

## Murder Book by Thomas Perry

“Thomas Perry is the bestselling author of thirty-one novels, including the critically acclaimed Jane Whitefield series, *The Butcher's Boy*, which Parade included in its 2021 list of 101 Best Mystery Books of All Time, and *Metgzer's Dog* which NPR listeners selected as one of the 100 Best Killer Thrillers of All Time.” [thomasperryauthor.com](http://thomasperryauthor.com)

Born in Tonawanda NY in 1947 and studied at Cornell. Won Edgar Award in 1983 for Best First Novel. He has been a laborer, maintenance man, commercial fisherman, weapons mechanic, university administrator and teacher, as well as a television writer and producer.

### Characters:

Harry Duncan: investigator  
Ellen Leicester: US attorney  
Donald Whalen store owner and victim  
Renee Portman bar owner  
Officers Slater, Griggs and Damon  
Charles Alan Dennison

Larson and Kirk  
Ray Bartow and Timothy Vance  
Jerry, Dennis and Steve Clark  
Paul Rankin  
Gerald Russell  
Tim Mullins  
Jeanette Walrath  
Gil Banks  
Spenser & Telinsky  
Mickey Rafferty  
Bill Musgrove & Randy Stokes  
Todd Storrings & Stanley Sanders

Questions:

What is a Murder Book usually?

Why did Ellen call Harry? And why did he say yes?

What happens when he gets to Portman's Elbow?

Why did Harry lie to Renee about reward money?

How does he use super glue? Do you think this would work?

How does he find Renee?

What are the Cornell Ornithology folks doing in Groomsburg?

What is Jeanette's talent?

The townspeople are important to the plot. What do they do?

What do we know about Harry and why he works the way he does?

Ellen mentions "Tales of Brave Harry". What does she mean?

What is the business model behind this "organized crime" effort? Does it make sense?

Why is the number 35 important? Is the number correct?

"Outside consultant for nondelegatable issues".