



Mystery of the Dark Tower

Evelyn Coleman , *Greg Dearth (Illustrator)* , *Dahl Taylor (Illustrator)*

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When Bessie's family is whisked away to New York City from North Carolina in the middle of the night-without her mother-Bessie must try to make sense of the changes in her life. Her search for answers leads her into the midst of the exciting Harlem Renaissance period of the late 1920s. She encounters artists, musicians, writers-and a woman rumored to have magical powers!

Mystery of the Dark Tower Details

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Author : Evelyn Coleman , Greg Dearth (Illustrator) , Dahl Taylor (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Mystery of the Dark Tower for online ebook

Beka says

Interesting, but I prefer the stories where the girls aren't rewarded for disobeying their parents.

Jacqueline says

Didn't even finish it!

PWRL says

A

Sesana says

There must be quite a few parents who subscribe to the belief that one shouldn't tell children "grown up" problems, even when those problems directly affect their lives. I've never personally seen any parents like this, but they must exist, considering what a constant plot point it is in lower grade books. This is Bessie's situation. Her father took her and her brother away from their mother, to another state, then left them with his sisters. At least the adults have the grace to feel sheepish about it when the truth is finally made known.

Sheila says

I was really surprised that Evelyn Coleman's excellent stories were published by American Girl - which put out books to help sell their dolls and doll clothes. Coleman creates strong girl protagonists and her books credit African Americans on the left for their role in history. I highly recommend this and the other book of hers that I read, "Circle of Fire" - a very timely anti-KKK story. Her novels break down the color wall (invisible to most white readers) constructed by the iconic Nancy Drew mystery series.

Sarah Crawford says

The title sounds like it's from the Hardy Boy series of mysteries, but it's not. It happens in 1928 and revolves around Bessie Coulter, a young black girl who has moved with her father and younger brother to Harlem. The problem is their mother has been left behind, and as events unfold it looks to Bessie like her father is going to fool around with another woman and leave their mother.

This leads Bessie to try and find out exactly what is going on, even if it involves going into a potentially

dangerous area of town and trying to pass herself off as an adult.

It's an interesting story and includes a historical section on Harlem. Worth reading.

Julie Lorimer says

a father takes a sister and brother away from their mother and they are trying to find out why. i cried during the book and i rarely do that it even in movies. this is my favorite book now

Kristine Hansen says

What is the Dark Tower and where is Bessie's father disappearing to every night?

A look at a period of history usually ignored in fiction, gritty and realistic, while at the same time engaging. I couldn't wait to see where this story was going. Ms. Coleman is fast becoming one of my favorite authors.

Liz says

So mysterious

SFrick says

My Favorite to date of the American Girl History Mysteries is still:

The Night Flyers by Elizabeth McDavid-Jones

Elevetha says

It was all right. 8+.

Reading with Cats says

How is dragging two children screaming and crying from their home and mother in the middle of the night better than just telling them the truth? Worst. Parents. Ever.

2.5 stars.

Holly Green says

Very good book. It was a little hard to picture some of the people in my mind like I could in the other books of the series, but it was still worth my time. (P.S. – A great ending!)
