

"There's a body in Lost Nation."

"Where?" demands Armand as he scribbles on the pad by his bed.

But the line goes dead before Chief Inspector Gamache can question the caller.

The head of homicide for the Sûreté du Québec has no idea where Lost Nation is, or who woke him in the small hours of the morning at his home in Three Pines. What he does know is that the man was terrified.

And so Armand is thrust out of a deep sleep and into the surrounding forests in search of the mythical Lost Nation. And a body.

When he and his team of Jean-Guy Beauvoir and Isabelle Lacoste find both, the situation only grows more bizarre. The unidentified dead man appears to be from an era more than a century old. He's lying in a long-abandoned cemetery, on top of a grave with a date but no name.

Adding to the mystery, the early-morning call appears to have come from Gamache's friend and neighbor Clara Morrow. While she denies any knowledge of the call, it becomes clear there is some connection between her, the Morrow family, and Lost Nation.

Soon, Gamache and his team are faced with tracking down not just the legend of Lost Nation, but a lost ship, lost documents belonging to an eccentric Victorian botanist, and a mysterious plant not seen in a century that might save, or take, countless lives.

As the murder investigation deepens, nightmarish specters from the past begin to haunt the Sûreté officers, only heightened by the appearance of one of Gamache's former and now disgraced protégés, with whom he must form an uneasy alliance.

As the ghosts begin to gather, Gamache, Beauvoir, and Lacoste, with the help of Reine-Marie, Clara, and the other villagers of Three Pines, realize that the body on the grave is far from the only death. To solve the crime and avert catastrophe, they must look to rancid secrets and old lies no longer dead and buried.

LOUISE PENNY is the multi-award-winning author of the Chief Inspector Gamache novels, set in her home province of Québec, Canada. Her books, including *State of Terror*, written with Hillary Rodham Clinton, have sold more than 18 million copies worldwide, topped international bestseller lists, including the *New York Times*, and been translated into thirty-two languages. The recipient of both the Order of Canada and L'Ordre national du Québec, her country's highest civilian honors, her Three Pines Foundation reaches out to those in crisis and offers financial and emotional support, with a special focus on literacy as well as dementia care. Her husband, Michael, died of dementia in 2016. She lives with her golden retrievers Muggins and Charlie in a village south of Montréal.

READ BY ALFRED MOLINA



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