

# Josephine Tey

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Josephine Tey** was a pseudonym of **Elizabeth Mackintosh** (July 25, 1896 - February 13, 1952), a Scottish author best known for her mystery novels.

## Life and work

She was born in Inverness, and attended a physical training college in Birmingham, England, before becoming a teacher. However, her literary career began only when she was forced to give up regular work in order to care for her invalid father.

In six of the mystery novels she wrote under the name of Josephine Tey, the hero was Scotland Yard Inspector Alan Grant; the most famous of them is *The Daughter of Time*, in which Grant, laid up in the hospital, has friends research reference books so he can

puzzle out the mystery of whether King Richard III of England murdered his nephews, the Princes in the Tower. It was the last of her books published during her lifetime. Another novel, *The Franchise Affair*, although set in the 1940s, is based on the 18th-century case of Elizabeth Canning.

A further crime novel, *The Singing Sands*, was found in her papers and published posthumously. After her death, proceeds from her estate, including royalties from her books, were assigned to the National Trust.

As **Gordon Daviot** she wrote about a dozen one-act plays and another dozen full-length plays, but only four of them were produced during her lifetime. *Richard of Bordeaux* was particularly successful, running for fourteen months and starring John Gielgud. She also wrote a biography and three novels that were not mysteries.

## **Mystery novels by Tey**

- *The Man in the Queue* [or *Killer in the Crowd*] (1929)
- *A Shilling for Candles* (1936) (the basis of Hitchcock's 1937 movie *Young and Innocent*)
- *Miss Pym Disposes* (1946)
- *The Franchise Affair* (1948) (filmed in 1950 starring Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray)
- *Brat Farrar* [or *Come and Kill Me*] (1949)
- *To Love and Be Wise* (1950)
- *The Daughter of Time* (1951)
- *The Singing Sands* (1952)

## External links

- Richard III Society Biography
- Detective Fiction Resource Site
- Internet Movie Database retrieved 30/8/06

Retrieved from

"[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Josephine\\_Tey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Josephine_Tey)"

Categories: 1896 births | 1952 deaths | People

from Inverness | Scottish crime writers |  
Scottish writers | Scottish mystery writers

---

- This page was last modified 03:45, 18 July 2007.
- All text is available under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License. (See **Copyrights** for details.)  
Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a US-registered 501(c)(3) tax-deductible nonprofit charity.