



## Davey the Detective

*Emlyn Chand, S. Shaw (Illustrator)*

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Davey dubs himself the luckiest crow in the entire world when he finds a wonderful, shiny object. It even has a fantastic name: “paperclip.” Wow!

One dark and dreary day, Davey’s treasure goes missing, and he is beside himself with grief. Luckily, he knows just how he can find out which of the forest animals is to blame for the theft. Inspired by the torn pages of a Sherlock Holmes story that were used to fashion his nest, Davey calls on the help of Sarah the sparrow to investigate the mystery and, hopefully, retrieve his prize.

Together the two birds begin to collect clues. Their trail leads them straight to Mr. Bushtail, a greedy squirrel who keeps a giant store of objects in a hollowed-out tree trunk. When Mr. Bushtail refuses to cooperate, the two birds have no choice but to break into his tree house in search of the truth.

Justice will prevail and treasure will be found in this intriguing tale of mystery.

***Davey the Detective*** is the second in a new series of color-illustrated books for children entitled ***The Bird Brain Books***.

## Davey the Detective Details

Date : Published June 26th 2012 by Evolved Publishing (first published June 21st 2012)

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Author : Emlyn Chand , S. Shaw (Illustrator)

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## From Reader Review Davey the Detective for online ebook

### Nati says

As always Emlyn teach us something important in every book that she writes. This one is about not assuming the worst in people, and been brave enough to resolve mysteries with your friends help.

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### Kaycee says

\* I received this book for an honest review and from a book challenge from the author\*

Davey is a curious bird that loves detective mysteries and shiny objects. One day he finds a treasure and loses it. He convinces his friend to help him go on an adventure to find his lost treasure and to see who actually took his beloved prize from him. I think this is a great book for children because it teaches them to go on adventures and explore mysteries that happen all around them. It also teaches them not to blame people for things that they have not done and not to assume the worst in people. I love the fact that the author made several references to Sherlock Holmes.

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### Bella says

This is another cute, if a little preachy, book. My least favourite in the Bird Brained series so far, and with the least compelling message. Illustrations are fun, as per usual!

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### Patricia Kemp Blackmon says

Davey the crow was out foraging one day and found a beautiful shiny object. He couldn't wait to get it home. When he got home he twisted the object each and every way he could. He could even wear it as a bracelet. As he began to get sleepy he decided to hide his treasure in his nest so it would be safe. It was his most valued treasure!

The next morning as soon as his eyes opened he started digging around in the nest where he had hidden his treasure. But to no avail he could not find his shiny treasure. He assumes someone must have stolen his treasure. When Sarah the sparrow showed up chirping and chattering away he told her someone had stolen his most precious treasure. He decides they will take the roles of Sherlock Holmes, Davey of course and Sarah as his sidekick Watson. They would start an investigation of the stolen treasure. They ended up accusing some of their friends. Wish was not very nice.

Will they be able to figure out who took Davey's treasure? Will he continue to accuse more of his friends hurting their feelings in the process? Sarah realized this was not the way to find his treasure by offending his friends.

This is a darling book. The author has a talent not of writing alone but of teaching. Teaching a child about trust, definitely not to assume things, and to treat your neighbors with respect. Also that friends are to be valued.

I loved the characters especially the little cutie Sarah the sparrow. She was a true friend. Even Mr. Whitetail was quite the gentleman even though his honor was being challenged.

The illustrator captured the little pair of detectives and their antics while investigating the missing treasure. Also that of Mr. Whitetail and Mr. Bushtail and their habitats.

I highly recommend this book.

Disclosure:

I received a digital copy of this book by Evolved Publishing for review. I was in no way compensated for this review. It is my own opinion.

If you found this review helpful please vote yes or no here.

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### **Amanda Williams says**

A wonderful childrens book that will delight and excite you. An amazing heart-warming story with stunning illustrations. This is a must read for you and your children to enjoy again and again.

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### **Mary Lou Hoffman says**

Davey wants to be like Sherlock Holmes when he grows up. After finding a special treasure and then waking to find it missing, he has his chance to put on the sleuth's cap. With his friend Sarah as his Watson, they track their clues. What they discover during their investigation is that the greatest treasure is a true friend.

This story was very entertaining and I highly recommend sharing it with your favorite child.

Age Level: 3 – 8 Grade Level: P-2nd

Note: while I was given this book as a gifted copy, my opinions are my own and are given freely.

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### **Alicia Marietta says**

This is the third book in the Bird Brain series by Emlyn that I have had the privilege of reviewing. Unfortunately, this was my least favorite book in the Bird Brain Series by Emlyn. I've come to look forward to a moving message in Emlyn's books. With Davey the Detective there is still a message to be learned, I just didn't feel it to be as moving as in the other Bird Brain books. Regardless, I still feel like this is a wonderful book for all to read.

In this feathery tale Davey has happened up a shiny treasure, a paperclip. He flies back in a hurry to hide his treasure before anyone can take it from him. That night Davey has many wonderful dreams about all the great things he can do with his new treasure. When morning comes he wakes to find his shiny treasure is missing! As a young hatching Davey read the pages of Sherlock Holmes that laid upon layers in his nest, and thinks he knows just what to do. With the help of his friend Sarah, a sparrow, Davey takes flight to find who has taken his treasure. Their first clue leads them to Mr. Whitetail who Sarah quickly starts accusing of stealing Davey's treasure. He assures them he does not have it and while he does not think Mr. Bushtail would have stolen it, advises them to question him. After speaking with Mr. Bushtail Davey is convinced his is the thief. Davey and Sarah devise a plan to sneak into Mr. Bustail's tree house during the night. Unfortunately, Sarah doesn't know how to be quiet and awakens Mr. Bushtail in a fright - sending his acorns everywhere. Davey & Sarah fly away in a hurry - back in Davey's nest. Will they ever be able to find Davey's shiny treasure? Or are they on a hopeless search?

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### **C.p. Bialois says**

Growing up I read the usual children's books like The Cat in The Hat, Mickey Mouse, Bernstein Bears, etc, etc. Now, roughly twenty plus years later I picked up a copy of Emlyn Chand's second book in the genre and found myself reading it in various voices I haven't used since I was a kid.

In Davey the Detective, Emlyn Chand imbues lessons of virtue into her favorite animals, birds as well as a cast of animals including a squirrel and deer. As cliche as it sounds, it was a refreshing read that took me back to kindergarten and the teacher reading to use before we were sent home. If you have children, or are planning on having them, then I highly recommend Davey the Detective for your library. Your children will thank you for it.

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### **Melissa Storm says**

Yes, I'm writing children's books now! I'm going to offer my mailing list subscribers free ebook copies for review, so if you think this book looks awesome, be sure to sign-up at [www.emlynchand.com](http://www.emlynchand.com).

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### **Bobbi says**

I love how Emlyn Chand has a lesson to be learned in all The Bird Brain series. Like in this one Davey learns to never accuse others without all the facts and checking everywhere for the lost item first.

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### **Lissette says**

Davey the crow has a penchant for bright and shiny objects. He loves to hoard his treasures and keeps them hidden within the confines of his nest. When he comes across a paperclip one day, he decides this is a treasure he must definitely keep and hides it within the folds of his paper nest the first chance he gets.

When the paperclip goes missing the next day, he's determined to find out the culprit behind his treasure's

disappearance. He's read enough of Sherlock Holmes, a story he found within the papers of his nest, to know what to do. Yet he wonders if he'll ever truly get to the bottom of his dilemma.

His best friend, Sarah the sparrow, offers to help him find out who's taken his treasure, even though she finds herself confused, every now and then, with Davey's references to Sherlock Holmes. She's never heard of the story and doesn't care for it, either. Nevertheless, Davey needs a helping hand and she's willing to follow him along in order to make sure his treasure is returned, safe and sound.

The two set off to discover the thief's identity, never once imagining they'd accuse someone unjustly. Their suspicions soon lead them to the home of Mr. Bushtail, but discovering whether he has Davey's treasure won't be easy. The squirrel is known to be greedy and keeps his home closely guarded. Nevertheless, Davey is determined to find out whether he's the culprit, once and for all, regardless of the consequences.

This was another great read for such a wonderful series. Full of beautifully depicted illustrations, the ease with which the story is told will draw in a reader of any age. Kudos to Emlyn for writing such a delightful series. I look forward to the next installment and recommend it to those who enjoy a story that brings out the child within us all.

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### **Sarah says**

Downloaded for free from Amazon.co.uk

This was a good kids mystery story, even if it seemed a little predictable to me. It did have a nice message at the end about friendship being important though.

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### **Nai says**

My break this afternoon was to allow myself to read a children's book. Rather than focus on a enormous mountain that needs dissecting and composing.

I'm always looking for light reading. It gives my brain a break from things mathematical and composition oriented.

I also just started re-reading A Girl of the Limberlost which is a horrifying experience. It's not horrifying in a bad way, just horrifying in a reliving the past kind of way. More about that book will be in my challenge post for the books I love reading challenge nearer the end of the month.

Davey though - pure magic. First, since it's in the title of this post, defining grand narrative (meta-narrative) is probably appropriate.

A meta-narrative is 'the big story' and it strives to explain the 'why' of the universe, or society or perhaps culture in some cases. Religion, Fascism, Communism & Feminism are just a few of the examples of meta-narratives that come to mind.

If I say that another way, it's an abstract idea that the author believes explains comprehensively historical experiences and knowledge.

Why is this important for Davey the Detective? Well, children's stories can be written for a variety of reasons. There are books that seek to teach kids things like the alphabet, or numbers. There are books that are just non-sensical and fun, and then there are books that are trying to teach a lesson, or explain something to the mind and eyes of a child.

Explaining good vs. evil, truth vs. lying and why humans do the things we do to a child can be a little challenging. Thank goodness there are some excellent writers out there like Emlyn Chand who can explain with grace and beauty the huge concepts and meta-narratives of life through kid lit.

This answers only one simple question about kids books, and that's why we read them at all. If you're an adult and have kids, you might do it to make them fall asleep at bed or nap-time, but you may also do it because the book helps explain something your child is currently struggling with. Whether it's sheer entertainment, or for a bigger reason, Davey the Detective should be in your library.

Davey, is a juvenile crow, and he's accompanied by his best friend Sarah the Sparrow. This book is brilliant in part because of its aspects of realism. Crows are often seen flying with other small birds around them (because they're good at finding food as they are scavengers). So the book is chalk full of teachable moments for any parent or teacher reading the book to an audience of young children.

In the book, Davey finds something beautiful and shiny (Also teachable, crows like shiny things, and are one of the few birds that will 'impress' upon objects and people.) It might be a common every day object to us humans, but it is special to Davey. Then, he loses it! He looks for it everywhere, but finally enlists his friend and they go about hunting Holmes and Watson style for his missing precious object.

The story brings out a vast array of emotions, from frustration to disappointment, from friendship to relief. It's moral 'think before you accuse' and 'apologize when you are wrong' are beautifully illustrated in the writing and the images. Even though Mr. Bushtail is angry with Davey and Sarah, he forgives them, and Davey learns his lesson. The book is so realistic it could be about kids in school, not birds. It actually reminds me of the Bernstein Bear books, and is just as gorgeous to look at. The birds have human expressions and the style of writing flows easily off the tongue.

Davey the Detective was the first children's book I bought in an ebook format. I have to say I'm not disappointed at all. In fact, it got me thinking about the future of children's literature.

In Startrek Voyager, the kids have holodecks with programs that are children's stories. The one pictured below is Naomi Wyldeman in an episode about fire destroying a rain forest. It too has a grander narrative that speaks to how humans and the world can't keep going around with out all the elements (fire, earth, air and water).

In the same way that Davey learns his lesson, so does the fire, and eventually the fire and water sprites become friends and learn that they can work together. Just like Davey, Sarah and Mr. Bushtail.

The future is here? Almost? Please?

I am quite sure that it's becoming more and more common to read children stories with ebooks all snuggled up in bed. I for one can see a future where we do have holodecks, but maybe first some interactive stories and video games for Wii or other gaming platforms that are stories like Davey the Detective. In fact, I think all the Bird Brained books Emlyn's writing and planning to write would make excellent games.

I hope you'll take time to check out Emlyn's kid lit, and maybe even stop by Amazon to buy it. It's a great resource, and if you buy it in ebook format it won't even take up room in your hectic life if you're a parent.

Davey the Detective is available on Amazon in ebook and print format. You can read more about the book on GoodReads, and follow the author on Facebook, Twitter, GoodReads and her own website.

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#### **LaGina says**

This book and read and reviewed by my lil dude who is 9 years old. This book is about a bird names Davey that thought someone stole something from him but he really lost it. But he wanted to point the finger at everyone else cause it was missing. This story taught me that you shouldnt accuse someone of taking something unless you know that they did it for real.

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#### **Phaedra Seabolt says**

Bird Brain books all tell a story from a bird's perspective in order to teach some lessons. In this story, Davey finds a paperclip and hides it in his nest right before bed. This is a characteristic of certain birds where they hoard shiny objects. When Davey wakes up, he digs through his nest for his treasure only to find it missing. Instead of calmly looking for it he decides that his treasure must have been stolen. He uses this as an opportunity to become a detective, something he has always dreamed of doing. He acquires a sidekick and goes in search of his lost paperclip. During his adventure, they accuse a completely innocent deer of being a thief without any real evidence. They also assume a squirrel is guilty and sneak into his home at night, destroying his stacks of nuts and scaring him in his sleep. The result of these assumptions is that Davey's sidekick finds his paperclip in Davey's nest right where he left it. You may be wondering what lesson a kid might learn from this story. I see a couple of lessons here. When you assume you make...Oh you probably know the rest of that one. Never trespass. Never accuse someone of something you aren't certain they did. The end of the story tells us that Davey learns the value of a real friend as well. Of course if you haven't read a Bird Brain book before, you really need to check out the art. The illustrations are always cute and sometimes humorous as well.

