



The Secret in the Old Lace

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Nancy Drew has entered a contest to solve an old mystery—the disappearance of a Flemish nobleman, a pair of lace cuffs, and a priceless treasure. In a thrilling story shadowed by a romance of the past, Nancy and her friends work to solve a mystery over one hundred years in the making.

The Secret in the Old Lace Details

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Author : Carolyn Keene

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From Reader Review The Secret in the Old Lace for online ebook

Maryann Fox says

I hadn't read a Nancy Drew book since I was a child- when I couldn't wait to read the newest book. This book was shown on my daughter's goodreads book review so I thought I'd read it. It is a much newer story than the ones I read and rather than a sketch of the characters there is an actual picture/drawing.

Nancy is still a teenager and living at home solving mysteries. This mystery comes as result of a story in a magazine contest.

The contest asks its readers to solve a mystery about a young man who lived in the 19th century in Belgium who received a pair of lace cuffs that had a message hidden in them. He disappeared without a trace along with a considerable fortune.

Nancy and her friends Bess and George travel to Belgium to visit a friend of Bess's mother who has found an antique cross and part of a letter written long ago that refers to a treasure.

When they arrive in Belgium Nancy's suitcase is stolen and a man dressed as a ghost appears in the basement of the house. It turns out that the young man who disappeared lived in the house long ago.

The cross is stolen from the house one night while everyone is out.

The girls meet the great grandson of the young man and they discover the hiding place of the lace cuffs and the fortune which turns out to be jewelry.

Aarathi Burki says

Not at all interesting or mysterious, hardly challenging to Nancy. Most of the clues were hard to believe and readily available for Nancy. She hardly did any sleuthing in this book and the mystery was not that interesting or hard enough for her.

Sydney says

Nancy Drew, teenage detective, wants to win a mystery writing contest, but her manuscript is stolen! Also, she is invited to a mansion in Belgium to solve a mystery. In Belgium, some criminals try to get in her way of solving the mystery. They may have something to do with her manuscript... But you'll have to read it to

find out!

I recommend this book to people of all ages, specifically middle schoolers, as there are some tricky words in the book! Hope you enjoy the book!

Jessica Guard says

This was my first time reading one of the ever-so-famous Nancy Drew books, and I had high expectations. I love solving mysteries, and I think this was a great place to start for my EDCI 304 course regarding literacy in upper elementary students. My initial responses while reading this book included a mixture of disappointment followed by curiosity. I found it disappointing in the sense that so many things kept going wrong for Nancy Drew. Recognized as an amateur detective, Nancy Drew enters a magazine contest to solve a mystery about the disappearance of a wealthy man, his lace cuffs, and his treasure; but when she realizes this mystery presents opportunity for her to solve it in real life, she faces more than just one mystery. From burglaries and threats, to hidden passageways and messages, Nancy Drew and her friends search for answers, crossing dangerous paths.

From a teaching perspective, this book offers many opportunities to engage in learning. As I was reading, I saw some immediate opportunities to discuss characteristics of the mystery genre and analyzing text features. In this particular book, the titles of each chapter foreshadow important events and allow the reader to make predictions. Students can also create their own mystery books. As a teacher, I could create a scavenger hunt for the students to read and process the clues in order to find the end prize. Another option would be to post a word wall in the classroom, emphasizing important words within the book. These words could include (but not limited to): sleuth, plagiarism, and kantwerker.

Because I have read relatively few mystery books, my recommendations for future readings may be limited. However, I would suggest taking a look into books by Agatha Christie. She's a fantastic author and writes wonderful mystery novels.

Susan says

Nancy Drew books are always good reading when something light and uncomplicated is needed. This one story is no exception.

The foreign setting was new to me and a nice change of scenery. The story also contains the typical bad guy, mysterious messages, old attics, and missing treasure.

Recommend.

Jessica says

Good book, though not as good as I thought it would be.

Krystal F says

I have read some Nancy Drew before but it has been years. I liked the mystery unveiling throughout the book. It was not a difficult read at all but enjoyable.

Category: Novel/Chapter Book

Eileen says

I had to read a book from childhood for a challenge and now I remember why I read all of the nancy drew books.

Linda says

Set in Belgium. Nancy speaks French. Nancy, Bess, and George solve 100-year old mystery and restore lost inheritance to rightful owner. Nice local details. Fairly typical.

Malinda Ford says

Summary-

In the beginning of the book Nancy sends her manuscript into the company. While she is waiting for a reply her friend's mom gets a letter from an old roommate saying that there is some sort of mystery at her place and needs Nancy to come and solve it. When someone tries to steal her manuscript she is suspicious of the painter. When she goes to some place in England she encounters a bigger mystery than she expected. While she's in England she solves both mysteries. Both the Mystery of the manuscript and the mystery of the roommates mansion.

Characters-

The main character in this book is Nancy. How she changes throughout the book is at first she's kind of confused with everything that's going on around her. During the book she gets control of everything and gets most the pieces of the puzzle together. By the end of the book she solves 2 mysteries instead of just 1. Also at the end of the book she celebrates with her family. This is how she changes throughout the book.

What I liked about the book-

What I liked about this book is that it's mystery. What I also liked about the book is that she goes through so much during the book. I also liked that no matter what she went through she kept on going. I liked that her friends didn't bail on her when things were rough. This is what I liked about the book.

Darinda says

Another good Nancy Drew mystery.

Nancy Drew enters a contest to solve an old mystery. The old mystery takes place in Belgium, and, as luck would have it, Nancy's friend Bess has a new mystery for Nancy to solve that involves the girls (Nancy, Bess, and George) traveling to Belgium.

Jerry says

Another exciting mystery in this series, but with a different feel this time around.

Alex Grant says

The book was interesting. It had romance, intrigue and a pair of lace cuffs. In this book Nancy and her friends have to find a message in the lace cuffs belonging to Francois Lefevre. The cuffs were given to him by his soon to be wife, Antoinette Tissot, an actress. They fell in love. But Antoinette's family didn't like Francois. In order to keep Antoinette from being dishonored, Francois left Brussels and went to Belgium. He changed his name to Friedrich Vonderlicht. But Antoinette followed him. She changed her name to Elaine Warrington. They found each other and they lived happily ever after. How Nancy solved the mystery of the message in the lace cuffs and defeats the bad guys makes one exciting read!

Jennifer says

This is my absolute favorite of all the Nancy Drew mysteries, the one I read a dozen times as a kid, the one I was sure I owned a copy of but can't seem to find among my other children's books. Maybe I actually read it until it fell apart and my mom got rid of it...

I still remember lying on my stomach transfixed as I read about Nancy's adventure in Belgium (so Old World exotic) with Francois (I thought it was pronounced Frank-o-yse). Brilliant.

Eustacia Tan says

I miss reading Nancy Drew. I didn't realize how much until I read The 101 Most Influential People Who Never Lived, but I missed this series. And even after a long absence, I find Nancy Drew as gripping as ever.

In this mystery, Nancy gets accused of plagiarism and travels to Belgium to solve a hundreds of years old mystery. Or maybe just a hundred. But either way, I was having trouble putting down this book. And of course, in Nancy Drew fashion, she solves the mystery - within a time limit and under threat from the baddies.

To enjoy the book so much despite the fact that Nancy has Mary-Sue like qualities is quite surprising for me. Especially since I've developed a slightly higher intolerance for Mary-Sues (too much exposure to them). For example, being good at whatever she does. I suppose she's just a really likable Mary-Sue. Or you know, I'm suffering from my childhood bias.

Of course, you have to be familiar with the characters to enjoy the books. I didn't really realise it now, but a lot of the characterisation occurs after you've read several books. That's why the villains all seem very thinly drawn.

You know, I really want to read the other Nancy Drew books* now. In fact, I wonder how The Famous Five, Trixie Belden and all my childhood detectives will be like if I re-read them.

* When I say 'Nancy Drew Books', I mean the classics. Not the ones where she goes off to college or the more modern versions.

This review was first posted at [Inside the mind of a Bibliophile](#)
