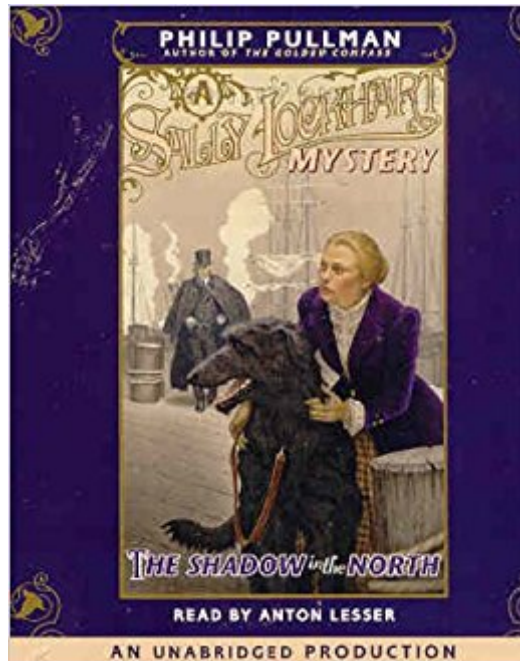




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A Sally Lockhart Mystery: The Shadow In The North: Book Two



Synopsis

“A second brilliant bauble, perhaps more foreboding and terrifying than *The Ruby in the Smoke*.
Publisher’s WeeklyWill the sea give up its dead?The year is 1878, and the spirited Sally Lockhart, once again defying Victorian sensibilities, has gone into business for herself. When one of her 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 the wealthy and elusive industrialist who owns the doomed company, she uncovers a plot so diabolical that it could eventually subvert the entire civilized world—and if Sally’s enemies have their way, she won’t live long enough to see it happen. Philip Pullman, author of the award-winning *His Dark Materials*, continues the nerve-shattering story of his canny and courageous heroine in this second Sally Lockhart mystery.

Book Information

Series: Sally Lockhart

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> Authors, A-Z > (P) > Pullman, Philip #1100 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers >

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Six years after solving the mysteries surrounding the death of her father (in *The Ruby in the Smoke*), Sally Lockhart has set up her own consulting business. But her photographer friend, Fred Garland, has a habit of drawing her into his private detective work owing to her skill in both finances and firearms. When one of Sally’s clients loses a large sum of money invested in a shipping firm and Fred encounters a conjurer on the lam from underworld thugs, the two begin to find links in

these apparently disparate cases. Exquisitely written and packed with a wonderfully diverse, often terrifying cast of characters and dark twists and turns of plot, the second installment of the Sally Lockhart trilogy--an ALA Best Book for Young Adults, a Booklist Editors' Choice, and a nominee for the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Mystery--is entirely impossible to put down. Make sure book 3, *The Tiger in the Well*, is close at hand as you near the end of this one. (Ages 12 and older) --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Termed by PW a "brilliant bauble," this sequel to *The Ruby and the Smoke* finds Sally Lockhart, six years later, embroiled in high-level government chicanery; the mystery's tangled threads are "quite elegantly tied up." Ages 12-up. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Fans of steampunk, Victoriana and wonderful character development, writing and plot are in for a treat with the Sally Lockhart Mysteries, especially *The Shadow in the North* and *The Tiger in the Well*, which are miles beyond the first book in the trilogy, *The Ruby in the Smoke*. Sally Lockhart is an orphan, now grown and entrenched in both her own business and her own circle of friends who function as family. Sally is a partner in her friend's photography business and runs her own business in financial consultant and it is from that business that the mystery arises. Sally is visited by one of her clients, a retired teacher who lost the money Sally advised her to invest in shipping. Sally is appalled and sets out to find out why the company and the ship were sunk. The path leads her through the plight of women in Victorian society, the question of freedom and social control and human evil. There is a lot here, as in all of Pullman's books. Philip Pullman doesn't write young adult pulp (not that there is anything wrong with that), he writes fiction with profound questions about morality and character that are more suited to older teens and adults. I think younger YA readers in the tween bracket might bog down in Pullman's world, as vividly drawn and exciting as it is. Parents might want to read along with middle and older teens, not because there is anything wrong in Pullman's work, but because there is so much that is right that could raise discussions of how to cope with individual weakness in the self and in others and what happens when human weaknesses take on their inevitable societal aspects. As I said, there is a lot here. What is also here is a fast moving mystery, set in an ever so slightly altered Victorian London with steampunk touches that are sure to please. Pullman is a master of his craft and the writing, character and plot are all top notch. Other reviewers have criticized Sally as anachronistic, but the feminist movement and a few individual women entering the professions was well advanced by the 1870s. Yes, these were

exceptional women, but Sally is intended to be a portrait of just such an exceptional woman. Highly recommended as are all of Pullman's works to fans of mysteries, Victoriana, steampunk and high end Young Adult fiction.

Phillip Pullman introduced us to a completely new genre with the "His Dark Materials" stories about Lyra Belacqua, the Golden Compass and the Armoured Bears. These are children's stories which are so beautifully written that adults find them irresistible, too. And just as Harry Potter's character has grown and matured to face stronger foes than bullies from the Sixth Form, Pullman's protagonists have evolved to lure us into new worlds of adventure, intrigue and deadly danger. Sally Lockhart has grown from an ingenuous sixteen-year-old trying to understand the circumstances of her father's untimely death, to an independent and resourceful young woman in the Victorian era. Following on from "The Ruby in the Smoke", we find Sally running her own financial management service while still forming an essential part of the Garland and Lockhart Detective Agency and the Garland's Photographic Studio. Sally's livelihood, her friends and ultimately her very life are threatened by a ruthless, manipulative and corrupt businessman of sinister eastern-European background. Bellmann's plot to manufacture and sell death-dealing weapons to tyrannical despots brings him into conflict with the Lockhart businesses, their ethics and their personnel, and sets up a confrontation which could cost Sally everything she values...I commend this book to even the most modern of young people, and to their parents, too. The writing style is balanced so cleverly, the language is set in the elegance of the Victorian era but the conflict translates readily to present times. The opponents of our personal liberty are as evident today as a hundred or a thousand years ago, and the final struggle seems to arise from within ourselves, as this wonderful story tells. Great reading, and well read by Anton Lesser!

Philip Pullman is a good writer. His description of Victorian England is great. Reminds of Dickens.

Like all of Phillip Pullman's books "The Shadow in the North" takes you back in time and into the lives of the vivid, and interestingly compelling characters that he creates. Although it is another time, Pullman draws you in and you feel as if you were there and can totally relate the circumstances. The Sally Lockhart mysteries are wonderful books for all ages; quite similar in its appeal to adults as in the works of J.K. Rowling.

Love it!

Just like the DVD version, but with that little extra that keeps a person coming back to it! Recommend it to everyone young and old! A good book to read on a rainy day or snowy day! I'm still in the process of finishing it, and looking forward to each and every part. You feel like you are right there, and understand why the characters think the way they do. Love this book and can't wait to finish it!

Philip Pullman writes such wonderfully easy to read novels. My favorite is still His Dark Materials trilogy, but all the Sally Lockhart books are good novels that flows easily.

Liked this book for it kept me reading at all hours of the night. Will try to read more Sally Lockhart Mysteries although some sound a little strange.

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