Children's Classic Mysteries



Children's Classic Mystery Series

Classic mystery series for older children. (Elementary $3^{rd} - 8^{th}$)

My children loved mysteries—it must be hereditary.

Growing up, I loved to read mystery stories. My favorites were the Nancy Drew series and the Trixie Belden series. I read all of those books several times. When my son was learning to read, he did not enjoy reading very much until he discovered the Three Cousins Detective books. This changed his mind about reading. He liked the characters and he liked the stories.

Children love a good mystery. Here are some best children's mystery series that are wholesome, though not necessarily Christian.

Make sure you get the older version of these books. When books are updated, vocabulary is simplified and negative behavior and attitudes are added. Go for the old!

Encyclopedia Brown by Donald J. Sobol

Encyclopedia Brown lives in Idaville, Florida, a typical American town. His friend, Sally helps him to solve mysteries. Bugs Meany appears in many of the stories as the perennial villain. Each chapter is a short mystery and readers can look up the solution in the back of the book. These books are charming and funny.

Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective by Donald J. Sobel (1963)

Encyclopedia Brown and the Case of the Secret Pitch by Donald J. Sobel

Encyclopedia Brown Finds the Clues by Donald J. Sobel

Encyclopedia Brown Gets His Man by Donald J. Sobel (1967)

Encyclopedia Brown Solves Them All by Donald J. Sobel (1968)

Encyclopedia Brown Keeps the Peace by Donald J. Sobel

Encyclopedia Brown Saves the Day by Donald J. Sobel

Encyclopedia Brown Tracks Them Down by Donald J. Sobel

Encyclopedia Brown Shows the Way by Donald J. Sobel

Encyclopedia Brown Takes the Case by Donald J. Sobel (1973)

Encyclopedia Brown Lends a Hand by Donald J. Sobel (1974)

Encyclopedia Brown and The Case of the Dead Eagles by Donald J. Sobel

Encyclopedia Brown and The Case of the Midnight Visitor by Donald J. Sobel (1977)

Encyclopedia Brown Carries On by Donald J. Sobel (1980)

Encyclopedia Brown Sets the Pace by Donald J. Sobel (1974)

Encyclopedia Brown Takes the Cake by Donald J. Sobel (1982)

CHILDREN'S CLASSIC MYSTERY READING LIST

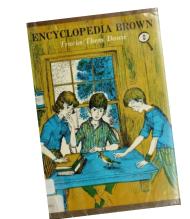
Encyclopedia Brown and The Case of the Mysterious Handprints by Donald J. Sobel (1985)

Encyclopedia Brown and The Case of the Treasure Hunt by Donald J. Sobel (1988)
Encyclopedia Brown and the Case of the Disgusting Sneakers by Donald J. Sobel (1990)
Encyclopedia Brown and The Case of the Two Spies by Donald J. Sobel (1995)
Encyclopedia Brown and The Case of the Pablo's Nose by Donald J. Sobel (1996)
Encyclopedia Brown and The Case of the Sleeping Dog by Donald J. Sobel (1998)
Encyclopedia Brown and The Case of the Slippery Salamander by Donald J. Sobel

The Boxcar Children Mysteries by Gertrude Chandler Warne

The Boxcar children are a group of four orphaned children (Henry James Alden 14, Jessie 12, Violet 12, Benny 4) who run away from their grandfather to live in an abandoned boxcar. They are reunited with their grandfather and, for the rest of the series, have one adventure after another.

The Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1942) Surprise Island by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1949) The Yellow House Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1953) Mystery Ranch by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1958) Mike's Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1960) Blue Bay Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1961) The Woodshed Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1962) The Lighthouse Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1963) Mountain Top Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1964) Schoolhouse Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1965) Caboose Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1966) Houseboat Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1967) Snowbound Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1968) *Tree House Mystery* by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1969) Bicycle Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1970) Mystery in the Sand by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1971) Mystery Behind the Wall by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1973) Bus Station Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1974) Benny Uncovers a Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1976)



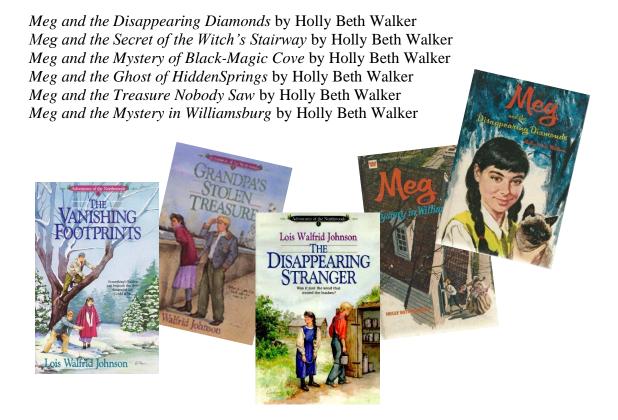
Adventures in the Northwoods Mysteries

This is a mystery series is about a Swedish family in Wisconsin living on a farm at the turn of the century.

Adventures in the Northwoods: The Disappearing Stranger by Lois Walfrid Johnson Adventures in the Northwoods: The Hidden Message by Lois Walfrid Johnson Adventures in the Northwoods: The Creeping Shadows by Lois Walfrid Johnson Adventures in the Northwoods: The Mysterious Hideaway by Lois Walfrid Johnson Adventures in the Northwoods: Trouble at Wild River by Lois Walfrid Johnson Adventures in the Northwoods: The Vanishing Footprints by Lois Walfrid Johnson Adventures in the Northwoods: Grandpa's Stolen Treasure by Lois Walfrid Johnson Adventures in the Northwoods: The Runaway Clown by Lois Walfrid Johnson Adventures in the Northwoods: Mystery of the Missing Map by Lois Walfrid Johnson Adventures in the Northwoods: Disaster on Windy Hill by Lois Walfrid Johnson

Meg Mysteries

Margaret Ashley Duncan solves mysteries with the help of her best friend, Kerry Carmody. Meg lives in Hidden Springs, Virginia, but she and Kerry travel with her Uncle Hal in the other books.



Mandie Mysteries

Lois Gladys Leppard (1924-2008), author of the Mandie books, was a singer, actress, playwright, and writer. She wrote the first Mandie book, <u>Mandie and The Secret Tunnel</u>, when she was 11 years old, but the book was not published for many years.

Set in the North Carolina backwoods at the turn of the century, this Christian mystery series introduces Mandie who solves mysteries with help from her family, friends, and Snowball, her pet cat.

Mandie and the Secret Tunnel by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Cherokee Legend by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Ghost Bandits by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Forbidden Attic by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Trunk Secret by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Medicine Man by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Charleston Phantom by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Abandoned Mine by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Hidden Treasure by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Mysterious Bells by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Holiday Surprise by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Washington Nightmare by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Midnight Journey by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Shipboard Mystery by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Foreign Spies by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Silent Catacombs by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Singing Chalet by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Jumping Juniper by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Mysterious Fisherman by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Windmill's Message by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Fiery Rescue by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Angel's Secret by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Dangerous Imposters by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Invisible Troublemaker by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and Her Missing Kin by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Schoolhouse's Secret by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Courtroom Battle by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Jonathan's Predicament by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Unwanted Gift by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Long Good-bye by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Buried Stranger by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Seaside Rendezvous by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Dark Alley by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Tornado by Lois Gladys Leppard Mandie and the Quilt Mystery by Lois Gladys Leppard



Sugar Creek Gang Mysteries

Paul Hutchens, author of the Sugar Creek Gang series, created books for young boys and girls to impact them for Christ. Raised on a farm in the township of Sugar Creak near Thorntown, Indiana, Paul grew up in a large family and attended a one room country schoolhouse. With a passion to lead people to Christ, Paul attended Moody Bible Institute, was ordained as a Baptist pastor in 1925, and married Jane Freerks, a pianist. Paul loved to sing while his pretty bride accompanied him on the piano. Tuberclosis cut Paul's ministry short so he tried his hand at writing. He wrote several books, including the beloved Sugar Creek Gang series, and sheet music books. All of Paul's books were written to lead people to Christ or help them to walk more closely with their Savior. His daughter and her husband continue Paul's ministry.

The Sugar Creek gang consists of Bill Collins, the narrator, Leslie Thompson, Roy "Dragonfly" Gilbert, Dan "Circus" Brown, Big Jim, Tom Till, and Jim "Little Jim" Foote. These loveable boys face adventure after adventure, learning lessons about God as they go.

The Swamp Robber by Paul Hutchens (1940) or The Sugar Creek Gang The Killer Bear by Paul Hutchens (1940) or We Killed a Bear

CHILDREN'S CLASSIC MYSTERY READING LIST

The Winter Rescue by Paul Hutchens (1940) or Further Aventures of the Sugar Creek Gang

The Lost Campers by Paul Hutchens (1941) or The Sugar Creek Gang Goes Camping The Chicago Adventure by Paul Hutchens (1941) or The Sugar Creek Gang in Chicago The Secret Hideout by Paul Hutchens (1942) or The Sugar Creek Gang in School The Mystery Cave by Paul Hutchens (1943) or Mystery at Sugar Creek The Palm Tree Manhunt by Paul Hutchens (1944) or The Sugar Creek Gang Flies to Cuba

One Stormy Day by Paul Hutchens (1946) or One Stormy Day at Sugar Creek
The Mystery Thief by Paul Hutchens (1946) or A New Sugar Creek Mystery
Teacher Trouble by Paul Hutchens (1947) or Shenanigans at Sugar Creek
Screams in the Night by Paul Hutchens (1947) or The Sugar Creek Gang Goes North
The Indian Cemetery by Paul Hutchens (1947) or Adventure in an Indian Cemetery
The Treasure Hunt by Paul Hutchens (1948) or The Sugar Creek Gang Digs for Treasure
The Thousand Dollar Fish by Paul Hutchens (1948) or North Woods Manhunt
The Haunted House by Paul Hutchens (1949) or The Haunted House at Sugar Creek
Lost in a Blizzard by Paul Hutchens (1950) or Lost in a Sugar Creek Blizzard
On the Mexican Border by Paul Hutchens (1950) or The Sugar Creek Gang on the
Mexican Border

The Green Tent Mystery by Paul Hutchens (1950) or The Green Tent Mystery at Sugar Creek

The Bull Fighter by Paul Hutchens (1952) or 10,000 Minutes at Sugar Creek
The Trampoline Thief by Paul Hutchens (1953) or The Trap Line Thief at Sugar Creek
The Blue Cow by Paul Hutchens (1953) or Blue Cow at Sugar Creek
The Watermelon Mystery by Paul Hutchens (1955) or Watermelon Mystery at Sugar
Creek

The Tree House Mystery by Paul Hutchens (1957) or Old Stranger's Secret at Sugar Creek

The Timber Wolf by Paul Hutchens (1957) or The Sugar Creek Gang at Snow Goose Lodge

Western Advantage by Paul Hutchens (1957) or Sugar Creek Gang Goes Western The Killer Cat by Paul Hutchens (1958) or We Killed a Wildcat at Sugar Creek Locked in the Attic by Paul Hutchens (1959) or Down a Sugar Creek Chimney The Colorado Kidnapping by Paul Hutchens (1959) or Wild Horse Canyon Mystery The Runaway Rescue by Paul Hutchens (1960) or Runaway Rescue at Sugar Creek Cemetery of Vandals by Paul Hutchens (1961) or The Worm Turns at Sugar Creek The Battle of the Bees by Paul Hutchens (1962) or Sleeping Beauty at Sugar Creek The Case of the Missing Calf by Paul Hutchens (1964)

The Ghost Dog by Paul Hutchens (1968) or Howling Dog at Sugar Creek Swamp The White Boat Rescue by Paul Hutchens (1969) or White Boat Rescue at Sugar Creek The Brown Box Mystery by Paul Hutchens (1970)

Trixie Belden Mysteries

Trixie Belden is thirteen years old when the series begins, has her fourteenth birthday in a later book, and remains fourteen for the rest of the series. The first books take place naturally with seasons changing from summer to fall, fall to winter, and winter to spring. Trixie has three brothers: handsome Brian, funny Mart, and little brother, Bobby. Her best friend is Honey Wheeler, who has an adopted brother named Jim. The Wheelers are very wealthy with stables, a pool, and a large estate. The Beldens live on a farm. This tight-knit group is joined by friends, Diana Lynch and Dan Morgan. They are all members of a club, Bob-Whites of Glen, that helps people in need and helps Trixie solve mysteries. Trixie is always getting into various scrapes and troubles from which she is rescued by her loyal friends.

The Secret of the Mansion by Julie Campbell (1948)

The Red Trailer Mystery by Julie Campbell (1950)

The Gatehouse Mystery by Julie Campbell (1951)

The Mysterious Visitor by Julie Campbell (1954)

The Mystery of Glen Road by Julie Campbell (1956)

Mystery in Arizona by Julie Campbell (1958)

The Mysterious Code by Kathryn Kenny (1961)

The Black Jacket Mystery by Kathryn Kenny (1961)

The Happy Valley Mystery by Kathryn Kenny (1962)

The Marshland Mystery by Kathryn Kenny (1962)

The Mystery of Bob-White Cave by Kathryn Kenny (1963) contains a reference to evolution.

The Mystery of the Blinking Eye by Kathryn Kenny (1963)

The Mystery on Cobbett's Island by Kathryn Kenny (1964)

The Mystery of the Emeralds by Kathryn Kenny (1965)

The Mystery on the Mississippi by Kathryn Kenny (1965)

The Mystery of the Missing Heiress by Kathryn Kenny (1970)



Nancy Drew Mysteries

As a young girl, like my mother before me, Nancy Drew captured my imagination with her talent, beauty, brains, compassion, and incredible ability to solve mysteries. I wanted to grow up to solve mysteries too. Plucky Nancy Drew can do everything and do it better than anyone else. I loved the way she was so brave when she was investigating, facing danger without hesitation.

Nancy lived in the good old Americana town of River Heights with her widowed father, Carson, an attorney, and her motherly housekeeper, Hannah Gruen. Nancy solves many mysteries in her hometown, but also travels a lot to nearby places and even overseas to Hong Kong, Scotland, Peru, France, Turkey, and Japan. My favorite setting was the story where Nancy and her friends travelled to Hawaii.

The Secret of the Old Clock by Carolyn Keene (1930)

The Hidden Staircase by Carolyn Keene (1930)

The Bungalow Mystery by Carolyn Keene (1930)

The Mystery at Lilac Inn by Carolyn Keene (1930)

The Secret of Shadow Ranch by Carolyn Keene (1931) (Bess Marvin & George Fayne enter series)

The Secret of Red Gate Farm by Carolyn Keene (1931)

The Clue in the Diary by Carolyn Keene (1932) (Nancy meets Ned Nickerson)

Nancy's Mysterious Letter by Carolyn Keene (1932)

The Sign of the Twisted Candles by Carolyn Keene (1933)

The Password to Larkspur Lane by Carolyn Keene (1933)

The Clue of the Broken Locket by Carolyn Keene (1934)

The Message at the hallow Oak by Carolyn Keene (1935)

The Mystery of the Ivory Charm by Carolyn Keene (1936)

The Whispering Statue by Carolyn Keene (1937) (Nancy's Dog, Togo introduced)

The Haunted Bridge by Carolyn Keene (1937)

The Clue of the Tapping Heel by Carolyn Keene (1939)

The Mystery of the Brass-bound Trunk by Carolyn Keene (1940)

The Mystery of the Moss-covered Mansion by Carolyn Keene (1941)

The Quest of the Missing Map by Carolyn Keene (1942)

The Clue in the Jewel Box by Carolyn Keene (1943)

The Secret in the Old Attic by Carolyn Keene (1944)

The Clue in the Crumbling Wall by Carolyn Keene (1945)

The Mystery of the Tolling Bell by Carolyn Keene (1946)

The Clue in the Old Album by Carolyn Keene (1947)

Ghost of Blackwood Hall by Carolyn Keene (1948)

The Clue of the Leaning Chimney by Carolyn Keene (1949)

The Secret of the Wooden Lady by Carolyn Keene (1950)

The Clue of the Black Keys by Carolyn Keene (1951)

The Mystery at Ski Jump by Carolyn Keene (1952)

The Clue of the Velvet Mask by Carolyn Keene (1953)

The Ringmaster's Secret by Carolyn Keene (1953)

The Scarlet Slipper Mystery by Carolyn Keene (1954)

The Witch Tree Symbol by Carolyn Keene (1955)

The Hidden Window Mystery by Carolyn Keene (1956)

The Haunted Showboat by Carolyn Keene (1957)

The Secret of the Golden Pavilion by Carolyn Keene (1959)

The Clue in the Old Stagecoach by Carolyn Keene (1960)

The Mystery of the Fire Dragon by Carolyn Keene (1961)

The Clue of the Dancing Puppet by Carolyn Keene (1962)

The Moonstone Castle Mystery by Carolyn Keene (1963)

The Clue of the Whistling Bagpipes by Carolyn Keene (1964)

The Phantom of Pine Hill by Carolyn Keene (1965)

The Mystery of the 99 Steps by Carolyn Keene (1966)

The Clue in the Crossword Cipher by Carolyn Keene (1967)

The Spider Sapphire Mystery by Carolyn Keene (1968)

The Invisible Intruder by Carolyn Keene (1969)

The Mysterious Mannequin by Carolyn Keene (1970)

The Crooked Banister by Carolyn Keene (1971)

The Secret of Mirror Bay by Carolyn Keene (1972)

The Double Jinx Mystery by Carolyn Keene (1974)

Mystery of the Glowing Eye by Carolyn Keene (1974)

The Secret of the Forgotton City by Carolyn Keene (1975)

The Sky Phantom by Carolyn Keene (1976)

The Strange Message in the Parchment by Carolyn Keene (1977)

The Mystery of Crocodile Island by Carolyn Keene (1977)

The Thirteenth Pearl by Carolyn Keene (1979)



Hardy Boys Mysteries

Frank Hardy, 16, star athlete and honor student, solves mysteries with the help of his brother, Joe, 15, strong and fit. Their father, Fenton Hardy is a private detective and former NYPD detective. His cases often tie in with the boys' cases. Laura Hardy, their sweet mother, and Aunt Gertrude Hardy are often in the background of their adventures.

Chet Morton, best friend, and his sister, Iola, Callie Shaw, Allen "Biff" Hooper, Phil Cohen, Jerry Gilroy, and Tony Prito are all part of the Hardy boys' gang of friends. They help Frank and Joe solve the mystery. Chief Ezra Collig starts out in the early stories jealous of their success, but as the series progresses, turns into a friend.

Tower Treasure by Franklin W. Dixon (1927)

House on the Cliff by Franklin W. Dixon (1927)

Secret of the Old Mill by Franklin W. Dixon (1927)

The Missing Chums by Franklin W. Dixon (1928)

Hunting for Hidden Gold by Franklin W. Dixon (1928)

The Shore Road by Franklin W. Dixon (1928)

The Great Airport Mystery by Franklin W. Dixon (1930)

What Happened at Midnight by Franklin W. Dixon (1931)

While the Clock Ticked by Franklin W. Dixon (1932)

Footprints Under the Window by Franklin W. Dixon (1933)

The Hidden Harbor Mystery by Franklin W. Dixon (1935)

A Figure in Hiding by Franklin W. Dixon (1937)

The Secret Warning by Franklin W. Dixon (1938)

The Twisted Claw by Franklin W. Dixon (1939)

The Disappearing Floor by Franklin W. Dixon (1940)

The Mystery of the Flying Express by Franklin W. Dixon (1941)

The Clue of the Broken Blade by Franklin W. Dixon (1942)

The Flickering Torch Mystery by Franklin W. Dixon (1943)

The Short-Wave Mystery by Franklin W. Dixon (1945)

The Secret Panel by Franklin W. Dixon (1946)

The Phantom Freighter by Franklin W. Dixon (1947)

The Secret of Skull Mountain by Franklin W. Dixon (1948)

The Sign of the Crooked Arrow by Franklin W. Dixon (1949)

The Secret of the Lost Tunnel by Franklin W. Dixon (1950)

The Secret of Wildcat Swamp by Franklin W. Dixon (1952)

The Crisscross Shadow by Franklin W. Dixon (1953)

The Yellow Feather Mystery by Franklin W. Dixon (1954)

The Hooded Hawk Mystery by Franklin W. Dixon (1954)

The Clue in the Embers by Franklin W. Dixon (1955)

The Secret of Pirate's Hill by Franklin W. Dixon (1956)

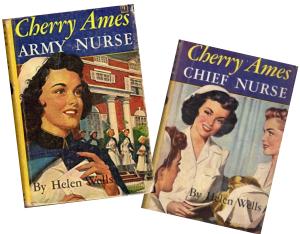
The Ghost at Skeleton Rock by Franklin W. Dixon (1957)

The Mystery at Devil's Paw by Franklin W. Dixon (1959)

The Mystery of the Chinese Junk by Franklin W. Dixon (1960)

Mystery of the Desert Giant by Franklin W. Dixon (1960)
The Clue of the Screeching Owl by Franklin W. Dixon (1962)
The Viking Symbol Mystery by Franklin W. Dixon (1963)
The Mystery of the Aztec Warrior by Franklin W. Dixon (1964)
The Haunted Fort by Franklin W. Dixon (1965)
The Mystery of the Spiral Bridge by Franklin W. Dixon (1966)
The Secret Agent on Flight 101 by Franklin W. Dixon (1967)
The Mystery of the Whale Tattoo by Franklin W. Dixon (1968)
The Arctic Patrol Mystery by Franklin W. Dixon (1969)
The Bombay Boomerang by Franklin W. Dixon (1970)
Danger on Vampire Trail by Franklin W. Dixon (1971)
The Masked Monkey by Franklin W. Dixon (1972)
The Shattered Helmet by Franklin W. Dixon (1973)





Cherry Ames Mysteries

These books were very popular during and after World War II when girls were encouraged to become nurses to help their country. Cherry is not only a nurse, but she solves mysteries, too.

Cherry Ames, Student Nurse by Helen Wells (1943)

Cherry Ames, Senior Nurse by Helen Wells (1944)

Cherry Ames, Army Nurse by Helen Wells (1944)

Cherry Ames, Chief Nurse by Helen Wells (1944)

Cherry Ames, Flight Nurse by Helen Wells (1945)

Cherry Ames, Veteran's Nurse by Helen Wells (1946)

Cherry Ames, Private Duty Nurse Nurse by Helen Wells (1946)

Cherry Ames, Visiting Nurse by Helen Wells (1947)

Cherry Ames, Cruise Nurse by Helen Wells (1948)

Cherry Ames, at Spencer by Helen Wells (1949)

Cherry Ames, Night Supervisor by Helen Wells (1950)

Cherry Ames, Mountaineer Nurse by Helen Wells (1951)

Cherry Ames, Clinic Nurse by Helen Wells (1952)

Cherry Ames, Dude Ranch Nurse by Helen Wells (1953)

Cherry Ames, Rest Home Nurse by Helen Wells (1954)

Cherry Ames, Country Doctor's Nurse by Helen Wells (1955)

Cherry Ames, Boarding School Nurse by Helen Wells (1955)

Cherry Ames, Department Store Ranch Nurse by Helen Wells (1956)

Cherry Ames, Camp Nurse by Helen Wells (1957)

Cherry Ames, at Hilton Hospital by Helen Wells (1959)

Cherry Ames, Island Nurse by Helen Wells (1960)

Cherry Ames, Rural Nurse by Helen Wells (1961)

Cherry Ames, Staff Nurse by Helen Wells (1962)

Cherry Ames, Companion Nurse by Helen Wells (1964)

Cherry Ames, Jungle Nurse by Helen Wells (1965)

Cherry Ames: The Mystery in the Doctor's Office by Helen Wells (1966)

Cherry Ames, Ski Nurse by Helen Wells (1968)



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