



## The Main

*Trevanian*

Download now

Read Online →

## The Main

*Trevanian*

### **The Main** Trevanian

The Main is Montreal's teeming underworld, where the dark streets echo with cries in a dozen languages, with the quick footsteps of thieves and the whispers of prostitutes. It is a world where violence and brutality are a way of life. To the people of the Main, police lieutenant Claude LaPointe is judge and jury, father confessor and avenging angel. Montreal's police force has changed over time, but LaPointe has not. His commitment to justice is total, as is his devotion to the Main and its underworld community. But when a cold-blooded murderer invades LaPointe's territory, he is forced to examine his long-held beliefs and secrets and to confront his own loneliness and mortality. With a cast of unforgettable supporting characters and an unusual and remarkable hero, *The Main* is another gripping tale of death and danger, of action and mystery, by the incomparable Trevanian.

Look for these other Trevanian classics from Three Rivers Press: *The Eiger Sanction*, *The Loo Sanction*, *Shibumi*, and *The Summer of Katya*.

### **The Main Details**

Date : Published July 26th 2005 by Broadway Books (first published January 1st 1976)

ISBN : 9781400098231

Author : Trevanian

Format : Paperback 352 pages

Genre : Fiction, Mystery, Crime, Cultural, Canada, Thriller, Novels, Mystery Thriller, Did Not Finish, Detective, Emergency Services, Police

 [Download The Main ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Main ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online The Main Trevanian**

---

## From Reader Review The Main for online ebook

### **Benoit Lelièvre says**

Not exactly a mystery like advertised, but a fantastic character exploration and a love letter to the most complicated street in Montreal. Sure, The Main sometimes feel a little dated but Trevanian's masterful storytelling skills and nuanced moral argument make the book and unputdownable. A little self-indulgent at times, but otherwise a blast.

---

### **Mathiwi says**

J'ai beaucoup aimé ! Bon polar qui se lit aisément, avec de beaux personnages suffisamment développés et une fin inattendue. Une belle plongée dans un des bas quartiers de Montréal auprès d'un flic "à l'ancienne".

---

### **Gokhan Toka says**

Kitabi E yayinlarinin 1993 tarihli ilk baskisindan okumak, ya da okumaya calismak buyuk bir zihin aktivitesi gerektiriyor. 1993 yilinda Google translate var olmus olsaydi, bu cevirinini pekala da Google translate tarafından yapilmis oldugunu dusunebilirdik. Ancak kitap bir "kisi" tarafından cevrilmis. Hatta goodreads sayesinde, bu kisinin adina tiklandiginda, bu isim tarafından cevrilmis onlarca baska kitap daha oldugu goruluyor. Diger kitaplari daha sonra cevirdiyse umarim arada gecen zamanda ingilizce ogrenebilmistir...

Aklimda kalan bazi ornekler:

Kiz, yasli adama "Cocuk, disarda cok soguk bir hava var!" (Sanirim, "oh boy!" cocuk diye cevrilmis

"Kaybedersem annem uzerime i?er" ("piss off" olabilir mi? kaybederse annenin kizmasi isemesinden daha mantikli olabilir)

Cok iyi bir kitap ve daha guzel bir ceviriye hakkeiyor

---

### **Deborah Laux says**

One of my all time favorites.

---

### **Chuck says**

"The Main" is the area that separates English and French speaking Montreal. It is a relatively poor section with Boulevard St. Laurent serving as it's backbone and includes a couple of parallel streets to it's east and west. This is a slice of life story featuring a veteran police detective whose "patch" of responsibility is "The Main." Early on in the narrative someone has the audacity to murder a man on his patch and he begins a relentless pursuit. Trevanian has few peers when it comes to character development and this one is no

exception. His characters come alive.

---

### **Dianne Everson says**

This book is an older (1976) one.

I was impressed enough to recommend that if you see it anywhere, you pick it up.

It is a police procedural, but not a thriller, and the mystery is not the main point.

The Main, a low class area with alcoholics, thieves, and prostitutes is the beat of older policeman, LaPointe.

The relationship between the two is the book. As a result it seems to start slowly, but the detailed descriptions and ambivalence between ethical and illegal is extremely well done.

This is not a lightweight book but a thoughtful one. Engrossing and worthy of the philosophical debates it engenders. You will find that the area is now gentrified and tough community policing may have gone too, but the questions, the lack of a black and white answer to life problems and people, are still worth questioning.

---

### **Philippe Malzieu says**

Literature or thriller? With Trévanián (and some others as Chandler, Ambler...) we can ask ourselves the question. But what is a thriller? Good question. Thus let us write a thriller. Yes we can write a thriller, but it is necessary to respect rules. We need 50 chapters. There is of more important. Between these you can put trivial things.

We need to find a theme. There is one which work well, the esotericism for example. I am nice. I give you one. Pascal was murdered. He had solved the theorem of Fermat. We can imagine that it gives the solution of the fission of the proton, the firmness of the whites eggs in snow. Even of the existence of God. The secret is in the very first edition of the "Pascal thoughts" ( 1669 ) before his very pious sisters tidy up the texts.

I begin :

CHAPTER 1: The crime. it needs to be very gory. A pure sublimely beautiful young woman (it gives a little of eroticism) is cut in piece of sashimi. The inspecteur in charge of the investigation is cynic, come back from everything without having gone anywhere. He is mysogine, a little bit alcoholic.

CHAPTER 2: The forensic scientist identifies the murder weapon: a scout pocket knife. The investigation turns naturally in the scout middle.

CHAPTER 3: The investigator is associated with a woman to profile. It is a brown magnifique woman. She had a great sorrow of love. Spontaneously they hate each other.

CAPITRE 4: Another crime also delicious, the scout track tightens.

CHAPTER 5: The first victim was not also pure. She belonged to an sect. You have the choice: fly fishing, pigeon fancier, admirer of Oprah Winfreh... It is to divert the attention, it is necessary to hold chapitres 50.

CHHAPITRE 7: A boy scout arrested, he commits suicide. He had undoubtful an unavowable secret.

CHAPTER 15: Bizarre : the same book disappeared at 2 victim's!

CHAPTER 19: Another bloody crime.

CHAPTER 25: The woman profiler is a victim of a murder attempt. She has also a secret (everybody has a secret in a thriller). She is saved by the investigator.

CHAPTER 26: They sleep together.

CHAPTER 27: She tells him her secret.

CHAPTER 31: Many arrest in the boy scouts middle.

CHAPTER 41: 3 other murders

CHAPTER 49: It is the conversion of Barthes, the culprits are arrested : frustrated cooks or fundamentalist sect.

HAPTERS 50: 2 solutions. Either the woman profiler is killed during the arrest, the investigator is discouraged. He leaves the police station by horse. He sings "I'm a poor lonesome cow boy" by the time the sun lies down in valley Monument. Either they get married and will have 5 children.

Here we are, your book is ready. You will sell it by millions. You will go to Hollywood, will marry a top model. Vintage champagne, caviar, Bordeaux grand cru and cocaine. After some times, you will give up everything and you remove in an Indian ashram or an Italian Cistercian monastery.

Otherwise, Trévanian, it is literature.

---

## **Mathilde says**

Je ne dirais pas que ce soit un thriller, pour moi le roman "The Main" est un policier, à l'ancienne, un peu noir où un "vieux" flic droit, mais ayant ses propres lois arpente les rues du quartier de la Main (le Boulevard Saint-Laurent), il connaît tout et tout le monde. Le jour où un Italien est retrouvé poignardé dans son quartier, et même si ce n'est pas à lui d'enquêter, on le laisse enquêter.

Une question reste en suspend tout le long du récit : qu'est ce que l'on peut qualifier de crime, qu'est ce que le bien, le mal ?

L'écriture est dense, sans vouloir dire pompeuse, non, mais l'auteur prend le temps de parler de chaque chose, chaque scène, on ne passe pas d'une chose à une autre à la va-vite, au contraire, on nous explique, les protagonistes discutent, on apprend à les connaître. Sur le même rythme et de la même manière d'une balade dans Montréal, en prenant notre temps, le quartier prend vie devant nous : ses rues, ses maisons, ses gens, tous paumés à leur façon.

Le lieutenant LaPointe est touchant, sensible sous sa carapace et tellement humain. On se prend d'affection pour lui et ceux qui croisent son chemin.

Ce premier roman lu de cet auteur me donne bien envie d'en lire d'autre. Encore une fois, c'est une belle lecture de la maison d'édition Gallmeister.

retrouvez mes chroniques sur <http://pause-the.blogspot.com/>

## Dave says

One of the most complete books I've ever read. Filled with soul, sorrow, laughter, growth, life, and death.

---

## Chrisl says

Ah, Trevanian ... when encountering his name, The Main most comes to mind from the basket of his books. Wonder if I would enjoy a re-read? Is being in a brooding building an apt emotional memory response to a book?

Slightly felt mental tug of image from a book ... somewhere in Canada with Trevanian. Medieval sort of sense of place.?

Curious now to read reviews ...

Note: Edgar

---

## S. says

perpetual clouded over "pig weather" Montreal becomes the setting for an old school beat-walking police officer who 'owns' the Main, the most run-down neighborhood of Montreal unraveling the murder mystery while surrounded by the youngster runaways, Quebecois Joul-speaking street hustlers, and various political appointees harassing the man of the hood.

"#3 reviewer in Ireland points out "particularly good at teasing out the ambivalent, shifting, complex and sometimes paradoxical relationships between people and the places they inhabit." #41 reviewer in Israel (the wife of Michael Chabon) shocked the work is "commercial fiction???...layered and nuanced detail...". two good endorsements from two people who are also writers.

conclusion from this 'review of reviews.' Goodreads is a surprisingly small community. I mean just the two longest reviews of this trevanian "best of the backshelf" reveals two professional writers one whom is married to the biggest name in literary fiction this year.

i stifled the urge to add Chabon's wife to my friends list. if I added her, why not add *every writer in new york?*. would rather lurk moar.

what is this book about? well the irish guy and the jewish girl more or less nailed it. "teases out the ambivalent, shifting relationships, layered, nuanced" Lieutenant LaPointe is a good cross-shift from Trevanian's holier-than-thou art-historian assassin, and emblematic of a fading world even as he confronts the paradoxes of the new. 1976 bestseller, now a hidden gem! 4/5

---

## Gerard says

One Trevanian that I love, that no one else seems to enjoy as much. Brilliant evocation of Montreal in the 1970's, and brilliant, funny, gritty writing. Also good dynamics between the crusty old veteran cop and the new-school, new generation neophyte.

---

### **Carole says**

This Trevanian novel dealt with characters as much as with story line. The relationship between the older, more experienced, police officer and his young trainee is at the center of this murder mystery. The Main is an area in Montreal that is populated by derelicts, prostitutes, small businesspeople trying to eke out a living, and police officers trying to keep it all together. Trevanian puts the reader at the center of this place of hard-knocks. The actual murder is not solved till the last few pages and the author does not hint at all as to who the murderer is. It is a complete surprise and, for that reason, the suspense of this novel is relentlessly threaded throughout the entire story. I enjoyed this book and look forward to reading more of Trevanian.

---

### **Mike Gunderloy says**

A very atmospheric read from one of my favorite authors. There's not a whole lot of plot here - police inspector in Montreal tracks down a murderer, who, in the best whodunnit style, is not one of the prime suspects. But there's a whole lot of observation and characterization to enjoy. Little slices of life from pinochle playing to the memories of old men to police work to the clash of generations to the vibrant, dirty nightlife of the Main all come together in an enjoyable picture.

---

### **Duygu says**

Kitap polisiye roman olarak dusunuldugunde 4 yildizi hak ediyor ama burada Turkce cevirisini de isin icine katmak gerekir. O zaman da maalesef roman hak ettiginin altinda kaliyor. "E Yayinlari" bu konuda daha titiz olmalı eger Trevanian'in eserlerini cevirmeye devam edeceklerse. Iki dil bambaska ve dil kulturuyule birlikte gelir; fakat cevirisinde yabanciligi degil asinaligi hissetmek gerekir. Ornek olarak: Turkce'de "Hey!" unlemi cok kullanilmaz, agzi bozuk biri "olasilikla" diye cumleye hic baslamaz.

Trevanian'a gelince her kitabinda farkli ama benzer usluplari var; romanin gectigi yeri tam olarak elle tutulurcasina tasvir ediyor ve toplumun derin yaralarini bir polisin yaninda gozlemleyebilmemizi sagliyor. Bir Sibumi ya da Katya'nin Yazı degil ama kendi basina ozel bir kitap...

---