



SUSAN CALDER is a member of Mystery Writers INK and the Writer's Guild of Alberta. She has a degree in Urban Studies from Concordia University. Susan's poems and short stories have been published in *The Prairie Journal*, *Alberta Views*, *Other Voices*, and the *Silver Boomers Anthology*. She teaches writing at the Alexandra Writers' Centre in Calgary. *Deadly Fall* is the first novel in the Paula Savard Mystery series.

Paula Savard's life has stalled. Her lukewarm love life and her job as an insurance adjuster are unfulfilling. She's craving excitement. But she gets more than she asked for when her good friend, Callie, is murdered while jogging to Paula's inner-city home. The police suggest that Callie was coming to Paula for help, which is news to Paula. Soon, Paula's suspicions zero in on Callie's new husband, Sam.

Her ill-considered investigation turns personal, and Paula begins to doubt even her closest friends. She is determined to find Callie's killer—no matter the cost.

"Calder draws you in with the first line. With gritty dialogue and crisp imagery, she gradually reveals the dark connections in Paula Savard's quest to discover the secret life of her dead friend." —Garry Ryan, author of the Detective Lane mysteries

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TOUCHWOOD MYSTERY

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A Paula Savard Mystery

DEADLY FALL

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MORNING LIGHT illuminated the crabapple tree outside her kitchen window. Paula gulped coffee, hoping the caffeine would jumpstart her into motion. She hadn't slept more than an hour last night. Every time she closed her eyes, she pictured gawking spectators, policemen, and news anchors telling her Callie was dead. She had finally drifted off, to be awakened by a hang-up phone call, her first one since moving to this house.

Strange it should happen today.

Were the spectators and police still at the murder site? Did yellow tape still seal off the trail? She would check on her way to work. If she had driven to the office from her home yesterday, rather than from Hayden's, she would have seen commotion by the trail. Would she have stopped and learned about Callie earlier? She drove by that spot daily and must have walked the Elbow pathway a dozen times.

She refreshed her mug, smoothed the newspaper on the table and stared at the front page. "Woman murdered in Ramsay."

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