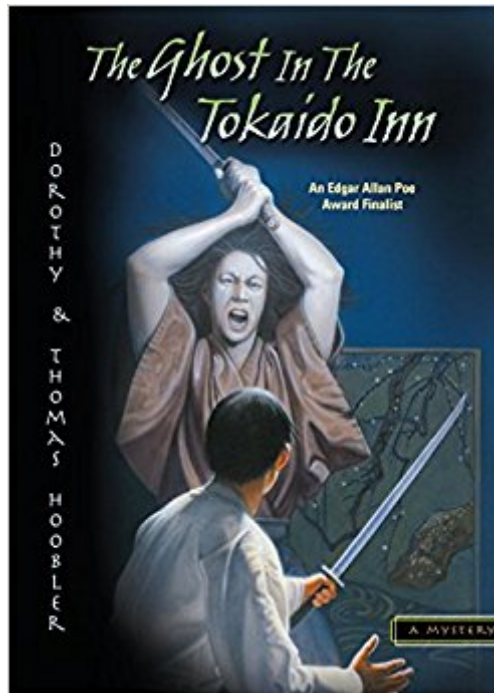




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The Ghost In The Tokaido Inn (The Samurai Mysteries)



Synopsis

While attempting to solve the mystery of a stolen jewel, Seikei, a merchant's son who longs to be a samurai, joins a group of kabuki actors in eighteenth-century Japan.

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reissue edition (September 8, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142405418

ISBN-13: 978-0142405413

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 62 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #466,864 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Asia #237 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Historical #1441 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Mystery & Detective

Customer Reviews

Grade 6-8A Sherlock Holmes-style mystery set in 18th-century Japan. Fourteen-year-old Seikei, son of a tea merchant, longs to be a samurai, although he knows that this is an inherited honor he can never hope to attain. While on a business trip, Seikei and his stern father take shelter at the Tokaido Inn where a cruel and oafish samurai, Lord Hakuseki, is also staying. A precious jewel is stolen from the lord, and a young girl whom Seikei has just met is accused of the theft. He risks his life by speaking out to defend her and Judge Ooka, called in to solve the crime, is taken with the boys bravery and enlists his help to solve the mystery. This sets Seikei onto a dangerous path where he goes backstage at Kabuki theaters, meets an enigmatic actor, and more than once must act in the honorable way of a samurai. He remains resourceful and courageous, although he often fears he may be on the wrong path. Judge Ooka maintains a steady presence, urging Seikei to observe, be logical, and reason out the motives for the crime. The plot builds towards an exciting, dramatic climax. All of the action is placed solidly in the context of the Tokugawa period of a Japan ruled by an emperor and a shogun, and pervaded by the need to defend ones honor above all else. An unusual and satisfying mystery that will be enjoyed by a wide audience. Bruce Anne Shook, Mendenhall Middle School, Greensboro, NC Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

In eighteenth-century Japan, 14-year-old Seikei is a merchant's son with secret dreams of becoming a samurai. Although his status in society restricts him from doing anything more than following in his father's footsteps, Seikei has both the resolve and temperament of a wise, brave warrior. On a stopover at the Tokaido Inn, Seikei witnesses a legendary ghost stealing a jewel belonging to a samurai. His bravery in saving a falsely accused guest earns Seikei the respect of Judge Ooka, who hires Seikei to help him investigate the crime and solve the mystery. With a sharply authentic voice and an adeptly plotted story that progresses from the haunting ghost legend to the dark, volatile world of a traveling kabuki show, this mystery builds with stirring intrigue and plays out to a most satisfying conclusion. Rich with atmosphere and details that teach much of the Japanese culture, this is a fine selection for any YA collection. Roger Leslie --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Back in the six grade, which was in like 2002 for me, I was looking in the Library at school for a book I had to do a report on. The Teacher had assigned us books and all I remembered was that mine had "Ghost" in it. Being the lazy little brat I was, I grabbed it and checked it out. As a dyslexic person, I hated and really still do hate reading...less I find something that catches my attention. Which is exactly what this book did for me. Truly thought my Teacher knew me very well, assigning me a Japanese themed book with how much I liked Japan (turns out I did have the wrong book though). I fell in love with this series so much, when I changed schools and they didn't have any Hoobler Books, I caused a fuss until they got them in. Can't wait for future books.

I loved the story and hope the girl I donated it will like it too

My son read this book for school. I read it as well and enjoyed the view of 18th century Japan that the book offered. The main character is an early teen boy that learns to be on his own. Boys will be able to relate to this book. My son and I both learned a good amount of the Japanese culture. The book had a surprising ending - which almost makes you want to read the book again.

A part of my favorite series that I love and I'm collecting. I'm very happy with my purchase and now I'm just trying to reach the requirement of words.

I bought this book for my 11-year-old daughter and she read it non-stop and then recommended that I read it, too (which I thoroughly enjoyed doing). The plot is exciting and the book includes many

subtle educational components about Japanese culture and the Samurai tradition. It is NOT a ghost story, but rather a mystery about a theft. Very well-done. We both look forward to reading other books in the series.

I used the book to tutor a middle school student, but I also enjoyed the book. Hopefully, his interest helped the student with reading comprehension.

This book was a good choice for one of my son's required genre's for school. He found it fascinating and kept him interested - which is rare for a book.

It's about a stolen jewel that was replaced by a fake glass one and a boy sees the thief

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