

Terrific sense of place (Portland, Oregon), time (1902), and historical significance (labor unrest and changing social consciousness), with murder and mystery in the mix and a trip into Portland's shanghai tunnels as a bonus.

Even if the Pacific Northwest isn't your stomping ground, you'll find a whole lot to like in *Dry Rot*. And if at times protagonist Sage Adair's message seems just a shade heavy-handed, chalk it up to his commitment to his cause and read on.

Five stars for tackling the seamier side of history and human nature. *Carolyn Rose, Oregon Reads*