

THE MYSTERY OF

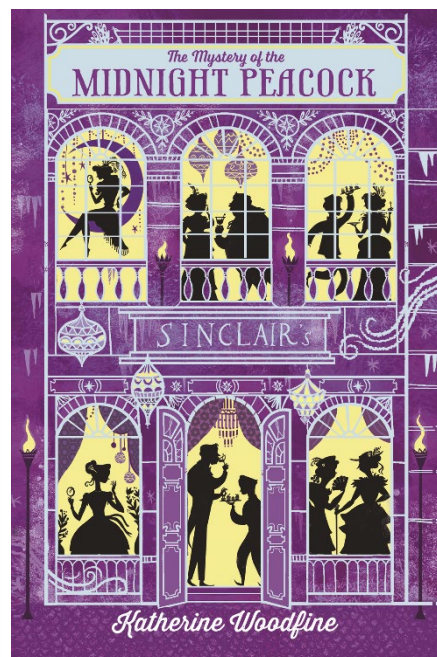
THE CLOCKWORK SPARROW * THE MIDNIGHT PEACOCK

Katherine Woodfine

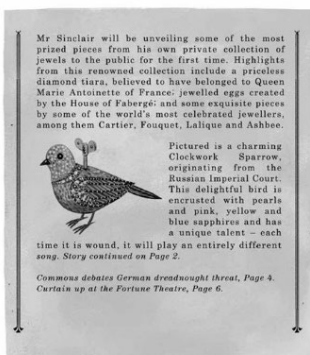
Fiction | Ages 11+ | Paperback | 5 x 7 ¾ | 320 - 352 pp | \$6.99

Clockwork Sparrow ISBN: 978-1-61067-437-9 LOC: 2015954239 | Midnight Peacock ISBN: 978-1-61067-842-1 LOC: 2018932780

Miss Sophie and Miss Lilian, employees of Sinclair's Department Store, fast friends, and part-time sleuths, are on the case!



- Sumptuous Edwardian England setting.
- Classic whodunit: criminals, gangs, top-secret documents, old-fashioned detective work.
- Dramatic, page-turning action and adventure, but not overtly dark.
- Strong female characters.
- All ages appeal.



"Don't look much like any sparrow I've ever seen," said George, contemplating it. "A different tune every time, eh? Now however do you reckon they get it to do that?"

At that moment, a cart loaded with boxes of merchandise rumbled into the stable yard. "Shake a leg, George!" called a voice from behind them. "The gaffer wants this lot unloaded sharpish."

George winked at Billy and then heaved himself to his feet. "Come on, pal," he said. "Let's get on with this and then we'll finish reading later on."

Saying that was all very well, but Billy found it was difficult to concentrate on boxes and deliveries. He kept picturing immense diamonds glinting in the dark tunnels of an Indian mine. Then there was Marie Antoinette's tiara. How had the Captain come to own it? He imagined a grand Paris auction house, or a furtive transaction with a cloaked stranger in a foreign tavern. Busy with these speculations, it seemed no time at all before the boxes were unloaded, and then two shiny black motor vans were pulling into the yard, each driven by a man in white gloves. George nodded to Billy, who stood staring, fascinated by the thought of the priceless treasures that must be within.

But then Uncle Sid strode up. "No hanging about, if you please. This isn't a job for the likes of you. Hop it. Find yourself something useful to do."

"Fancy that," said George admiringly. "And to think that all that's going to be coming through here this very morning, jewels that have belonged to queens and the like."

"Look at the picture," said Billy, and they bent over the paper to squint at the blurry photograph.

Review Praise

"... an entertaining new girl detective series ..."

– *Kirkus Reviews*

"... will appeal to lovers of historical fiction as well as adventure and detective stories. It may also entice readers who enjoy fashion history and city life."

– *School Library Journal*

"This is a great series for young teens. And I think some adults would enjoy it like I am. It has a good story, characters, and an interesting plot."

– *Notes from Dawn*



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