u>Safety Behind Bars</u> | 11. <u>Fear the Hunters</u> |
| 4. <u>The Heart's Desire</u> | 12. <u>Life Among Them</u> |
| 5. <u>The Best Defense</u> | 13. <u>Too Far Gone</u> |
| 6. <u>This Sorrowful Life</u> | 14. <u>No Way Out</u> |
| 7. <u>The Calm Before</u> | 15. <u>We Find Ourselves</u> |
| 8. <u>Made To Suffer</u> | |