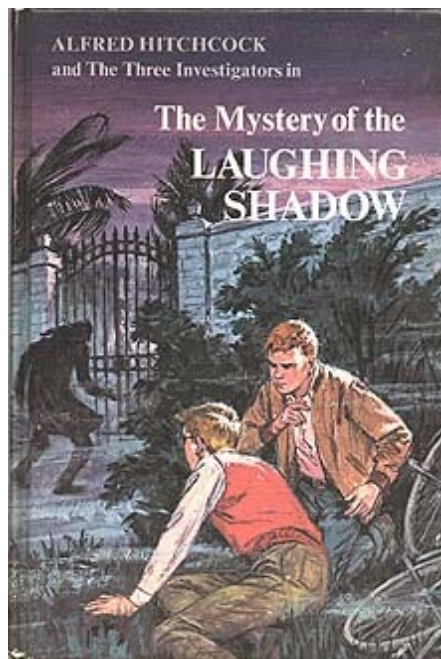




The Mystery of the Laughing Shadow

William Arden

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The three investigators try to solve a mystery involving a gold Indian amulet and a weird laughing shadow that appeared to them in the night.

The Mystery of the Laughing Shadow Details

Date : Published June 28th 1969 by Random House Trade (first published 1969)

ISBN : 9780394914923

Author : William Arden

Format : Library Binding 178 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Young Adult, Childrens, Adventure

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From Reader Review The Mystery of the Laughing Shadow for online ebook

Lea says

Die Geschichte fand ich schon als Hörspiel verwirrend und wenig spannend. Als vegetarisches Kind hat mich auch die ganze Vegetarierversand-Geschichte geärgert, die ich jetzt einfach nur etwas an den Haaren herbei gezogen gefunden fand. Und das ganze "Indianer sind alle klein", "Es waren dunkle Männer" (da hab ich mich die ganze Zeit bis es aufgelöst wurde, gefragt, was sie meinen? Schwarze? Gab es damals in Kalifornien so wenig nichtweiße??).

Ich glaube ich werde mit William Arden bisher einfach nicht so richtig warm.

Aurora says

Natürlich ist es wieder ein typisches Drei-???-Buch: spannend und unheimlich zugleich, aber dennoch eine super Lektüre für Zwischendurch. Die drei geraten diesmal in eine missliche Lage, die nicht ganz ungefährlich für sie ist. Sie werden an der Nase herumgeführt und wissen bald nicht mehr, wem sie wirklich trauen können. Des Rätsels Lösung ist natürlich wieder Klasse gemacht und ich kann dieses Buch nur jedem Fan der drei Detektive aus Rocky Beach nur empfehlen.

Quentin Wallace says

I love the Three Investigators, but I did find them much more fascinating when I was younger. The stories are beginning to seem a little formulaic, but still entertaining.

In this one the trope of the international boy was back, this time a British chap. We had an evil villain out to steal a hidden treasure, and the boys got in trouble but got out of trouble as well.

Overall still good for any Three Investigators fan!

Nathanael Smith says

Everytime I end up at my parents house for an extended period of time these days without bringing a sufficient amount of reading material I realize that the only books I have left there are old childhood books. And The Three Investigators probably sum up my childhood more than any other. In my mind these are like the ultimate kid books, full of mystery and sufficiently spooky. Alfred Hitchcock even tends to make appearances in most of them. The thing that I remember the most and that still sticks out to me to this day is the artwork, either on the covers or scattered through the pages. Its phenomenal. The image of the three boys walking through the dark graveyard with the shadow of Mr. Hitchcock next to them will be ingrained in my brain as long as I live.

Tanja says

Das ursprüngliche Zuhause dieser Rezension ist der WortWelten-Blog:
<http://wort-welten.blogspot.de/>

Kurzbeschreibung:

Es ist ein höchst mysteriöses nächtliches Ereignis, das die drei Detektive aus Rocky Beach auf den Plan ruft - ein seltsam geformter Schatten scheint ganz fürchterlich zu lachen. Und außerdem ist da ja auch noch das indianische Amulett, das den Jungen förmlich vor die Füße gefallen ist. Dann engagiert man die Jungen auch noch, eben jenes Amulett zu suchen - ein Auftraggeber, der weit mehr weiß, als er zugeben will, wohlgemerkt. Und dann ist da auch noch der Schatz, den "kein Mann je wird finden können". Ein neuer Fall für die drei Fragezeichen ...

Fazit:

Ein eher durchschnittlich guter Fall der Fragezeichen, wie ich ja finde. Nicht gerade schlecht, aber auch nicht unbedingt einer meiner Lieblingsfälle. Dafür war mir die Geschichte ein wenig zu - na ja - lahm eben. Aber alles in allem eine recht solide Story mit interessanten Wendungen, die für Spannung sorgten. Nur eben nichts Besonderes wie ich finde. Dafür dennoch eine ganz gute Wertung alles zusammen genommen.

bunny Bonbon says

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Jerry says

I read and enjoyed a few of these when I was a kid. I think the trappings got me: a hidden office hidden behind several secret passages into a junk pile. I was pleasantly surprised by The Laughing Shadow: it holds up well. The mystery is mysterious, the villains are well-hidden. I expect I will read more if I can find them. They seem to be hard to find in used bookstores.

Nadja says

Spannender Fall, einzig am Schluss mir eine Spur zu dramatisch. Spruch zum Schmunzeln: Das Vegetarierhaus. :)

Previous listening: 01.01.2014 (3 stars)

Mark says

original 2009 review - William Arden's first credited book, this has a legendary lost hoard of gold, a hunchbacked shadow (that laughs, maniacally), suspicious Englishmen and it's great fun, even if the mystery requires a healthy suspension of disbelief from the reader. Cleverly put together, with some nice set pieces and a real sense of urgency, this works well enough that you allow the odd things - vegetarian societies and the reason behind the laughter - to pass by. A nice use of location works in its favour too - well worth a read. 2014 update - I'd agree with the original review, especially the healthy suspension of disbelief required, but there's plenty to like, with the whole Magnus Verde Chumas Hoard and Yaqualii Indians business, the humour (Jupe asks Mr Harris "Could one of your assistants have told them?" "No," he's told, "they're old friends and staunch vegetarians.") and welcome appearances from Worthington and Mr Andrews, plus the boys come across well. A decent and pacey read.

Melissa says

An indian treasure and a laughing shadow! Great one! I wonder whats next

Pujiyanto stiffy says

Bukan karya terbaik William Arden, soalnya jadi bandingin dengan Rumah yang Mengkerut, salah satu buah karya Arden yang brilian sampai halaman terakhir.

Di buku ini dibuka dengan pengalaman aneh ala-ala scobydoo-nya (seperti biasa) yang mungkin akan jadi konyol jika ceritanya ga asyik. Bagian lawan jadi kawan itu sih yang bikin buku ini jadi menarik. Bagian misterinya bisa dibilang cukup standar untul ukuran trio detektif. Perlu baca judul yang lain untuk ngrasain twist yang lebih gila, di buku ini ga terlalu memukau sayangnya.

Jeff Stephenson says

AH&T3I Update: 12 read, 16 hardbacks to go!

Dennis Lynds, aka William Arden, took up where Robert Arthur Jr. left off with Book 12, *The Mystery of the Laughing Shadow*, of the *Three Investigators* series. The book includes almost all of the classic *Three Investigators* elements such as the teenage investigators, their secret headquarters, the supporting characters including Alfred Hitchcock and many family members of the boys, the *Rolls-Royce*, etc. Yet what stands out is the great writing of the book. Once again, the book is hard to put down once one begins to read it. Sometimes a series can fade or change when multiple authors begin to write the later books, but that does not appear to happen in this series. At least, this series has not YET started to fade. The final solution did involve a little bit more chance and luck than some of the previous titles in the series, but it is still a solid mystery that requires quite a bit of deduction and that is a key point for any of the *Three Investigator* books. A good read for T3I fans of all ages, and yet the title could stand alone on its own merits if this title happens to be the only T3I book someone ever reads. Enjoy!

Elizabeth says

This series has hooked some kids in my daughter's class and that's never a bad thing. One of her classmates actually asked her to bring this book home to me as a book recommendation. Needless to say, it warmed my heart. It's a really good mystery series for upper elementary and I admit I wanted to see how it unfolded. It gave me pleasant flashbacks of watching *Scooby-Doo* as a child. :-)

Mark says

William Arden's first credited book, this has a legendary lost hoard of gold, a hunchbacked shadow (that laughs, maniacally), suspicious Englishmen and it's great fun, even if the mystery requires a healthy suspension of disbelief from the reader. Cleverly put together, with some nice set pieces and a real sense of urgency, this works well enough that you allow the odd things - vegetarian societies and the reason behind the laughter - to pass by. A nice use of location works in its favour too - well worth a read.

Rob says

When I was a child, I stumbled upon this series in my school library after I'd exhausted the *Hardy Boys* volumes available to me. To a certain extent, they are very similar to the *Hardy Boys* and *Encyclopedia Brown* mysteries I devoured as a kid, though this series featured three young investigators who, for reasons that are unclear to me now, have a close friendship with Alfred Hitchcock. I remember being particularly enchanted by the headquarters of the three investigators: a house trailer buried amid the junk in a salvage yard run by one of the boy's aunt and uncle. The fact that each book opened and closed with a conversation with Hitchcock was memorable, too.

I had almost forgotten about the series until Kirstin and I stumbled upon several used copies in Lowry's Books in Three Rivers, Michigan. I thumbed through several copies, but they were mostly too pricey for a novelty purchase. Well, Kirstin went back, found this story reasonably priced and gave it to me for Christmas.

It was thoroughly enjoyable to fly through this little mystery and to re-enter a world I hadn't inhabited in years.
