



## Key to the Treasure

*Peggy Parish , Paul Frame (Illustrator)*

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Each summer Lisa, Bill, and Jed visit their grandparents, and they hear the story of the sketches hung above the mantel. The sketches are clues to a hidden treasure, and no one has been able to figure them out for a century. There is a missing first clue, but when the children stumble upon the second clue, they're on their way. Could it be that on this visit they will solve the secret that has eluded so many for more than a hundred years?.

## **Key to the Treasure Details**

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Author : Peggy Parish , Paul Frame (Illustrator)

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## From Reader Review Key to the Treasure for online ebook

### Steven says

One of my favorite childhood reads. :D

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### Tisha (IG: Bluestocking629) says

What a fun mystery!

This book was released before I was born although I somehow never read it. I remember reading Yearling Books all the time as a child too!

This story revolves around three siblings at their grandparents house for summer vacation. The mystery is finding a hidden treasure that has been missing for ages.

While predictable I thoroughly enjoyed it.

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### Heidi says

I loved this book as a child, and read it many times. I just finished reading it with my 7-year-old, who enjoyed it as much as I did. The story is about three kids who solve a number of puzzles and clues in order to find a treasure of family legend. The puzzles were a bit of a challenge for my son, but he found it exciting to try and solve them himself. To a modern reader, parts of the book are rather quaint and old-fashioned: the dated language the characters use, the idyllic setting on the sweet and wonderful grandparents' farm, kids who are self-motivated to entertain themselves without electronic devices... I don't think my son noticed any of those kinds of things though, he was totally engrossed in the story and the mystery.

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### Kim Jenkins says

This was the first chapter book I can remember reading. I remember checking out this book from the Page Memorial Library in Sand Springs when I was in second grade, and it captured my imagination immediately. I fell in love with reading with this book.

I bought it recently online, and I re-read it with the idea of reading it to my grandchildren this summer. I so want them to get lost in the story like I did as a child!

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### Jaime says

This was my favorite book as a little girl. I remember reading it over and over, hungry to reimagine the clues

Liza, Bill, and Jed were discovering. After having just read it with my 7-year-old son, I can say that the story passes the test of time. The characters (10- and 11-year-old children) are sweet and flawed--realistic--and the plot is mesmerizing, allowing the reader to piece together the mystery as the characters do. I'm so very thankful for this particular piece of Peggy Parish's legacy; it was a joy to read myself and then again with my son.

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### **Amanda says**

This was one of my most loved children's books. I remember checking it out from the library again and again on long trips to listen to the accompanying tape, and to solve the puzzles and clues.

I'd like to hunt down a copy and see if I still love it.

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### **Phil Jensen says**

Peggy Parish stretched herself on this dated mystery novel. I loved it in 2nd grade, and my kindergartner enjoys it today.

Three very waspy kids solve a series of word puzzle clues hidden by their great great grandfather. They decode each clue to find the next clue and encounter a number of minor obstacles, such as a mean goose that chases them.

The scenes of the kids dancing around in Indian headdresses do not age well. The prose is very bland. Still, I can't help enjoying the puzzley mystery plot. It's a good ride if you're not too picky.

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### **Ivonne Rovira says**

Peggy Parish, better known for her Amelia Bedelia books, turned her hand to children's mysteries, and *Key to the Treasure* is the first Liza, Bill & Jed Mystery. (It says so right on the front cover.)

Released in 1966, it's the sort of book they don't write anymore — and I don't mean that in a good way. In the case of the Moomintrolls, The Railway Children, The 101 Dalmatians, the Penny Parker mysteries, The Children of Noisy Village, Emil and the Detectives, and Bunnicula, I feel the loss of the sort of clever writing and intuitive understanding of children those authors conveyed — something hard to find in this day of data-driven mass marketing. But *Key to the Treasure* belongs more to the category of books that no longer make it to bookstore shelves because they insult 8-year-olds' intelligence. It's hard to believe there was ever a market for such simpering dialogue and transparently obvious plots.

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### **Hannah Holida says**

This is a great kids book. My grandmother gave me it when for a birthday a few years ago. The copy was made in 1966 and had my father's name and the year he read it written in it. Now I'm reading it to my

nephew and he loves the "silly mask" AKA the ferocious looking mask used to scare away evil spirits. Anyway if you can get your hands on the older copy the illustrations are great! All together I will treasure this book for years to come!

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### **Amber Scaife says**

Three siblings spending the summer with their grandparents decide to try to solve the family mystery that their grandpa has been telling them about every summer since they can remember: his great-grandfather hid treasures for his father and siblings, handed down from an old Native American woman who used to live in a cabin nearby: a scary old mask, a deerskin doll and a warrior's shield. The great-grandfather left to fight in the civil war, never returned, and the treasure remained undiscovered.

The only clue they have is a painting hanging over the mantle, which depicts a headdress, a clay pot, a key and a question mark.

This was one of my absolute favorite books when I was a kid; I read it over and over and over again. I was so excited to read it to Charlie, and found that I still love it as an adult.

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### **Hokomoko says**

I just finished reading this to my son. As each time I've read it to a child (or had it read to me,) it holds up perfectly. The kids maintain dignity even while there are expectations of them in the surrounding (and very supportive) adult world. Highly recommended.

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### **Meg says**

Granted, I probably haven't read this since I was 11 or so, but this was one of my favorite books when I was young. Imagine how very surprised I was today to discover that there were actually a whole bunch of children's mystery books featuring these kids! Anyway, if you've got a kid, get this for them to read.

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### **Elizabeth Castro says**

I am always on the hunt for easy reading books for my "reluctant reader." The "Key to the Treasure," is a book I will not be passing on to my child.

I picked up on the disrespect given to Native American artifacts, dancing, and making horrible faces, and wearing horrible scary "Indian masks," and thought, no thanks. I realize Peggy Parish wrote in a different time period and we now know this is wrong.

But on the other hand, The "Key to the Treasure," has too many needless words, droning on and on. The story could have been fun and should have been written in a shorter fashion such as her Amelia books. I can't imagine the Amelia Bedelia author writing this book. It doesn't seem up to her standards.

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### **Talia says**

I first read this book back in the mid-80s when I was in third grade. This is one of the few series I've kept from my childhood. Since it's a rainy day, I thought it might be fun to give it a go (considering I started this series on a rainy day as a child). I read this series countless times during my elementary school years, but I haven't touched these books in almost 20 years. Yes, they're dated. They're simple. But, they're still fun and they bring back fond memories.

What's interesting to me now, as an adult, is to realize that I read them 20 years after they were published and still found them interesting. They were resissued five years ago, so there still must be a reading base for them with today's children. That's fantastic! Also interesting is that they were written by Peggy Parrish who most people know as the *Amelia Bedelia* author.

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### **Lisa says**

A 1966 puzzle mystery by the author of the *Amelia Bedelia* series. Three quintessentially WASPy children search for buried Indian treasure while spending summer vacation at their grandparents' farm. The book sounds kind of like an eight year-old wrote it, but in a way that's *perfect* for an eight year-old to read.

I disliked the underlying message that "Indians are people who used to live here and now don't--wonder how that happened?--but gee, it sure is cool that they left behind nifty artifacts for European Americans to enjoy!" . . . which is inaccurate and problematic in *so many* ways. On the other hand, I thought Parish's construction of the mystery and fun, solvable codes were wonderful. In sum, I would recommend this to a young kid, but only on the express condition that we have a long conversation about Indian stereotypes.

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