



Sea View Secret

Eleanor Clymer

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This old book is a true gem. A wonderful story of a much simpler time in history. There is family and mystery and everything else a good kids book needs. The story has stuck with me for 50 years and I am sure it will stay with anyone that reads it be they kids or grownups. Clymer published this under the pseudonym Elizabeth Kinsey.

Sea View Secret Details

Date : Published 1952 by F. Watts

ISBN :

Author : Eleanor Clymer

Format : Paperback 184 pages

Genre : Mystery

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From Reader Review Sea View Secret for online ebook

Jaime says

This was a favorite book from my childhood. I'm so glad I found it again.

Orinoco Womble (tidy bag and all) says

Okay, I get it now. Clymer has a thing about kids moving from small, uncomfortable and often shabby apartments to better accomodation--or at least slightly improved accomodation. It's a motif in all her books that I've come across so far, and this one is no exception. A family of six including twin toddlers moves from a top-floor apartment with no elevator to a "bungalow" (ie, a little box made out of ticky-tacky) in a new housing development where they do indeed look all the same. Apparently, there aren't even street signs or house numbers, as the kids have trouble finding their own home just at first! The brother and sister MCs are looking for kids their own age and finally find them in the only large house in the area.

A light, quick read that missed a couple of great opportunities. Instead of the kids exposing the developer for the unscrupulous creep adult readers know he is, perhaps with the help of kind Mr Bunch, the author opts for the silly mystery about the rings. This is odd, given her preachments (put in the parents' mouths) about "being beneficial to the community." It's also odd that she could write kids so realistically in terms of dialogue etc, but her adults are wooden and spout such stilted talk. She was an adult herself at the time, not some teen writer.

Since she opted for the ring mystery instead, there's a definite seam about two-thirds through the book joining the two plots, and you can see it.

Joanna Warrens says

Cute@

Kristine says

Charming story of a family moving into a mystery-laden house. The discoveries they encounter are reminiscent of Le Fabuleux Destin D'Amelie Poulain. One of the most revered stories of my childhood.
