

# ARTS & LEISURE

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## Morin's latest 'leaves readers panting for more'

It appears that Patricia L. Morin, a former resident of Union, a licensed psychotherapist, and a successful author, has limitless ideas to fill countless "montages."

In "Crime Montage," a fascinating collection of crime short stories, and a sort of sequel to her first intriguing book of short stories, "Mystery Montage," Morin continues to insert gasps, gulps and disbelief to a reader who cannot put the copy aside.

What makes Morin's latest book, which was published by Top Publications Ltd., Dallas, Texas, so interesting, is that the reader finds it difficult to resolve any one of the short stories that contain real character studies, murder, humor, motive, fantasy — and yes, paranormal situations. She has such an amazing imagination, so thoroughly confusing because everything and everyone appear so normal, and a way of heightening one's interest, then suddenly sparking an abrupt ending that leaves one panting for more.

For example, Morin softens her readers by introducing her book with a cool poem called "Cold Pizza, Warm Beer," then goes on to build a shuddering reaction with "Knotted," about a man fascinated by ropes; but is he the true killer?

With "Daughter Mine," the author unveils the uneasiness and repulsiveness caused by a tormented mother, practically frightened to death by her own listless daughter, who has come to stay. Then, there's that curious story, "Maasai Mara Message," which appears to be a continuation of murder mysteries written during Morin's trip to Africa. "Fish Story," a suspenseful tale of revenge, had this reviewer applauding; "Split Ends," about a beauty shop and its inhabitants, which was rather bewildering, and this reviewer was coerced into re-reading passages to completely understand the author's motives.

### On The Shelf

By Bea Smith

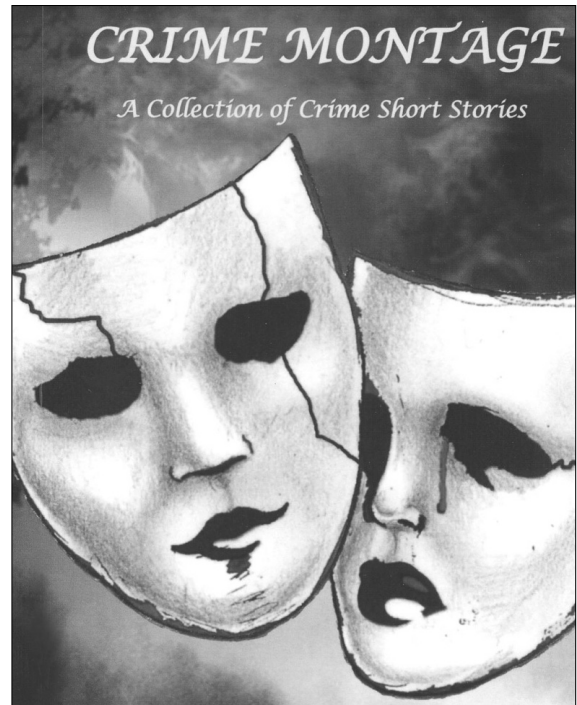


The other titles, "Shattered Silence," "The Web," "Murder Most Fowl," "The King's River Life," all outstanding mysteries, competed for the intrigue and humor in "Detective Peter Cotton's Tale."

But the most interesting, emotionally disturbing, heroic chapters, is "Going Home," which Morin wrote concerning an historical event of 1939, the tragic voyage of the SS St. Louis, which carried hundreds of German Jewish refugees from Germany to Cuba, but never made it there. Outstanding were some of the sympathetic and concerned Jewish people, the brave German captain, and many of his crew, who considered the humanity of the fateful passengers.

Morin's inside and outside knowledge of the human side of life, and her derivation of the variety of personalities, defines the authenticities of her stories. And she does so with a rare talent that issues a call for more of the same. The fact that several of her short stories in the first "Montage" book received nominated awards merely goes to prove that the contents of "Crime Montage" will continue their success.

It appears that Morin's original collection of short stories, "Mystery Montage," which has a comfortable place on the shelf of this reviewer's bookcase, has moved aside to make room for its companion, "Crime Montage."



'Crime Montage,' a collection of short crime stories, is by the same author of 'Mystery Montage,' Patricia Morin.