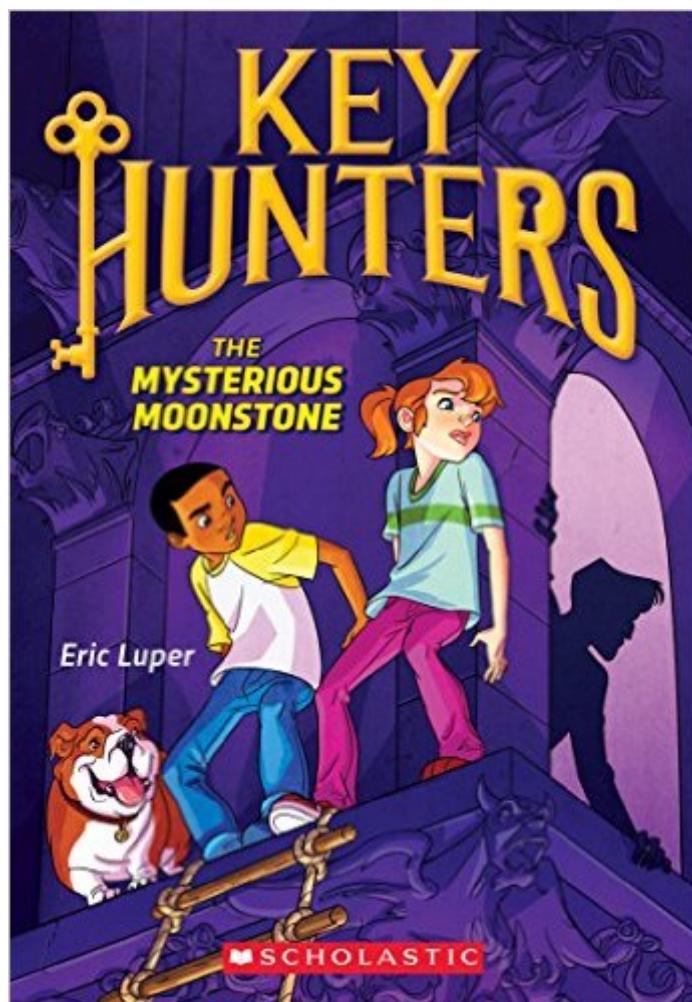


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# The Mysterious Moonstone (Key Hunters)



## **Synopsis**

Cleo and Evan have a secret. A collection of books so dangerous they are locked up tight. A friend has vanished inside the pages of one of them. It's up to them to find the key that will set her free. A PRICELESS DIAMOND...STOLEN! When Cleo and Evan go undercover to help a rookie detective interview a mansion full of suspects, nothing is as it seems. They must catch the crook -- and find the right key -- or they could be trapped inside this mystery forever...

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 550 (What's this?)

Series: Key Hunters (Book 1)

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks (April 26, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545822041

ISBN-13: 978-0545822046

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.5 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (30 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #35,104 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Books & Libraries #381 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives #1574 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## **Customer Reviews**

I work with reluctant/challenged readers from 8 to 10 years old. One student is enamored of The Magic Treehouse series, but is afraid other books won't measure up and won't be worth the effort it takes him to decipher writing on the page. We read through the first chapters of this book during his last session, and when our time was up, he looked distressed. "Do you want to know what happens next?" I asked. What greater encouragement for reading is a short, easily read book that makes a reading challenged nine year old want to know what happens next? Kudos to Mr. Luper for filling the gap between the truly awful AR books Ohio fourth graders are required to read for AR credit, and the magical reading experiences possible with a bit more vocabulary and experience. I've been looking for books like these.

Any book that will catch middle grade readers both boys and girls is a winner in my book. I remember just such a series of books that captured my attention and I had to have all of the books which my parents bought for me on my birthday and I became a life long reader in part because of them. This series of books has that potential for today's boy and girl readers. In this first installation the school's librarian has disappeared and been replaced by a mean one. Cleo and Evan discover a library under the school one and learn that their librarian has been sucked into one of the books and the replacement librarian is an evil character. Will they find the answer to the mystery and find the right key? You will have to read it to find out. Recommended for middle grade readers.

A new chapter book from Scholastic, it follows the adventures of Cleo and Evan, as they go back in history to solve mysteries after discovering a hidden library under their traditional library. It's somewhat like the Magic Treehouse books, in that there is a portal that transports them back. It's less formulaic than the Magic Treehouse (there are more than 10 chapters in this book; the next in the series has fewer chapters; pacing of the story is varied) but will likely appeal to the same audiences. Luper does more teaching of vocabulary and some historical context where the Magic Treehouse usually has a supplement. Overall, a fun new series.

My daughters liked this fun mystery. They are in second and fourth grade. It was fast-paced and fun for them. They like fantasies, so they thought it was fun when the character traveled into London through a mysterious library. They help a detective try to find the missing moonstone. My kids felt it was pretty easy to read. It is a good chapter book. They liked the writing. I thought it also had a few educational parts as well. They finished it pretty quickly. The illustrations by Lisa Weber were very good. I felt they added to the story. Overall, it was a fun book that my kids liked.

This is an early chapter book for ages 7-10. This fun mystery is one of a series, but works well as a stand alone book too. The print is large and the chapters are short - so easy for beginning readers. The characters are appealing to boys and girls, the story is age-appropriate and the plot is well written. Writing so much for younger readers when you are limited in words and vocabulary is tough. This story even takes the readers back in time. Well done!

Summary: Cleo and Evan miss their favorite school librarian, Mrs. Hilliard. After she mysteriously disappeared, the strange Ms. Crowley took over. One day, Ms. Crowley is acting odder than ever.

The two kids follow her, and discover a secret underground library. They find a note from Mrs. Hilliard telling them she's trapped in a book, and they need to solve the mysteries in the other books to free her and avoid getting stuck themselves. Entering one of the books, they find themselves in 19th century London, where they help a teenage Sherlock Holmes-like detective figure out who stole a diamond from a wealthy family. Ms. Crowley makes an appearance in this mystery, and after it's solved, the three of them return to their school. More mysteries await, however, as they work to free Mrs. Hilliard. 128 pages; grades 2-4. Pros: The mystery was surprisingly good, with a cast of suspicious characters and a bumbling, yet charming detective. The story-within-the-story structure is a fun way to move the series along. Cons: The beginning was a little slow.

Lucky for me all the kids in the house loved this book - because I loved reading it to the little ones, endlessly. I am a big Sherlock Holmes fan and the kids play the board game Clue Classic Detective Board Game Retro Series Reissue and this story was perfect for us. Cleo and Evan have a new school librarian, mean Ms. Crowley. On a reconnaissance mission trying to figure out what happened to the previous librarian they discover another library- underground! In it they find a locked book with a note from their awesome librarian Ms. Hilliard that she is trapped IN THE BOOK! They turn the key and Whoosh! they are in London England - 150 years ago! Next thing you know they are in the home of Colonel Mustard er Musgrave and helping Artie Baker find a missing/stolen diamond - did the Kumar the butler do it?

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