

## Jørn Lier Horst – CLUE

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The CLUE series' name comes from the first letter in each protagonist's name: Cecilia, Leo, Une, and Une's dog Egon. In each of the series' books a new mystery and a new ethical question is introduced along with the thoughts of one of the world's most well-known philosophers. The CLUE books are best selling crime fiction for younger readers aged 9-12.

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Salomonsson Agency was founded in 2000. Today, the agency has twenty-four employees and represents around fifty Nordic authors of literary fiction, crime fiction, children's fiction and narrative nonfiction, as well as a select list of screenwriters.

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**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Salamander Mystery*

**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Maltese Mystery*

**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Underwater Mystery*

**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Grave Robbing Mystery*

**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Liberty Mystery*

**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Esmeralda Mystery*

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*The Wolfhound Mystery*

**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Sea Serpent Mystery*

**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Einstein Mystery*

**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Triangle Mystery*

**Jørn Lier Horst**

*The Smuggler's Shack*

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**BOOKS FROM  
NORWAY**



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Jørn Lier Horst

## *The Salamander Mystery*

### CLUE #1

Cecilia lives at The Pearl, a guesthouse run by her dad in the idyllic small town of Schooner Cove. When Cecilia and her friends Leo, Une, and Une's dog Egon get wind of the fact that some mysterious characters are staying in the grand old house, there is no stopping the gang from embarking on a sleuthing adventure fraught with thrills and danger. And as a man is found dead on the beach, the strangers' connection to the man is gradually brought to light. Taking the investigation into their own hands, the four friends uncover a complex crime involving shadowy figures, shipwrecks, and big money – not to mention one creepy salamander.

The key phrase in Jørn Lier Horst's first installment in the CLUE series, *The Salamander Mystery*, is "All we know is that we know nothing." The quote is ascribed to the famous Greek philosopher Socrates, credited as one of the founders of Western philosophy. Socrates' views on morals form a red thread throughout *The Salamander Mystery*, where readers are given the opportunity to effortlessly learn more about his philosophy and moral dilemmas as they try to solve the case together with the CLUE gang.

*"The Salamander Mystery" is a skillfully nostalgic look back at the children's book series of old. /.../ The prose flows beautifully, the plot is tight and loaded with suspense, the clues are cleverly spersed out and unwound without shortcuts.*

- Dagbladet, Norway

*The suspense is built on solid cornerstones, a simple and expert language /.../ Throughout, a different side of everyday police life is tied into the story: ethical and philosophical questions. A device that seems both natural and at the same time gives the story new depth. Engrossing and realistic.*

- Verdens Gang, Norway

*"The Salamander Mystery" is a hair-raising sleuth novel with a fascinating crime. The author succeeds in keeping the suspense alive throughout the book, and when the conclusion draws near it's full of drama and thrills. /.../ This is a read-in-one-sitting book for all crime fiction fans!*

- Barnens bokklubb, Sweden

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## *The Maltese Mystery*

### CLUE #2

One of Oslo's biggest jewellery stores is emptied in a break-in. The perpetrators make away with almost 20 kilos of pure gold, a multitude of expensive jewellery and – perhaps most importantly – the Maltese clock, by itself worth more than five million Norwegian kroner. The robbers are caught, but not all of the stolen goods are retrieved. Among the pieces gone missing is the Maltese clock.

The robbery trail leads straight to the obnoxious Levi Hildonen and Schooner Cove. We join the four friends Cecilia, Leo, Une and Une's dog Egon in their nerve-tingling hunt for the missing loot. But the road to the truth and the Maltese clock is a perilous one, lined with escaped prisoners, mysterious guests, a dead man, secret diaries and dark, old passages into bunkers left from the war.

*The Maltese Mystery* is the second book in Jørn Lier Horst's CLUE series. The series' name comes from the first letter in each protagonist's name: Cecilia, Leo, Une, and Une's dog Egon. In each of the series' books a new mystery and a new ethical question is introduced along with the thoughts of one of the world's most well-known philosophers. The CLUE books are best selling crime fiction for younger readers aged 9-12.

*A new well-deserved 5 stars for Jørn Lier Horst /.../ First and foremost thrilling, [possessing] a fluid prose, and as a rich bonus you learn something by reading "The Maltese Mystery."*

- Fædrelandsvennen, Norway

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## *The Underwater Mystery*

### CLUE #3

A film crew has come to Schooner Cove and the small town is brimming with actors and cameramen. But also the members of two infamous MC clubs – and the mysterious Bird Man. As it turns out, not everyone staying at the guesthouse The Pearl is what they claim to be. And far from everyone is keen to be caught on camera. Even the ocean is hiding secrets. From its depths a boat comes floating up to the surface, and in it human bones are found. Could what's happening behind the scenes of the film shoot have something to do with what is lurking in the deep blue?

*The Underwater Mystery* is the third book in Jørn Lier Horst's CLUE series. The series' name comes from the first letter in each protagonist's name: Cecilia, Leo, Une, and Une's dog Egon. In each of the series' books a new mystery and a new ethical question is introduced along with the thoughts of one of the world's most well-known philosophers. The CLUE books are best selling crime fiction for younger readers aged 9–12.

*Horst has supposedly been inspired by the Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew. Add to this Enid Blyton's Famous Five series, The Children's Hour Books, mysteries like those in Donald Duck, a summery mood, nice and effortless language, and a good dose of action. Yes, then you'll have the CLUE series.*

- Dagbladet, Norway

*With its action, suspense and entertaining lesson in filmmaking, this is probably the best book in the series yet. /.../ It is great to see that Lier Horst is growing as an author also in his series for young readers, that the challenges grow bigger and a bit more action-packed and nerve-racking.*

- Østlands-Posten, Norway

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## *The Grave Robbing Mystery*

CLUE #4

Something is happening under the cover of darkness in Schooner Cove. Cecilia, Leo and Une discover that someone has been digging up old tombs in the town graveyard, and it isn't long till they find out that the church is hiding yet more secrets than this. The ghost of an old naval chaplain is said to roam its grounds, and more than sixty years ago another priest is believed to have taken a very special secret with him to the grave: the secret of the gold left behind by the Germans.

Meanwhile, the police are investigating Cecilia's mother's missing person's case as if it were a murder, and the answer to what happened last summer when she disappeared is finally revealed. At the same time new, mysterious happenings lead the CLUE gang to shipwrecked courier vessels, gold and pearls, and the answer as to how the guesthouse The Pearl first got its name.

The philosophical backdrop of the fourth book in the CLUE series, *The Grave Robbing Mystery*, is Søren Kierkegaard's views on responsibility, liberty, and the freedom of choice. The CLUE series' name comes from the first letter in each protagonist's name: Cecilia, Leo, Une, and Une's dog Egon. In each of the series' books a new mystery and a new ethical question is introduced along with the thoughts of one of the world's most well-known philosophers. The CLUE books are best selling crime fiction for younger readers aged 9-12.

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## *The Liberty Mystery*

CLUE #5

After a cool period the autumn has suddenly turned warm and sunny in Schooner Cove, resulting in a typical Indian summer. In the midst of this off-season heat, Cecilia, Leo and Une discover a newspaper where someone has cut out letters and words. “Millions” and “kill” are just some of the words missing from the headlines. It gradually becomes clear that the newspaper has been used to make a threatening letter, one that warns against involving the police. It’s up to the CLUE gang to find out who sent the letter, and all signs point to the culprit being somewhere in Schooner Cove.

The guesthouse The Pearl is full of visitors in town for the autumn holidays, some odder than others – and many of them with things to hide. Out by the island Steinholmen a mysterious sailboat lies anchored, and in a grove of trees a dusty car with bloody rags in the back seat stands abandoned.

To solve *The Liberty Mystery*, Cecilia, Leo, and Une will this time have to acquaint themselves with the British philosopher John Stuart Mill, and his ideas about freedom.

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## *The Esmeralda Mystery*

### CLUE #6

Cecilia, Leo, Une and Une's dog Egon have gone to explore the old Esmeralda mine, the deepest of the three mines on the mountainside behind The Pearl, Cecilia's father's guesthouse. The mine has lain empty and unused for years, and deep inside the four friends find traces of the great accident that happened there: black powder and bags filled with old dynamite sticks. But inside the dark mineshafts they also make a more sinister discovery, one that hints that the old mine is hiding even bigger secrets: secrets that won't stand up to the light of day.

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## *The Riverton Mystery*

### CLUE #7

While out walking in the woods, Cecilia, Leo, Une and Une's dog Egon find an intriguing old wooden chest lodged under the lowest branches of a fir tree. But before they can open it, a group of men dressed all in black comes and snatches the chest right from under their noses. The word Riverton written on top of its lid is their only clue as to who exactly the men are, and what might be inside of the chest.

A heavy snowfall hinders Cecilia, Leo, Une and Egon's investigation. Winter looks to have come to stay in Schooner Cove, but so has a whole bunch of suspicious guests at the guesthouse The Pearl.

*The Riverton Mystery* treats the reader to a thrilling hunt for the truth in a deceptively innocent-looking snowy white landscape. The seventh installment in the CLUE series, the novel highlights the philosopher René Descartes' thoughts and his famous "Cogito, ergo sum: I think, therefore I am."

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## *The Skull Mystery*

CLUE #8

The hunt for the famous Cutter Treasure leads Cecilia, Leo, Une and Une's dog Egon to a startling discovery behind a hidden wall in an abandoned countryside home in Schooner Cove. Their find gains great attention both from television and newspapers, and guest after guest shows up knocking at the doors to The Pearl. But as the number of visitors grow, so does the number of strange happenings in town. To solve the mystery of the Cutter Treasure, the friends will have to solve another riddle, one involving bones as well as skulls.

In *The Skull Mystery* the reader will at long last be given the answer to the mystery that has puzzled the CLUE gang for some time: where the Cutter Treasure is, and what it contains. But first, the mystery of the skull riddle must be unraveled.

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## *The Wolfhound Mystery*

### CLUE #9

The wolfhound of the freighter Lady Anetta is a ghost story that's been told for generations in Schooner Cove. It is said that the hound is a herald: once it has shown itself, death will soon come to call. Cecilia, Leo and Une all see a big, black stray dog wandering out on the mountain plain. The following day, one of the guests at the guesthouse The Pearl hostel is found dead.

The CLUE gang don't believe in ghosts, or at least not that a ghost dog would leave tracks in the snow. As they follow the trail, they end up deeply entangled in one of the most perilous mysteries they have encountered yet.

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## *The Sea Serpent Mystery*

CLUE #10

A ferocious storm has caused flotsam to wash up on the shores of Schooner Cove. Among the seaweed and kelp, driftwood and other jetsam Cecilia, Leo and Une find also a dead serpent, unusually large in size. Their find attracts a lot of attention, especially from the press who call it a “sea serpent”.

At the same time, one of the guests at The Pearl falls ill. The doctors say that she has been poisoned. Just as they are about to load her into an ambulance, the woman whispers something. It sounds like the word *Phoneutria*. Cecilia, Leo and Une discover that *Phoneutria* is the Latin name of one of the most venomous species of spider there is, but little do they know that the deadly arachnid is still hiding somewhere in The Pearl.

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## *The Einstein Mystery*

CLUE #11

Cecilia, Leo and Une are exploring the old outbuilding on the grounds of the guesthouse The Pearl. No one has opened the doors to the shed for tens of years, and there's no telling what is in there. As it turns out, the outbuilding has been hiding some secrets, big and valuable ones, with ties back to when Albert Einstein himself was a guest at The Pearl. When he left the guesthouse, he left behind a riddle so complex that still no one has managed to solve it.

But maybe the Einstein mystery isn't actually that difficult? Everything is relative, after all. Perhaps the reader will be able to solve the riddle before Cecilia, Leo and Une can?

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## *The Triangle Mystery*

CLUE #12

*The Triangle Mystery* is the twelfth and last installment in the CLUE series. This time it is the Devil's Triangle – a triangular area out at sea, not far from the shores of Schooner Cove – that sparks a great new mystery for the CLUE gang to solve. During the past century, the Triangle has become infamous for the suspicious shipwrecks and airplane crashes that occur within it just a bit too often. As sunny May rolls around, two scientists arrive at Schooner Cove to study the phenomenon. Cecilia, Leo, Une, and Une's dog Egon are meanwhile looking to recover some mysterious images from some suspicious characters. Triangles and patterns aren't only showing up inside the Devil's Triangle out at sea, as it would happen.

In *The Triangle Mystery*, the mystery of the priceless Bolette ring is at last solved as well, concluding the storyline that began in book nine of the CLUE series, *The Wolfhound Mystery*. The philosophical backdrop of the twelfth and final CLUE book is the teachings of Pythagoras: his famous theorem on right triangles and his belief that "all is number".

## Jørn Lier Horst

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Jørn Lier Horst (b. 1970) has with his award-winning novels about William Wisting joined the elite of Nordic crime fiction writers. Having worked as a head of investigations before becoming a full-time author, Horst brings a unique brand of suspense and realism to the table. Besides his novels for grown readers, Horst has gained recognition for his unparalleled ability to thrill also young readers with charming mysteries. His standing as the Norwegian king of crime fiction for all ages was cemented when he created the Detective Agency No. 2 and CLUE series, both the most popular children's book series in their respective age categories.



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Jørn Lier Horst

## *The Smuggler's Shack*

CLUE #13

The CLUE gang takes it upon themselves to investigate the mysterious Smuggler's Shack out on Pinetree Island. Packing all the necessary supplies, the group heads off. But the visit to the island ends in failure and they're unable to enter the shack itself. Its doors and windows have all been nailed shut and secured with heavy chains and padlocks. As they later review Leo's film recording from the trip however, the group discovers something they didn't notice while on the island. Something strange is definitely going on in the Smuggler's Shack – and it's up to them to return and find out what it is.

*The Smuggler's Shack* is a bonus volume in Norway's most beloved crime fiction series for ages 9–12, CLUE. The story of Cecilia, Leo, Une and the dog Egon is concluded in this thirteenth and final book.

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