

Novelist Laurie R. King is a third generation Northern Californian living near Monterey Bay. Her background is as mixed as any writer's, from theology to managing a coffee store; she has raised children, vegetables, and the occasional building.

Her writing reflects her background, set in places she has lived and travelled, exploring ideas as wide-ranging as the roots of conflict in the Middle East or Afghanistan and feminism in early Christianity. Her novels also have a rousing good time whether they're revisiting **The Hound of the Baskervilles** and **Kim**, setting a pair of Bedouin nomads down in a grand country house in England, or following the 1906 quake and fire as it rips through San Francisco.

Laurie King's first novel, **A Grave Talent** (1993) won the First Novel Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America and the Creasey Dagger from Britain's Crime Writers' Association. Later books have won or been nominated for an alphabet of prizes from Agatha to Wolfe (**The Beekeeper's Apprentice** was chosen as one of the century's best crime novels by the IMBA.) and appear regularly on bestseller lists that include the Independent Booksellers Associations and the *New York Times*.

King's academic background, which she incorporates into many of her novels, includes a BA in Comparative Religion from UC Santa Cruz, a MA in Old Testament Theology from Berkeley's Graduate Theological Union, and an honorary doctorate, also from the GTU. Her novels, particularly the historical series set in the early Twentieth century, are often on reading lists in high school and university classes, and appear regularly as the focus of book clubs and library "community reads."

In 2010, she was inducted into the Baker Street Irregulars, and was appointed Guest of Honor at the annual mystery convention, BoucherCon. She continues to write in two series and standalone novels.