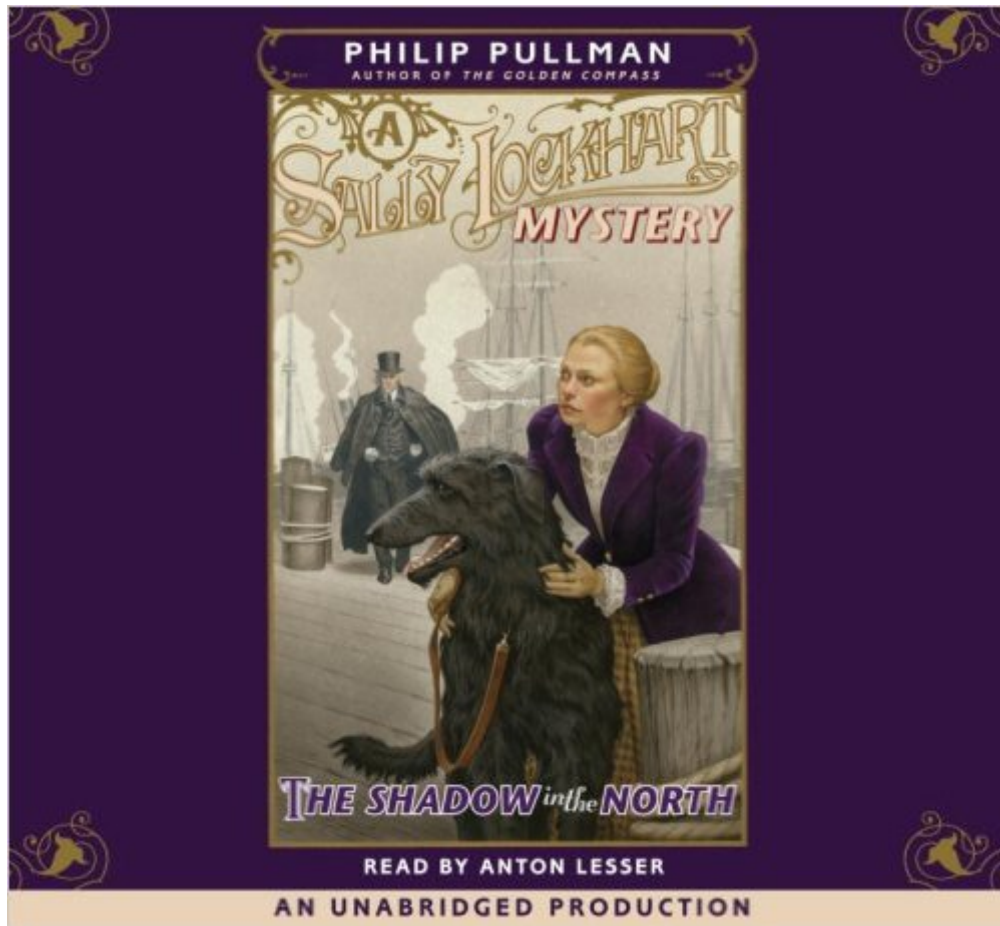


The book was found

Shadow In The North (Lib)(CD) (Sally Lockhart Mysteries)



Synopsis

WHEN ONE OF Sally's clients loses a large sum of money in the unexpected collapse of a British shipping firm, Sally sets out to investigate. But as she delves deeper into the identity of a wealthy and elusive industrialist, she uncovers a plot so diabolical, it could subvert the entire civilized world. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

Series: Sally Lockhart Mysteries

Audio CD

Publisher: Listening Library; Unabridged edition (March 14, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0307286045

ISBN-13: 978-0307286048

Product Dimensions: 6.8 x 6.2 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (94 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,038,069 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > (P) > Pullman, Philip #14259 in Books > Children's Books > Mysteries &

Detectives #41154 in Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Pullman has a rare and valuable talent: his chosen field is the young adult novel, and he writes for young adults. Frankly, without condescension, and with a lively intelligence and subtle humor that shows he respects his audience as much as they (indubitably do) respect him. This novel shows a young woman in full command of her faculties being put into the teeth of an excruciating moral predicament, and if the road she eventually finds out of it is a simple one, that is because Pullman is not above granting a final bit of wish-fulfillment after he's run us through the wringer. I'll leave the plot summaries to other reviewers; it's enough to say that it's a lively and political mystery / thriller and its coincidences, while implausible, do not betray their own internal logic. Pullman is first and foremost an observer of character, and what makes this book something that makes me, a 29-year-old guy who tends to read much more austere stuff, take notice, is the sheer aliveness of the characters. There's Sally, of course, a resolutely feminist young woman whose resolve and determination are

surely of her time, even if some of her anxieties and dilemmas seem more resonant with the present than Victorian England; Frederick, her friend and peer who she loves, and with whom she argues helplessly and often; Jim, their young, streetwise friend, who is capable, brave, and eminently self-aware; and a large cast of supporting characters, many of them women, who are sharply limned and full of their own stories. The fact that Sally is living out what would have been, at best, a Victorian woman's fantasy is dealt with elsewhere; the fact that huge swathes of the dialogue is anachronistic is irrelevant.

"The Shadow in the North" is the second book in the Sally Lockhart trilogy (or quartet, if you count "The Tin Princess", but that's a whole other debate), and begins about five years after the events of "The Ruby in the Smoke". Sally Lockhart, our Victorian heroine who was raised to think more like a contemporary woman, is now self-employed as a business consultant. Her companions Frederick Garland and Jim Taylor are amateur detectives and professional photographers, and despite a growing attraction/animosity between Sally and Fred, all seems well. But then one of her clients, Miss Walsh, comes to her office to inform her that she has lost all of her money after taking Sally's advice and investing in a ship that has since disappeared. The subsequent event of the firm's downfall seems to be linked to a man named Axel Bellman, the richest man in Europe, who is surrounded by scandal and gossip. Sally promises to get her lost money back, and begins her investigation...Meanwhile, Jim Taylor's work at the theatre throws him into the path of the famous magician Alastair MacKinnon, who begs him for help in escaping two armed men. Jim takes him home, and he and Fred (who is experimenting with capturing seances with cameras) hear his extraordinary story. As well as an amazing talent on the stage, MacKinnon claims to have psychometry abilities - when he touches certain objects, he gains visions connected to them. And recently, he's had a vision of a man killing another with a sword in a snowy forest, and believes that the murderer knows that he knows, and has sent men to kill him. Filled with magicians, physics, beauties, blackmail, murder and intrigue, "The Shadow in the North" follows on nicely from its previous book, if not quite up to its ingenuity.

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