

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

Gracie Phizz stole my heart! As I read this story, I was quickly and completely taken in by the little girl with the big can-do-never-quit attitude. The mysteries Gracie Phizz and her friends solve and the adventures they have are packed full of fun, humor, and excitement!

Children of all ages will enjoy reading about Gracie and how she helps her family, friends, and neighbors. The setting is charming and historical. The characters are real and believable. Gracie Phizz, the private detective, is always busy doing what she loves to do—solve mysteries! She is sure to keep readers on the edge of their seats waiting to see just how she will solve each new case!

—Wanda Carden (A teacher for 22 years, she has taught in a public and private school, homeschooled her own two children, and has taught preschool and K-8 grades.)

GRACIE PHIZZ,

Private Detective

JEAN LEIGH CLAUDETTE

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Every good gift and every perfect gift is from
above, and cometh down from the Father of
lights, with whom is no variableness,
neither shadow of turning.

James 1:17 (KJV)

For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not
perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16 (KJV)

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FOREWORD

I really like how this book was set in the late forties. I like that Gracie lives in the country. I also like knowing they drive a Ford Super Deluxe woody station wagon. All of the details about their life, like the type of car they drove, made the story interesting.

It is exciting the way Gracie Phizz is a detective and solves so many mysteries, especially the bank robber mystery.

Gracie is brave and smart; she gets up early to do things she needs to do. I like to see how she figures mysteries out. This book was a lot of fun to read.

—Joshua L. Carden



1948

Grace Elizabeth Ellen Westcott Phizzburton, aspiring private detective, solver of mysteries, opened sleepy blue eyes on a new day. A cool, pre-dawn breeze lifted the lace curtains on her window. She listened to the quiet of the early morning and stretched. But Gracie Phizz gave as little time to sleep and lying down as possible. She liked to be moving. Gracie reckoned that a private eye, a gum-shoe, especially a good one, needed to be up and investigating. “You don’t solve crimes while you sleep,” she told her clients. There had not been that many clients thus far but she had hope. Also, as the only girl in a family with six older brothers, she needed an early start.

Gracie hurried to the bathroom. In fifteen minutes she was washed, had her teeth brushed and her long blonde hair was braided. She was dressed in her overalls and tee shirt. She crept down the stairs, the only person yet stirring in the house. Only two of her older brothers rose earlier than she. James and Thomas delivered the Riverton Morning Gazette. They left an hour before she stirred. Gracie was sitting on the front porch by the time Mr. Hayes came up the street with the milk wagon. He and Napoleon always stopped to speak to the twelve-year-old.

“Good morning, Gracie Phizz,” Mr. Hayes greeted Gracie as she stroked Nap’s silky mane. Napoleon was a fine horse. He pulled that wagon as if it was a baby stroller. They talked as she followed him up the street. She asked if Mr. Hayes knew of any cases for her. He delivered all over town and was privy to a lot of information. Gracie had helped him solve *The Case of the Stolen Milk and Cheese* last winter. Mr. Hayes didn’t deliver to Gracie’s house though. Gracie’s family drove out to the county three times a week in their Ford Super Deluxe woody station wagon. They went to Aunt Ellen’s farm for their milk, butter and eggs. Daddy always said that with so many boys in the house, Mr. Hayes couldn’t deliver enough. As Gracie and Mr. Hayes came back down the street, she heard her mother call her full name. Mr. Hayes smiled. *Such a big name for such a small person.*

Gracie Phizz shrugged her shoulders and handed him one of her new business cards cut from notebook paper. She had been making her own business cards since she was six years old. Gracie Phizz judged this batch to be her best. *Gracie Phizz, Private Detective Agency. Confidential. If you don’t call the fuzz, call the Phizz. May be reached at Dr. and Mrs. Phizzburton’s.*