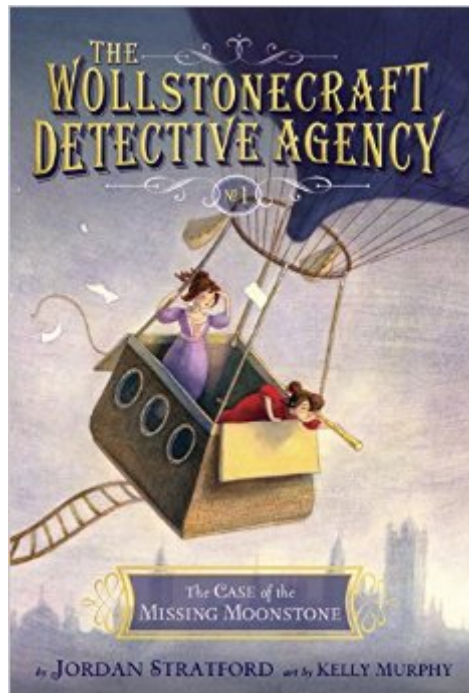# The Case Of The Missing Moonstone (The Wollstonecraft Detective Agency, Book 1)

Synopsis

History, mystery, and science collide in a new series for middle-grade readers, perfect for fans of The Mysterious Benedict Society and Lemony Snicket! Â Jordan Stratford imagines an alternate 1826, where Ada Lovelace (the worldâ ™s first computer programmer) and Mary Shelley (author of Frankenstein) meet as girls and form a secret detective agency! Â Lady Ada Byron, age eleven, is a genius. Isolated, awkward and a bit rudeâ ™but a genius. Mary Godwin, age fourteen, is a romantic. Adventurous, astute, and kind, Mary is to become Adaâ ™s first true friend. And together, the girls conspire to form the Wollstonecraft Detective Agencyâ ™a secret constabulary for the apprehension of clever criminals. Their first case involves a stolen heirloom, a false confession, and an array of fishy suspects. But itâ ™s no match for the deductive powers and bold hearts of Ada and Mary. Â Mystery fans will love this tween girl riff on Sherlock Holmes and John Watson. History buffs will be delighted to see all the real figures who play a role in this story and appreciate the extensive backmatter that helps separate truth from fiction. Parents and educators hoping to promote the STEM fields for girls will be thrilled to have a series where two girls use math, science, and creative analytical thinking to solve crimes. But most especially--emerging readers will love this series filled with humor, action, intrigue and wonderful artwork from Kelly Murphy.From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0840 (What's this?)

Series: The Wollstonecraft Detective Agency

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Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.6 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (52 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #46,557 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #47 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe   #534 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives   #2402 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Humor

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

The world's first computer programmer and the future author of Frankenstein meet as brainy eccentric tweens in this utterly charming alternate history series debut that blends Sherlock Holmes and "The Big Bang Theory," science and the irresistible chain reaction of female friendship, derring-do and a comedy of manners, problem-solving and just plain getting into trouble, for example in a balloon contraption referred to in the opening chapter as "The Ridiculous Hat".Eleven-year-old Ada, Countess of Lovelace, needs schooling in manners and understanding people (after years she can't remember the name of a housemaid) whereas the more social Mary Godwin, fourteen and daughter of feminist Mary Wollstonecraft, needs schooling alongside Ada in science. The romantic-minded Mary, who is enthralled to meet one Charles Dickens on the carriage ride to Ada's manor, has the benefit of learning science and deduction alongside Ada (although not at first since Ada initially shuns the idea) from the tutor Ada calls Peebs, whose true identity is, well, terribly romantic. When Mary talks her way into Ada's confidence, she is introduced to the BLE ("bleh"), a calculating machine that is the Difference Engine conceived of by the real-life Charles Babbage and Ada. The Ada-Babbage relationship, by the way, is covered in Walter Isaacson's THE INNOVATORS, a book that posits innovation as a group effort rather than the romantic isolated genius: to wit, Ada, who at one point declares she is "full of tigers".Certainly Ada, who can never remember names and calls the Dickensian character Abernathy "Mr. Angrybunny" (one of several humorous moments), and Mary together are innovators in the field of private detectives.

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