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Engaging with crime fiction as a literary practice

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ABSTRACT

Crime fiction is literature that has become a point of interest for various groups of people in South Africa. In this dissertation I focus on a group of students from the University of the Witwatersrand in terms of their thoughts and experiences about the crime novel. Their engagement with the genre is a literary practice that they enjoy. This research study establishes why this group of students are drawn to the genre and the ways in which they engage with it. Part of this data emanates from the students' impressions on two South African novelists' works. These novelists are, Deon Meyer who is the author of *Blood Safari* published in 2007, and Roger Smith who is the author of *Mixed Blood* published in 2009.

Key words: Literacy, literary practice, literary fiction, popular fiction, novel, crime fiction, virtual book club.