

## ABOUT ARCHER MAYOR

Archer Mayor is the author of the highly acclaimed, Vermont-based series featuring detective Joe Gunther, which the *Chicago Tribune* describes as “the best police procedurals being written in America.” He is also the 2004 winner of the New England Independent Booksellers Association Award for Best Fiction—the first time a writer of crime literature has been so honored. In addition, Archer is a death investigator for Vermont's Chief Medical Examiner, a Deputy Sheriff for Windham County, VT, an investigator for the Windham County State's Attorney's office, the publisher of his own backlist, a travel writer for AAA, and he travels the Northeast giving speeches and conducting workshops. He also has 25 years experience as a volunteer firefighter/EMT.

Archer Mayor's Joe Gunther detective series, 20 books in all, is one of the most enduring and critically acclaimed police procedural series being written today. For years, Archer has integrated actual police methodology with intricately detailed plot lines into novels that *The New York Times* has called “dazzling,” and *Booklist* has said are “among the best cop stories being written today.” Whereas many writers base their books on only interviews and scholarly research, Mayor's novels are based on actual experience in the field. The result adds a depth, detail and veracity to his characters and their tribulations that has led *The New York Times* to call him “the boss man on procedures,” and the *Arizona Daily Star* to write, “Few deliver such well-rounded novels of such consistent high quality.”

Archer Mayor—who was brought up in the US, Canada and France—has been variously employed 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. He is a graduate of Yale University. Before turning his hand to fiction, Archer wrote history books.

The *Los Angeles Times* featured *Scent of Evil* in its 1992 year-end list of recommend readings and proclaimed *The Skeleton's Knee* “one of the ten best mystery books of the year” in 1993. That book also prompted *The New York Times* to call Mayor “one of the most sophisticated stylists in the genre,” and in 1997, to proclaim *The Ragman's Memory* one of only eleven “Notable” mysteries of the year—an honor it repeated in 2002 with *The Sniper's Wife*.