



The MYSTERY OF THE MUSEUM



FEATURING JUNE GAYNOR,
THE GIRL DETECTIVE



1. June, staying with Linda Gale, an old school chum, was awakened one night by the sound of a heavy crash. "It seemed to come from the museum!" cried Linda, as she ran from her room.



2. On investigating, June and Linda found the museum door shut. "That's funny!" exclaimed Linda. "Dad doesn't usually keep it locked. Hello, here he is," she added as Mr. Gale, followed by Thurber, the butler, descended the stairs.



3. Mr. Gale explained that he had the museum locked up that afternoon because he had stored some jewels there. There was no delay in getting into the room, for the butler had the key in his dressing-gown pocket.



4. It was a startling scene which met their eyes when the door was opened. The window was open; the figure of a knight in armour had been overturned and the glass doors of a bookcase, set in an alcove, had been smashed.



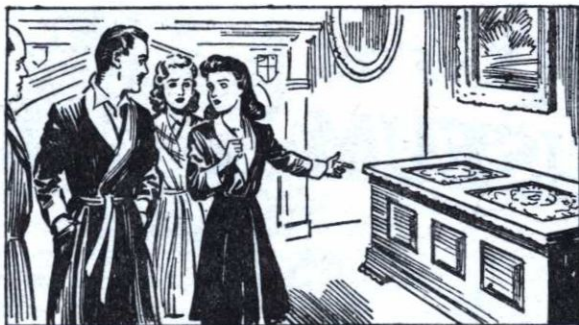
5. "Oh goodness, my jewels!" gasped Mr. Gale, and when he went to the bookcase where he had hidden the box of gems, he found the jewels had vanished.



6. Quickly June started looking for clues. Picking up the headpiece of the armoured knight, she observed a jagged piece of glass lying underneath. At that moment there came an excited shout from the butler, who had climbed through the window.



7. When June & Co. joined him they found that Thurber had discovered footprints on a flower bed. "They were made by a girl," said June. "She must have climbed through the window and, as there are no return prints, she must still be in the museum."



8. "The girl must have knocked over the armour after stealing the jewels," said Mr. Gale, "and in her panic decided to hide." "And what would make a better hiding-place than that?" asked his daughter, pointing to an old oak chest.



9. Crossing to the chest, June pulled up the lid. A white-faced, frightened girl was revealed. It was Mildred Page, one of the maids, but tearfully she protested her innocence.



10. She said she had been to the cinema, and having arrived back late, had climbed in through the museum window, as servants often did when returning after hours.



11. While June patted her clothes, in search of the missing jewels, Mildred added that she had knocked over the armour while climbing in, and, panic-stricken, had decided to hide.



12. Finding no trace of the jewels, June took the maid into another room, there to make a more thorough search. Anxiously the others waited and there was a tense silence as the two girls returned.



13. "I've found the jewels!" cried June, and dramatically she produced a gleaming necklace. "But it wasn't Mildred who stole them. I didn't find them on her, but hidden in the real thief's bedroom."



14. "After searching Mildred," the girl detective went on, "I went upstairs and, as I expected, there the necklace was—tucked away in that rascal's suit-case." And to everyone's amazement she pointed to Thurber, the butler.



15. Of course, the butler denied his guilt, but quickly June was able to prove her case against him and Mr. Gale led him away, while the grateful Mildred expressed her thanks, and Linda stood by full of admiration for her detective chum's cleverness.

How did June come to suspect the butler? You will find the answer on page 67, but before reading it study the pictures and see if you can solve the mystery yourself.