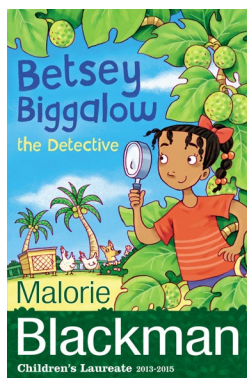


Girl Detectives Booklist

- “...there have been literally loads of child detectives!’
‘Yes, love, in books. On telly. Not in real life.’
‘Well, grown up detectives have to start somewhere. I’m learning the tricks of the trade. Anyway, I’m good at solving mysteries.’”
- From: *Lori and Max* by Catherine O’Flynn

Girl detectives in children’s fiction go back a long way, with perhaps the most notable name from the past being Nancy Drew, about whom the first book in a long series was published in 1930. In recent years there has been an increasing trend in stories featuring girl detectives, with series by Robin Stevens and Katherine Woodfine leading the way. There is now a range of stories with a variety of historical and contemporary settings. This list presents a guide to these, comprising three sections. The first focuses on titles suitable for readers in lower KS2. This is followed by a historical cases section which is in chronological order, from the Vikings to the 1930s and finally, crimes with contemporary settings.

Stories for junior sleuths



Betsey Biggalow the Detective by Malorie Blackman, illustrated by Jamie Smith

Red Fox 9781782951841

In one of the four stories in this book for younger readers Betsey Biggalow is inspired to turn detective by a book about Sam, the girl detective, and find out what has happened to her missing teddy bear Slinky Malinky. The detective TV series her Gran’ma Liz likes gives her the idea for the associated accoutrements of deerstalker hat and magnifying glass.



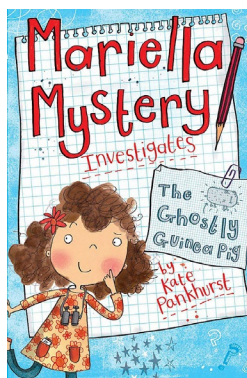
Stick & Fetch Investigate. Barking Up the Wrong Tree by Philip Ardagh and Elissa Elwick

Walker 9781406376449

Sally Stick and her canine companion Fetch are detectives. They are always on the lookout for cases to solve. There are continual misunderstandings about what mysteries need resolving and this gets them into some surprising and potentially sticky situations.

Followed by: *Stick & Fetch Investigate. The Wrong End of the Stick* Walker 9781406376500

A CLPE booklist



Mariella Mystery Investigates: The Ghostly Guinea Pig by Kate Pankhurst
Orion 9781444008883

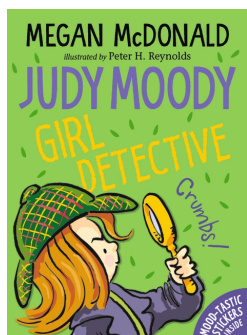
With names like Mariella Mystery, Poppy Holmes and Violet Maple (not Marple, but close!) these three girls were destined to be detectives. Their first case begins when their teacher Miss Crumble thinks she has seen the ghost of her recently deceased guinea pig in her garden. The book is designed to look like a diary set out in a notebook and there are top tips for detectives scattered throughout. First in a series that numbers eight titles.



Dotty Detective by Clara Vulliamy
HarperCollins 9780008132491

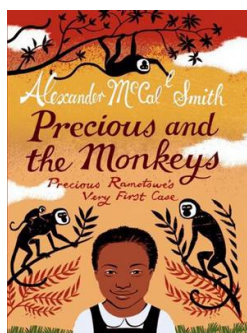
Dotty starts at a new school and quickly makes friends with Beans who also loves the Fred Fantastic TV detective series. Their first case involves finding out about and foiling the plans of Laura who seems determined to undermine the efforts of their classmate Amy in a school talent show. The story is set out as a diary and includes lots of appealing visual details.

First in a series of six titles.



Judy Moody, Girl Detective by Megan McDonald, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds
Walker 9781406380767

Inspired by her reading of the Nancy Drew books, Judy Moody focuses on seeking out and solving everyday mysteries in her school and community. Then Officer Kopp's dog Mr Chips disappears and Judy becomes agent Liz Inkwell, aka Judy Drewdy, WBMS (World's Best Mystery Solver) in a bid to bring him back.



Precious and the Monkeys by Alexander McCall Smith, illustrated by Iain McIntosh
Birlinn 9780857900685 (ebook)

Ever wondered how Precious Ramotswa, heroine of many adult novels set in Botswana, got started on her career as a detective? This book tells how she started solving mysteries as an eight year old girl. Subsequent stories:

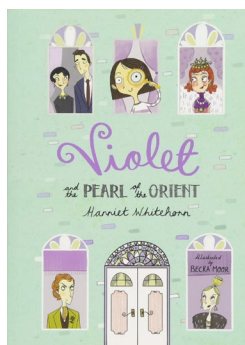
Precious and the Mystery of Meerkat Hill 9781846972317

Precious and the Mystery of the Missing Lion 9780857905802

Precious and the Zebra Necklace 9780857908063 (ebook)



A CLPE booklist



Violet and the Pearl of the Orient by Harriet Whitehorn, illustrated by Becca Moor

Simon and Schuster 9781471118951

When a precious pearl belonging to Violet Remy-Robinson's neighbour, former starlet Dee Dee Derota, goes missing, Violet is suspicious of their new neighbours Count and Countess Du Plicitous and their daughter, Isabella. The illustrations bring out the humour in the telling of this adventure and their shades of colour complement our heroine's name. More mysteries for Violet to solve follow: *Violet and the Hidden Treasure* 9781471118975

Violet and the Smugglers 9781471118999

Violet and the Mummy Mystery 9781471147197

Violet and the Mystery of Tiger Island 9781471147227

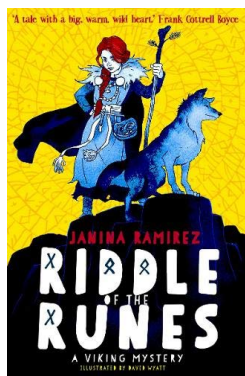


Agent Zaiba Investigates. The Missing Diamonds by Annabelle Sami, illustrated by Daniela Sosa

Stripes 9781788952064

Zaiba and her family are at the Royal Star Hotel for her cousin Samirah's pre-marriage Mehndi party. However, when a celebrity guest arrives at the hotel whose pampered pooch temporarily disappears and is found minus his very valuable collar, it's a cue for Zaiba and her team, comprising her little brother Ali and her friend Poppy, to try and crack the case. Zaiba is aided by her intimate knowledge of *Eden Lockett's Detective Handbook* which accompanies her favourite series of mystery stories. The fact that Zaiba's Aunt Fouzia heads up the Snow Leopard Detective Agency in Pakistan is a help too!

Historical cases



Riddle of the Runes. A Viking Mystery by Janina Ramirez, illustrated by David Wyatt

Oxford University Press 9780192766335

Alva 'is a keen investigator and can seek clues and unpick riddles like no other in Kilsgard'. So says her well-travelled Uncle Magnus. The arrival in their village of a monk from Lindisfarne bearing a mysterious casket covered with symbols that need deciphering leads Alva and Magnus, accompanied by Alva's faithful wolf Fenrir (named after the son of the Norse god Loki) to embark on a dangerous adventure. Will they be able to solve the mystery that appears to be connected to Alva's father Bjorn who has not returned from his latest voyage a-Viking? An appendix has information about the runes they must interpret along the way.

Sequel: *Way of the Waves* Oxford University Press 9780192766359

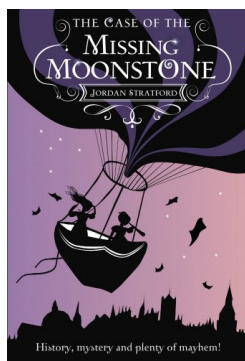




The Diamond of Drury Lane by Julia Golding

Egmont 9781405285308

It's 1790 and Cat Royal lives in the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane where Mr Sheridan, playwright, politician and theatre owner is her guardian. Streetwise Cat becomes embroiled in a mystery concerning a diamond which she believes is concealed somewhere in the theatre. The chapters are headed as though they are acts and scenes in a play and the novel has a terrific cast of characters headed by Cat herself. They include Pedro Hawkins, a gifted African violinist and performer and former slave, and Johnny Smith, new prompter at the theatre who is a man with a secret.



The Case of the Missing Moonstone. The Wollstonecraft Detective Agency by

Jordan Stratford, illustrated by Kelly Murphy

Corgi Yearling 9780440871163

Set in 1826, some literary licence allows two not quite contemporary characters from history to work together. Ada Byron, brilliant and irascible mathematician and scientist, and Mary Godwin, avid reader and seeker after romance and adventure, meet when they are tutored by a certain Percy Shelley. Realising that there are crimes that go unsolved, they start the Wollstonecraft Detective Agency, named in honour of Mary's late mother. Biographical notes at the end of the book explain some truths about the real people who inspired the characters.

Sequels: *The Case of the Girl in Grey* 9780440871187

The Case of the Counterfeit Criminals 9780440871194



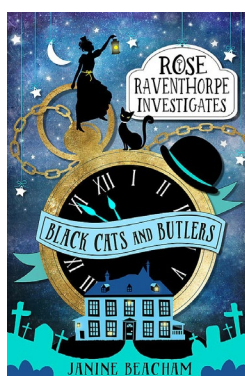
Rose Champion and the Stolen Secret by Lyn Gardner, illustrated by Júlia Sardà

Nosy Crow 9780857634863

Starting in a Yorkshire village and swiftly moving to Victorian Southwark and a music hall known as Champion's Palace of Variety and Wonders, the characters and plot of this story have a Dickensian feel. Rose and her new companions Aurora and Effie have to unravel a mystery involving abandoned babies, mistaken identity and associated skulduggery.

Followed by *Rose Champion and the Curse of the Doomstone* 9780857638441

Rose Champion and the Christmas Mystery 9781788000314



Rose Raventhorpe Investigates: Black Cats and Butlers by Janine Beacham

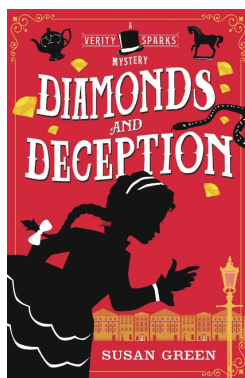
Little, Brown 9781510201286

The murder of several butlers including her own beloved Argyle, combined with the disappearance of cat statues around the city, set Rose Raventhorpe off on an investigative trail in this gothic mystery set in Victorian times. The butlers turn out to be a brotherhood protecting a City of Yorke that bears more than a passing resemblance to the real city of York but in a slightly sideways universe and the presence of the cat statues is based on a local legend.

Book 2: *Rubies and Runaways* 9781510201316

Book 3: *Hounds and Hauntings* 9781510201323





Diamonds and Deception. A Verity Sparks Mystery by Susan Green
Walker 9781406371734

In 1878 Verity Sparks moves from being an Apprentice Milliner to an Assistant Confidential Inquiry Agent when she is falsely accused of stealing jewellery and subsequently taken up by the well-to-do Plush family. Verity has a special skill in being able to recover missing objects but the big mystery surrounds her own origins.



The Mystery of the Clockwork Sparrow by Katherine Woodfine
Egmont 9781405276177

Sophie and Lil work, as a salesgirl and a model respectively, at the magnificent Sinclairs department store in Edwardian London which is about to open with great fanfare. When the priceless Clockwork Sparrow goes missing, Sophie is under suspicion. As the pace of the story mounts will Sophie and Lil, along with apprentice porter Billy and fugitive Joe be able to solve the mystery and avert a much greater disaster? The atmosphere of the era is beautifully evoked, especially the interior of the store and the elegant fashions. The central characters are likeable and believable despite the extraordinary things that happen to them. Further titles in The Sinclair's Mysteries series:

Sequels: *The Mystery of the Jewelled Moth* 9781405276184

The Mystery of the Painted Dragon 9781405282895

The Midnight Peacock 9781405282901

Sophie and Lil appear in a subsequent series: Taylor & Rose Secret Agents.

Peril in Paris 9781405287043

Spies in Saint Petersburg 9781405287050

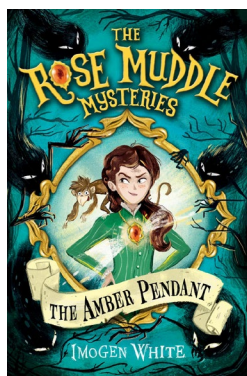


The House of Eyes. A Connie Carew Mystery by Patricia Elliott
Hodder 9781444924695

When a girl who appears to be her cousin Ida, who disappeared at the age of two, arrives at the home she shares with her two aunts and step uncle in South Kensington, Connie Carew is suspicious about her real identity and sets out to discover the truth. Set in 1909, the manners and mores of the time are well evoked in this absorbing mystery.

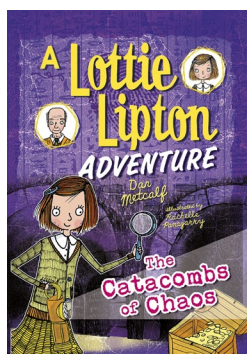
There is a second Connie Carew Mystery: *The Ship of Spectres*
9781444924718

A CLPE booklist



The Rose Muddle Mysteries. The Amber Pendant by Imogen White
Usborne 9781474927291

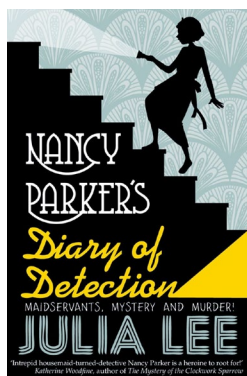
Rose is mysteriously chosen from the workhouse to become a maid in the home of Miss Templeforth where she soon discovers that she is destined to inherit an ancient amber pendant from her employer. Rose rapidly becomes embroiled in a dangerous adventure, accompanied by Rui Singh, recently arrived from India. Aided and abetted by the monkey Bahula, can they foil the plans of the Brotherhood of the Black Sun? A story with a strong sense of place in Edwardian Hove. In a sequel *The Secret Ruby* Usborne 9781474927307 Rose, Rui and Bahula travel to Jaipur to return a ruby to its rightful owner.



The Catacombs of Chaos by Dan Metcalf, illustrated by Rachelle Panagarry
Bloomsbury 9781512481853

The first of the Lottie Lipton Adventures featuring a girl detective who lives in the British Museum in the 1920s where she solves mysteries relating to objects in the museum. Each book include puzzles for readers to solve and some tantalising historical facts.

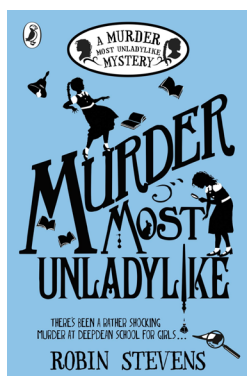
The other titles are *The Curse of the Cairo Cat* (9781472911780), *The Eagle of Rome* (9781472927583), *The Egyptian Enchantment* (9781472911902), *The Scroll of Alexandria* (9781472911872), *The Secrets of the Stone* (9781472911841).



Nancy Parker's Diary of Detection by Julia Lee, illustrated by Chloe Bonfield
Oxford University Press 9780192739384

In a post-World War One world, Nancy Parker leaves school at 14 and begins work as a housemaid, in preference to taking up a job in the local biscuit factory. However, what she would most like to be is a detective and her new post affords her the opportunity as she suspects that her employer Mrs Bryce and her dashing filmmaker friend Guy Gommershall may not be all that they seem. The text alternates between Nancy's journal and a third person narrative bringing in her new acquaintances Ella Mary Otter, a professor's daughter, and Quentin Ives, aka John Horsefield, the vicar's pupil.

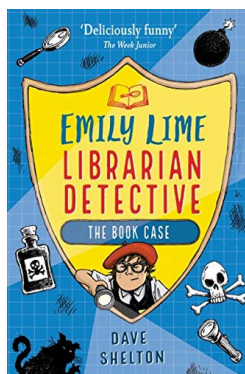
Followed by: *Nancy Parker's Spooky Speculations* 9780192746979 and *Nancy Parker's Chilling Conclusions* 9780192746993



Murder Most Unladylike by Robin Stevens
Corgi 9780141369761

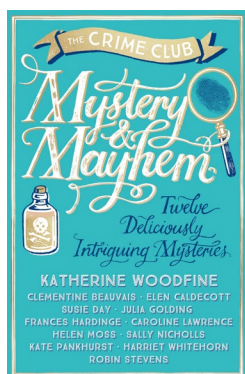
The first in a series set in a 1930s boarding school with all the trapping of girls' school stories of the period from midnight feasts to the relationships engendered by living in such a closely knit community. When Hazel Wong, secretary of the Wells & Wong Detective Society, discovers the body of Science mistress Miss Bell, she and her friend Daisy Wells embark on their first serious case. The book comes complete with a plan of Deepdean School reminiscent of Cluedo and frequently revised lists of suspects and their possible motives. Further titles *Arsenic for Tea* (9780141369792), *First Class Murder* (9780141369822), *Jolly Foul Play* (9780141369693), *Mistletoe and Murder* (9780141369723), *Cream Buns and Crime* (9780141376561), *A Spoonful of Murder* (9780141373782) *Death in the Spotlight* (9780141373829) *Top Marks for Murder* (9780241348383)





Emily Lime. Librarian Detective. The Book Case by Dave Shelton
David Fickling Books 9781910989395

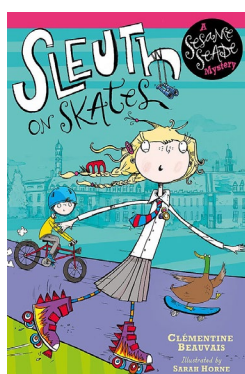
After an unfortunate incident at her old school, Daphne Blakeway is offered a place at St Rita's School for Spirited Girls. Her involvement in adventure begins even before she arrives when she is handed a book called *Scarlet Fury: A Smeeton Westerby Mystery* on the train and told it is for the school library. Daphne is recruited as Assistant to the Assistant Librarian, the redoubtable Emily Lime and is soon embroiled in solving a mystery when there is a break-in at the school. There is much fun to be had in a story that plays with the traditional features of the girls' boarding school story and the illustrations are reminiscent of such stories in comics.



The Crime Club: Mystery and Mayhem by Katherine Woodfine et al
Egmont 9781405282642

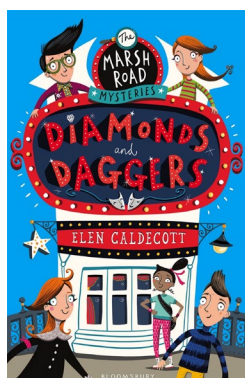
A collection of twelve short stories, many of them written by authors represented in this booklist. Katherine Woodfine provides an introduction in which she points out that the recent explosion in these books 'nods to the much-loved mysteries of the past, but also bring detective fiction bang up to date'. Divided into four sections 'Impossible Mysteries', 'Canine Capers', 'Poison Plots' and 'Closed-System Crimes'.

Contemporary Crimes



Sleuth on Skates by Clémentine Beauvais, illustrated by Sarah Horne
Hodder 9781444912524

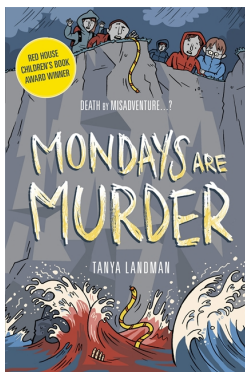
Sesame Seade roams around Cambridge on her roller skates. Her mother is the Head of Christ's College, her father the college Chaplain and her fractious relationship with her parents is reflected in the humorous dialogue. When student and ballet dancer Jenna Jenkins disappears, Sesame feels compelled to investigate. Is there a connection with marketing company Cooperture? And what part, if any, does a pregnant duck, play in the proceedings? Other Sesame Seade Mysteries: *Gargoyles Gone AWOL* 9781444912531
Scam on the Cam 9781444912548



The Marsh Road Mysteries: Diamonds and Daggers by Elen Caldecott
Bloomsbury 9781408847527

A small band of girls and boys solve a mystery surrounding a missing necklace in a story in the Enid Blyton tradition with a denouement reminiscent of *Emil and the Detectives*. However, this is set firmly in the 21st century with smart girls Minnie and Flora leading the investigation to help their friend Piotr whose dad is accused of theft, making him disillusioned with British life and wanting to take his family back to Poland. Fast moving with plenty of comic moments, the central characters are convincingly drawn and placed in a multicultural, multi-faceted urban setting.
Followed by *Crowns and Codebreakers* 9781408852712, *Spooks and Scooters*

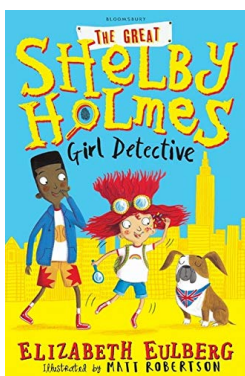
9781408852736, *Cats and Curses* 9781408876046 and *Dogs and Doctors* 9781408876060.



Mondays Are Murder by Tanya Landman

Walker 9781406344417

When a group of children are sent on holiday to a new activity centre on a remote Scottish island, the adults start dropping like flies. Who is killing them and why? Poppy Fields is on the case. Are her suspicions correct and can she solve the mystery? First in a series of ten short novels featuring Poppy and her sidekick Graham.



The Great Shelby Holmes. Girl Detective by Elizabeth Eulberg, illustrated by Matt Robertson

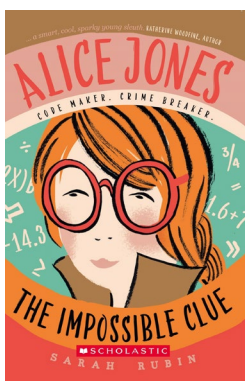
Bloomsbury 9781408871478

When John Watson and her mother take up residence at 221A Baker Street, New York City, he immediately encounters his neighbour at 221B. Shelby Holmes has a formidable reputation in the neighbourhood for solving mysteries employing what she calls deductive reasoning techniques. Soon he is joining her to find out who has stolen their classmate Tamra's dog Daisy days before she is due to take part in an important dog show. Holmes and Watson's adventures continue in:

The Great Shelby Holmes Meets Her Match 9781408871492

The Great Shelby Holmes and the Coldest Case 9781408871515

The Great Shelby Holmes and the Haunted Hound 9781547601479



Alice Jones: The Impossible Clue by Sarah Rubin

Chicken House 9781910002865

When scientist Dr Learner disappears just before an announcement is due to be made about his new invention, youthful sleuth and maths whizz Alice Jones gets involved in trying to trace him. Has he really developed an invisibility suit or is there some other explanation?

Followed by *Alice Jones: The Ghost Light* 9781910002872



Ruby Redfort 1. Look into My Eyes by Lauren Child [Chandleresque voice?]

HarperCollins 9780007334070

One of Lauren Child's earliest and well-loved characters, Clarice Bean, has a favourite series of books featuring the redoubtable Ruby Redfort, a 13 year old recruited by the Spectrum Agency due to her advanced code-cracking skills. Readers' response prompted the author to give Ruby her own series and this is the first of six titles. Ruby cannot resist forsaking what was intended to be a deskbound job for action and adventure.

Take Your Last Breath 9780007334094

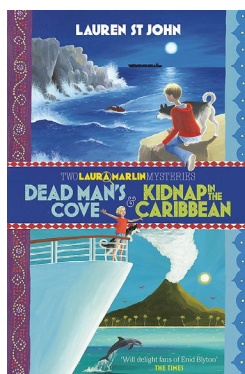
Catch Your Death 9780007334117

Feel the Fear 9780007334131

Pick Your Poison 9780007334278

Blink and You Die 9780007334292

More information about Ruby can be found at www.rubyredfort.com



Dead Man's Cove/Kidnap in the Caribbean by Lauren St John, illustrated by David Dean

Orion 9781444012989

Laura Marlin has lived in a children's home all her life until she is suddenly sent to live with an uncle she has never met in St Ives. Cue for much mystery including a creepy housekeeper and a sinister shopkeeper. And what secret is Uncle Calvin hiding? The combination of fast paced plots and domestic details enables readers to believe in the hair-raising situations in which Laura and her friend Tariq find themselves. The Cornish seaside setting is strongly evoked in the first book and in the follow up (also included in this volume) aquatic environmental issues in the Caribbean come to the fore. Further titles in the series take Laura to the USA and Russia and can be found in one volume: *Kentucky Thriller/Rendezvous in Russia* 9781444014136 and in *The Secret of Supernatural Creek* 9781510102644 Laura has an Australian adventure.

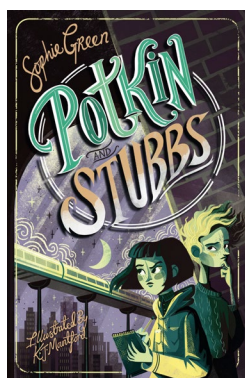


Kat Wolfe Investigates (Wolfe and Lamb) by Lauren St John, illustrated by Beidi Guo

Macmillan 9781509871223

Kat Wolfe and her mother, who is a vet, move away from the anxieties of the city to the apparently idyllic Bluebell Bay on the Dorset coast. Kat wastes no time in setting up a pet-sitting agency. However, the mysterious disappearance of her first client, the owner of an Amazon parrot, quickly leads her into unexpected dangers. She links up with local girl, Harper Lamb, professor's daughter and expert codebreaker and the Wolfe and Lamb detective team is born.

Sequel: *Kat Wolfe Takes the Case* 9781509874217



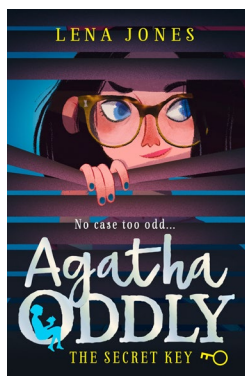
Potkin and Stubbs by Sophie Green, illustrated by Karl James Mountford
Piccadilly Press 9781848127616

Lil Potkin has ambitions to become an investigative reporter and her encounter with Nedly Stubbs affords her the opportunity to expand her repertoire way beyond *The Case of the Stolen Bin Lids* and *The Mystery of the Forgotten Laundry Bag*. However, why is Lil the only person who can see and hear Nedly? Together with him and worn out private detective Abe Mandrel she uncovers crimes and corruption in Peligan City. Further adventures follow in:

Potkin and Stubbs 2: The Haunting of Peligan City 978-1848127630

Potkin and Stubbs 3: Ghostcatcher 9781848128590

A CLPE booklist



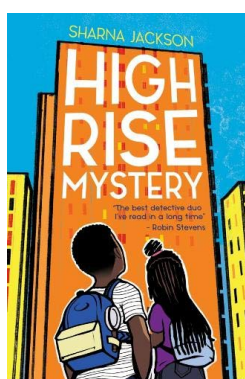
Agatha Oddly. The Secret Key by Lena Jones

HarperCollins 9780008211837

Agatha Oddlow has always considered herself to be a detective and often shares her thoughts with the fictional Hercule Poirot. She has the opportunity to take on her first big case when she sees a hit-and-run incident involving an old lady. Was it an accident? When the woman's business card reveals that she is a Hydrology expert at the Royal Geographical Society and seemingly coincidentally there is a mysterious outbreak of serious pollution in London's water, Agatha suspects there is a connection. The London locations – including Hyde Park where Agatha's father is Head Gardener - are well evoked. This series is produced by a syndicate of writers, just like the Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys mysteries!

Also: *Murder at the Museum* 9780008211899

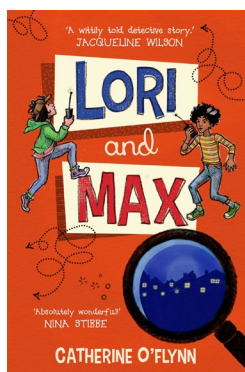
The Silver Serpent 9780008211950



High Rise Mystery by Sharna Jackson

Knights Of 9781999642518

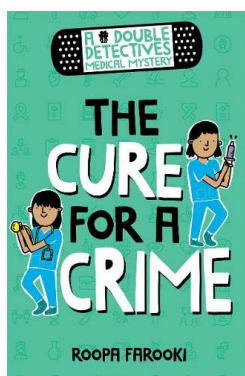
Nik and her older sister Norva live on an estate known as The Tri. When they find the dead body of Hugo Knightley-Webb, they immediately put into practice their detective skills, using the formula 'facts, evidence, deduction' – methodological and procedural, just like the detectives they have seen on TV. However, that's complicated when the victim is a neighbour and your dad is the chief suspect. Told from Nik's point of view in short sentences and using authentic dialogue, this is promised to be just the first of a series featuring this detective duo of black sisters.



Lori and Max by Catherine O'Flynn

Firefly 9781913102029

This contemporary crime novel opens with Lori hearing that her friend Maxine (known as Max) is missing. The action then backtracks three months to the day Max first arrived at New Heath Primary and moves forward with different chapters being narrated in the first person by Lori and in the third person describing what is happening to Max. Max's disappearance is initially assumed to be linked to some missing money. Lori's detective skills and the resilience and ingenuity of both girls lead to a resolution.



The Cure for a Crime by Roopa Farooki

Oxford University Press 9780192773593

In the first Double Detectives Medical Mystery, twins Ali and Tulip investigate who or what is causing a strange sleepy-sickness that their doctor mother has and which seems to be spreading. Is her new boyfriend Surgeon involved? The girls are helped along by their Nan-Nan who has a mysterious past. A nice addition to the book is an appendix referred to intermittently throughout the story which incorporates the Bristol Stool Chart among other Twintermissions.

