

## ABOUT ARCHER MAYOR

Archer Mayor is the author of the highly acclaimed Vermont-based mystery series featuring detective Joe Gunther, which the Chicago Tribune describes as “the best police procedurals being written in America.” His 29th book, BURY THE LEAD, is in stores now.

Protagonist Gunther once worked for the Brattleboro, Vermont, police department and is now a Special Agent for the fictional Vermont Bureau of Investigation. Books about his case-solving prowess have appeared once a year since 1988 and have been published in five languages (if you count British). They routinely gather high praise from such sources as The New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, and the New Yorker, often appearing on annual *ten best* lists.

Mayor’s novels are rooted in actual field experience. Closely aligned to the Gunther series are the author’s own experiences in Vermont working variously as a police officer and a firefighter/EMT over the past thirty years. Currently, he still works as a medico-legal death investigator for the state’s medical examiner. This background adds depth, detail, and veracity to his characters and their struggles.

Mayor’s diverse prior life also informs his books. He was brought up in the US, Canada and France. He has worked as a scholarly editor, a researcher for TIME-LIFE Books, a political advance-man, a theater photographer, a newspaper writer/editor, a lab technician for Paris-Match Magazine in Paris, France, and a medical illustrator.

Before turning his hand to fiction, Mayor wrote history books, the most notable being [Southern Timberman: The Legacy of William Buchanan](#), which concerned the lumber and oil business in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas from the 1870s to the 1970s. Published in 1988 and well received, it was republished as a trade paperback in 2009 and remains available from the University of Georgia Press.

In addition to writing novels and occasional articles, Mayor gives talks around the country. He has been on the faculty of the Bread Loaf Young Writers conference in Middlebury, Vermont, and the Colby College seminar on forensic sciences in Waterville, Maine.

Archer was honored with the 2016 Robert B. Parker Award. (Parker being “The Dean of Mystery Writers.”) In 2004, he won the New England Independent Booksellers Association Award for Best Fiction—the first time a writer of crime literature has been so honored. He was inducted into Vermont’s Academy of Arts and Science, and, in 2012, was awarded the Vermont governor’s award for Excellence in the Arts. In 2011, Mayor’s 22nd Joe Gunther novel, TAG MAN, earned a place on The New York Times bestseller list for hardback fiction.