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The Detective's Secret (The Detective's Daughter)



Synopsis

Stella Darnell was the detective's daughter. Now she's solving cases of her own. Jack Harmon craves silence and a bird's eye view. From his new home in Palmyra Tower, he can raise binoculars to watch over west London. If he watches for long enough, he will learn who has secrets. He will learn who plans to kill. But Jack does not see everything. A man has died beneath a late-night train, and Jack's friend Stella, the detective's daughter, suspects it could have been murder. Now Jack and Stella are stirring up the past with questions that no one wants answered—questions that lead to an unsolved case nearly 20 years old.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In 1987, a man and a woman are seen making love in a water tower in Chiswick. When the woman leaves, she slams the door closed trapping the man inside. A group of children had been playing soldier in the tower and witnessed the couple. This fact will become important as the story moves between 1987 as we learn more about the children and their relationships to the couple and to each other and forward to the present where Stella Darnell and her friend Jack work together both in her cleaning business and in solving crimes. Jack is also a train driver in the London Underground.

Recently a man fell under a train (called a One Under by the drivers). The police are satisfied that it was a suicide but the man's brother is convinced it was murder and hires Stella and Jack to investigate. Meanwhile, Stella's mom finally returns from a long trip to Australia with a man she introduces as Stella's brother and Jack moves into the water tower that is in the process of being converted into flats. The Detective's Secret by author Lesley Thomson is the third in The Detective's Daughter series but it is the first I've read. This is an odd story made odder by references (I assume) to the other books which are never explained like Jack's talk of True Hosts(?) which tended to break my willing suspension of disbelief at times. However, once it became clear that these things really had no bearing on this novel and I could just ignore them, I really began to enjoy the story. The main characters are likable if a bit neurotic and there is a quirkiness to both the characters and the tale that made it a lot of fun to read.

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