**ABSTRACT:** If we consider that any text results from a process of adoption and adaptation of a genre model (Bronckart 1997-1999), this work intends to demonstrate that the cover of a book (support, graphics and text) constitutes a textual genre created from a social discursive activity of text editing. This fact is also true for the grammar of the text. The synopsis, one of the peritextual genres prototypically included in the genre of a police novel’s cover, announces this specific textual grammar, which is oriented by the existence of regularity traces in terms of theme, composition and style. This textual grammar functions as an instrument which is privileged in terms of generic description.