



# Sherlock Sam and the Missing Heirloom in Katong

*A.J. Low , Adan Jimenez , Felicia Low-Jimenez , Drewscape (Illustrator)*

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**Winner of the Red Dot Book Awards 2013-2014, Younger Readers' Category**

Meet Sherlock Sam, Singapore's greatest kid detective. With his trusty robot Watson, Sherlock Sam will stop at nothing to solve the case, no matter how big or small! In *Sherlock Sam and the Missing Heirloom in Katong*, Auntie Kim Lian's precious Peranakan cookbook disappears, and Sherlock Sam cannot eat her delicious ayam buah keluak anymore! Will Sherlock Sam be able to use his super detective powers to find this lost treasure?

## Sherlock Sam and the Missing Heirloom in Katong Details

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Author : A.J. Low , Adan Jimenez , Felicia Low-Jimenez , Drewscape (Illustrator)

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## **From Reader Review Sherlock Sam and the Missing Heirloom in Katong for online ebook**

### **Chargill says**

I won this book from the giveaway awhile ago. It was an interesting book, suitable for younger kids. Love that it's based in Singapore which makes the reading experience more entertaining for me. (Singaporean here.)

Gave the book to my little nephew and hopefully he'll cultivate a love for books like everyone here!

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### **Wayne McCoy says**

'Sherlock Sam and the Missing Heirloom in Katong' by A.J. Low and Felicia Low with art by Drewscape is a fun new young reader series that introduces a smart young man who likes to solve mysteries.

Sherlock Sam lives in Singapore. His name is similar to Sherlock Holmes, so that is one of his favorite characters. He also likes to eat, and when his Aunt Lian's family cookbook goes missing, it might mean Sherlock Sam doesn't get his aunt's ayam buah keluak anymore, which is his favorite. Along with his robot sidekick Watson and his family members, he sets out to find the missing cookbook.

I found this a delightful new character and I feel lucky enough to read the second book soon. It's a chapter book with some wonderful illustrations. I loved that the resolution of the mystery wasn't completely obvious. A funny, brave new hero and his loving family made this a win for me.

I received a review copy of this ebook from Andrews McMeel Publishing and NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. Thank you for allowing me to review this ebook.

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### **Pui Ting Chin says**

creative ♥

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### **Hestia Istiviani says**

*I read Bahasa Indonesia version and this review is written in Bahasa Indonesia*

Awalnya melihat buku ini ketika sedang berkunjung ke Toko Gunung Agung, tetapi aku tidak terlalu memperhatikan hingga salah seorang anggota grup Facebook Sherlockian Indonesia mengunggah informasi tentang buku. Tertarik, aku cek fanpage resminya dan ternyata buku ini adalah buku anak-anak dari penulis Singapura.

resensi lengkap

Kalau mau membelikan buku ini untuk saudaramu yang masih di Sekolah Dasar, kamu benar sekali! Tetapi jangan lupa jelaskan pada mereka kalau buku ini berlokasi di Singapura sehingga memiliki perbedaan dengan nilai-nilai yang ada di Indonesia. Tapi, kalau kamu mau membacanya sebagai seorang dewasa, buku ini bisa jadi opsi untuk mencari hiburan dan bacaan yang super ringan karena Sherlock Sam gembul yang hobi makan dan Watson yang suka membocorkan rahasia.

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## **Lilyn G. | Sci-Fi & Scary says**

I decided to check out this book from Netgalley because the seven-year-old is in a robots phase. There's not exactly a plethora of those books to find, so I was delighted to see this. Sherlock Sam and the Missing Heirloom of Katong is a pretty good kids mystery, all things considered. It teaches kids simple problem solving techniques. There wasn't much of a mystery involved, but it's perfect for beginning chapter readers who fancy themselves mini-sleuths .

I liked the smart-mouthed Watson, and the way he interacted with Sherlock. Some of his lines will probably sail over younger kids heads, but older kids and parents will appreciate them. On the other hand, parents need to be careful here. The other characters' (robot included) teasing about Sam's weight and eating habits is a bit bullying. It's fine to read it in a book (to an extent), but impressionable kids might think its okay to do.

Overall, it's a fun, simple story with non-white characters that is a great introduction into mystery/detective stories for young readers. The teasing is a bit much, but with discretion its fine. My seven-year-old had no problem telling me that saying that stuff to people in 'real life' was not appropriate, even if it was funny to read. We look forward to reading more in this series together.

For this and other kids books reviews, as well as many science fiction and horror reviews, please visit Sci-Fi & Scary.

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## **Rena says**

I won this from Goodreads for my kids. The book is best for 3rd grade readers, but my 10 and 13 yr old kids read it and this is what they thought. The book is really funny and the mystery is good since they didn't figure out the ending. They both liked the main character and the humor. The book is set in Singapore, so that's interesting as well.

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## **Jessica | Booked J says**

*As a note, a printed galley of this novel was sent to me by the publisher in exchange for an honest review. This does not effect my opinions in any way.*

Now that one of my best friends' daughter is at an age where she is beginning to develop her own interests in

entertainment, I was more than ready to pick out some children's books for her to enjoy with the help of her mother. She is not quite at the age where she can read on her own, but she is certainly a curious mind--and when I was sent a galley of *Sherlock Sam's* first two novels, I was thrilled to give it a go and pass it on to my friend. The first thing you should know is that it is an incredibly warm and mysterious take on *Sherlock*--it's not quite a retelling, instead it embraces qualities of the iconic character's crime solving skills and adapts them sweetly for a younger audience. *The Missing Heirloom in Katong* is fresh and sweet and will leave children feeling satisfied that they walked right into solving the mystery with our lead character.

The most important part about *Sherlock Sam* is that it doesn't treat its audience like it is oblivious nor does it indicate the mystery is for children. Parents will fall in love with the overall sweetness and diversity of it and, in fact, learn a thing or two themselves. *Sherlock Sam* is diverse and beautifully told, simple and to the point in a way that will leave kids giggling. It's smart enough for adults to not go mad while reading it and it's silly enough to keep anyone on their toes. Who can resist a food-obsessed boy and his pet robot (yes, Watson is a robot!) solving the greatest mystery of his day--a missing cook book!

Continued: BOOKEDJ

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## **Arline says**

Sherlock Sam and the Missing Heirloom in Katong is a children's book. I am very excited to read this book. Felicia Low – Jimenez make the giveaway on goodreads and I have entered for the giveaway. And then I am the winners of the ten people to win copy this book. Felicia Law to send this book for me from Singapore. Felicia was born and raised in Singapore. She started work in the book industry after completing her degree in Business Administration. She also attained her graduate degree in Literary Theory from the University of New England in New South Wales, Australia. The Sherlock Sam series is Felicia's debut writing effort, after accumulating years of experience buying, selling and marketing books.

Sherlock Sam, Singapore's greatest kid detective. Sherlock Sam will stop at nothing to solve the case, no matter how big or small! Sherlock Sam, a ten year old boy with eyes bigger than his tummy, Sherlock's heroes are Sherlock Holmes, Batman and his dad. Extremely smart and observant, Sherlock often takes it upon himself to solve any and all mysteries-big or small. He love comics and superheroes.

Watson, built by Sherlock to be his trusty, cheery sidekick, Watson is, instead, a grumpy "old man" who is reluctantly drawn into Sherlock's adventures; or as Watson perceives them, his misadventures. Watson is environmentally friendly.

Wendy is Sherlock's older sister. Jimmy is Sherlock's classmate, Jimmy is the only boy in a Peranakan family with four sisters. Dad, an engineer, Sherlock's dad is a scientific genius, but is rather forgetful and bumbling in real life. Mom, a homemaker, Sherlock's mom is half-Peranakan and is constantly experimenting in the kitchen. Auntie Kim Lian, a Peranakan matriarch, Auntie Kim Lian is renowned for the cooking skills. Fiercely protective of her grandchildren and her family recipes, she loves cooking for Sherlock Sam because he loves her food.

"Sam, are you ready? It's Saturday! We are having breakfast with Jimmy and Auntie Kim Lian at Chin Mee Chin, remember?"

"Of course I do!" I said, kicking the last crumb beneath the bed. I loved eating breakfast at Chin Mee Chin

Confectionery. It was my favourite place in Katong, but Mom said I could not go too often.

The little bakery along East Coast Road was very crowded. Jimmy and his grandma, Auntie Kim Lian, were already there and had saved us seats. Auntie Kim Lian was Peranakan, like Mom and her family had lived in Katong for generations.

Chin Mee Chin was special to Mom because the bakery still looked like it did in the old photographs her family had taken when she was a little girl.

“Do you want to come over to Auntie’s house later? I am thinking of making your favourite ayam buah keluak.”

Of course I did! Auntie Kim Lian’s ayam buah keluak was legendary! “Auntie Kim Lian has been cooking ayam buah keluak since before I was born!” Mom said.

“Hello, Auntie Kim Lian! Nice to see you here. I wanted to thank you for your help that day! I couldn’t have finished my project without your precious family recipe book,” he said.

“Oh, hello, dear,” Auntie Kim Lian replied, smiling. “It was no problem at all Your mom is my good friend, of course I will help her soon.”

“Next time, Auntie will cook for me, right?”

Auntie Kim Lian laughed and agreed.

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Family recipe book is so precious, consider it a family heirloom. This recipe book has been in my family for many generations. Even before my grandparents came to Singapore from Malacca. Mak Cho is grandmother Auntie Kim Lian. Mak Cho started writing her home-cooked recipes when she married my Kong Cho. It was very important for Peranakan women to learn to cook well for their husbands back then.

Auntie Kim Lian can’t find recipe book.

“let’s retrace your steps, Auntie. When was the last time you had the recipe book?” Sherlock Sam asked.

One of the first rules of detective work is to start from the very beginning. People often forget important details that seem small to them. It’s my job to find out what they are.

“Sherlock-should-ride-a-bicycle-before-dinner,” Watson Said.

Two weeks ago Auntie Kim Lian haven’t used it since. It was a Sunday. Auntie Kim Lian did bring it to Katong Antique House that day. The young man was going to photograph it along with other Peranakan family heirlooms for this project.

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When Auntie Kim Lian’s precious Peranakan cookbook disappears, Sherlock Sam cannot eat her delicious ayam buah keluak anymore! Will Sherlock Sam be able to use his super detective powers to find this lost treasure?

To find it so read this book ?

Sherlock Sam and the Missing Heirloom in Katong is a children book, a thrilling kid's detective romp and this book so funniest. If you have a little brother or little sister so can you give this book, it's very interesting to learn English for children and interesting to read a story Sherlock Sam, Singapore's greatest kid detective.

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### **Aditi Shiva says**

The characters are super lovable! And I love the illustrations. This book will make you smile. And may also make you crave kaya toast or kueh lapis. :D

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### **Georgette says**

Part of what makes me squee in delight is that this takes place in Singapore, which is close enough to Malaysia geographically and culturally for me to relate and not have to keep checking the glossary. It is a cute mystery story with a smart but perpetually hungry kid and his wisecracking robot sidekick. In this first book, Sam invents Watson the robot, who immediately embarks with him to solve the mystery of a missing cookbook while traipsing all over Singapore's food heritage.

I found that there's actually a lot of books in this series already, so congratulations to the authors AJ Low getting picked up by Andrews McMeel!

*This digital copy was courtesy of NetGalley.*

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### **Katie Day says**

Good candidate for our Red Dot Book Awards - younger readers category. Not only is it set in Singapore, but it features a public library (one many of my students probably go to -- at Marine Parade). Also thinking that the Grade 3s do a unit on mysteries which this would be good for. Sequels as well. Like how there's a glossary at the back.

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### **Amber (bookstacksamber) says**

This was a cute mystery for kids. Sherlock and his robot Watson were really entertaining. I didn't understand any of the Malay words so I was confused about a lot of things. I realized after I finished the book that there was a glossary at the end with explanations for all of that, along with character descriptions. It would have been nice if those were at the beginning of the book, or at least a note at the beginning to notify readers that they are at the end.

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## **Pranta Ghosh Dastider says**

**I received a digital copy of this book for reviewing.**

Sharlock Sam ... Nice title, and a fitting one. This book ways of course of the junior audience and they will enjoy it much more than full adults. As for me, I enjoyed it quite a lot, and there is a good reason for that too!

Around two years ago I also wrote a novella about some wannabe detective guy, trying to find something that was lost. That has almost nothing common with the theme of this book. I tried to make it a funny story and in this book A.J.Low (both authors) made it funny as well. Which I liked very much. Best character of this book is undoubtedly Watson! His dialogs are stupidly funny! His naming was also a great event!

Apart from Watson, Sharlock Sam was quite good, he is hungry for food and for mystery. Not many serious mystery comes to his way, but he manages with what he gets. Sam's dad was another great character. His sister was very relate-able. His mom, friend, auntie all were cool!

The only problem I had with this story was the Singapore style naming of things! Although authors put a glossary at the back of the book, it felt troublesome while reading the story! Simple English naming of some characters and foods could have make the story easier to read at places. Then again, the storyline is strictly based on these things, so perhaps it was impossible to ignore.

Book illustrations added a fine touch over all. I liked the artworks very much, they fitted the book very well.

Overall this was a quick and fun read. If you are in the mode for some light read, try this.

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## **Missy Warner says**

I thought it was a very clever book. The author changed the standard location of Sherlock to Shang Hi, made Watson a robot, but Sherlock still solves mysteries! I loved how it used chinese words with a glossary at the back. It made it an interesting read for lower level readers, but with hard words that kids normally wouldn't see for higher level readers. Good job Low!

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## **Marian Virtudazo says**

I won a copy in Goodreads giveaway :) and i must say that i really love the visuals of the book, great drawing and i love the font. The story is also really funny and interesting, my nephews and nieces loved it when i read it to them. The story has a number of moral lessons, and it made me know more about the culture of Singapore.

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