

The detective genre originated in the first half of the 19th century and it does not seem to be losing its pace. On the contrary, new authors have been occurring, bringing new rules and attitudes to the classical form. Detective novel is usually closely connected to the settings it describes. The aim of this thesis is to find out specific features of the Sicilian detective novel. We have chosen two authors and their works for a detailed analysis: Leonardo Sciascia and his novels *Il giorno della civetta* and *A ciascuno il suo* and Andrea Camilleri and his *La forma dell'acqua* and *Il cane di terracotta*. The thesis has two parts. Part one has three chapters: in the first chapter we deal with the history of the detective novel, the European detective style and the Anglo-Saxon style, or the classical and American detective stories. In chapter two, we focus on the island of Sicily, its history and the unique character of its inhabitants and their culture. In the final chapter, we pay attention to the works of the most famous Sicilian writer Luigi Pirandello (e.g. *Il fu Mattia Pascal* or *Così è (se vi pare)*), his search for reality, human identity and the relativity of the truth, all of which occur in Sicilian detective stories.