

Testimonials

Praise for *The Quarter Note Tales*

"a delightful collection of three novellas, featuring Axel Crochet, professor of music history,... long enough to give the author space to flesh out the characters, throw in lots of stuff about composers and music history, develop intricate plots and throw in enough academic small-mindedness and bureaucratic nonsense to keep you hooked and laughing all the way." (*Merchant Of Menace*)

"a delightful read." (*Music Library Association Notes*) Read the [**full review**](#).

"Art Wenk compares well with Donald Westlake, reigning master of the comic whodunit. Plenty of jealousy, backbiting, intoxication, festering resentment, Byzantine intrigue, illiterate literati and skilful skulking ... and tastefully tasteless sex. Wenk coaxes you in a long crescendo from the silent smile through the involuntary audible chuckle to the culminating helpless belly-laugh." (Anders R. Sterner, Brooklyn lawyer)

Advance Praise for *New Quarter Note Tales*

A Faculty Affair

"Arthur Wenk writes fictional, well-crafted stories of intrigue, mystery and dramatic intensity emanating from his own experience. The settings, familiar to many, add considerable appeal. Wenk's "A Faculty Affair" will be a fine addition to the genre, as will the other tales in this much to be recommended new collection." (J. Heywood Alexander, author of *To Stretch Our Ears: A Documentary History of America's Music* (New York: W. W. Norton, 2002).

"Super sleuth musicologist Alex Crochet is at it again, this time in a Québec university. Wenk has produced yet another taut, beautifully written murder mystery page turner. A bonus for academics is his characterization of the foibles of students, faculty, and administrators, often biting, sometimes tender, always quite funny." (Richard Tresch, Professor of Economics, Boston College, author of *Principles of Economics* and other economics textbooks)

The Music Man Mystery

"The Music Man Mystery" flows in a witty, edgy-Christie style through the eyes of an eminently likeable character. Axel is talented, charming and blessed with a clever sense of humour as well as the persistence of a sleuth. With the backdrop of the Music Man play and the politics of French and English language,

the mystery unravels through entertaining characters as they (literally and figuratively) dash on and off the stage. A great read!" (Catherine Astolfo, President, Crime Writers of Canada, author of *The Emily Taylor Mysteries*)

"A wonderfully atmospheric ecclesiastical mystery, but with the musical focus on a production of "The Music Man" staged by Anglican choir members—all brilliantly played off against the Francophilia/Anglophobia fomented by Québec's "Quiet Revolution." There is a richly drawn array of suspects and motives for murder. But the solution is fair." (William Lycan, Professor of Philosophy, University of North Carolina, author of *Consciousness and Experience*)

"With its global appeal, "The Music Man Mystery" has something for everyone: music buffs, mystery buffs, history buffs, language buffs, humour buffs, and more. "Buffs" of the world, rejoice!" (Marie Criscione, lead soprano, Scarborough Gilbert and Sullivan Society)

"The worlds of Arthur Wenk (author of "The Music Man Mystery") are ironic places full of the unexpected. That death could lurk among the nerdy denizens of a church might surprise those who think of organists and choirs as timid & tranquil. Underneath that innocent façade one finds all the passion & violent urges Freud told us to expect; but Freud never mentioned that it would be a funny place, that every individual can amuse us no matter how quirky. Wenk's character portraits are quick sketches with a sure hand, demonstrating a comic vision of humanity." (Leslie Barcza, University of Toronto)

Fire and Ice

"When Eric "the Rat" Ratley--a pariah among the scions of the rich in a residential school replete with psychopaths and social misfits--dies in a classroom fire, a new teacher begins to ask awkward questions, placing his own life in danger. Set in the world of private school privilege, a milieu the author knows intimately, this gripping mystery plunges the reader into a shadowy culture of noblesse oblige, where eccentricity and personality disorder, trust and torrid sexuality, offer a deadly lesson on deceit." (Robert Arril, former chaplain, St. Andrew's College)