



## The Viper's Nest

*Peter Lerangis*

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The most dangerous secret in Amy and Dan's past is unveiled in Book 7 of the #1 New York Times bestselling series.

The hunt for 39 hidden Clues that lead to an unimaginable power have taken a heavy toll on fourteen-year-old Amy Cahill and her younger brother, Dan. They've just seen a woman die. They're wanted by the Indonesian police. They're trapped on an island with a man who knows too much about the death of their parents. And a tropical storm is rolling in. Just when they think it can't get any worse, it does. Because the Cahills have one more rattling skeleton for Amy and Dan to discover . . . the terrible truth about their family branch.

## **The Viper's Nest Details**

Date : Published February 2nd 2010 by Scholastic Inc. (first published 2010)

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Author : Peter Lerangis

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## From Reader Review The Viper's Nest for online ebook

### Nicky H says

Vipers Nest is a adventure with a group of kids and elders, the two main characters are Dan and amy. Dan, Amy, and the group go on an adventure to find clues that church hill left behind from his travels. While traveling, they go to south Africa and there they find one of church hills clues, and in the next books they find more and it goes on from there. I would recommend this book to anyone who has read the 39 clues series and liked it or people who like mysteries.

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### Sarah705 says

I thought that the book was overall pretty exciting, and I really liked the ending. I was a little bit confused at some parts, and it moved pretty quickly, but otherwise i really liked it. This book made me think about family. Family is so *complicated*! One minute you love them, and the next moment... you don't.

Dan and Amy have lots of family, most of whom they hate. Besides Grace, their parents are the only family members they have who they feel close to, even though they're dead. But at the end f the book they find out that their parents were Madrigals! They have always hated Madrigals, so what does this say about their parents; and them.

Kids always inherit some things from their parents. It can be external -like hair color- or internal. But one thing that you always get from your parents is their heritage. My dad is Canadian, therefore so am I. It's a part of me, whether I like it or not.

Since Dan and Amy's parents were Madrigals, that makes them Madrigals. Of course they don't want to be from that branch of the family, but they don't have a choice. It was born in them, and it's a part of who they are. But they don't really know much abut Madrigals, and they obviously don't know as much about their parents as they thought.

Sometimes even when you are really close to someone, you don't know them very well. When you know them for who they are, it can be easy to miss out on the small things. Family is important, but you don't always *know* your parents or aunts or cousins or grandparents. If you find out something that you didn't know about them, it can shock you.

Dan and Amy didn't know what Cahill branch their parents were from, and now they probably don't know how to feel. I'm sure that they don't love them as much. But it's always important to overlook the flaws in your family, and try to love them no matter what. I know that that's what Dan and Amy will do, and that's what I would do too.

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### Cathy says

Terrific, one of the best in the series. Lots of history without lecturing. Tons of action while preserving the emotional context. Witty without pandering. And lots of suspense, expanding on the mystery. Plus a heck of

a cliffhanger! Thank goodness the books come out only 3 months apart. Very well done, much better than Lerangis' first book in this series.

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### **Jeevan Nigam says**

This book was mainly that sometimes the reward is worth the risk. In this book and series the reward is nothing short of the chance of world domination, the reward making you the most powerful person in the world. In this book they are in South Africa, tracing down a connection between Winston Churchill and Shaka Zulu, all the while avoiding peril from their adventures and relatives. They go through many dangers and as usual dodge death many times. But they still stay in the hunt, showing time and time again that they think the rewards of the hunt are worth the risks for them.

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### **Arul Prakash says**

This is a great adventurous book in which two siblings go on a perilous journey to find the 39 clues. On the path they came through many obstacles such as bloodthirsty cousins/rivals, deadly snakes, muscle men and secrets that people will kill to find out. The small secret turns into a humongous clue that all the other branches thrive to find out. Amy, Dan, Nellie and their cat Saladin have to protect this clue from reaching bad hands. Will they succeed in doing so, or will they face terrors no mans ever faced. Read this book to find out. I would recommend this book to all the readers out there who like a good action book.

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### **Jeremiah says**

Entry 1-

Amy and Dan Cahill are the protagonists and they are all on their own in the hunt for the 39 Clues started by their grandmother, Grace Cahill. They must depend on their own instincts to beat their wealthy cousins to the final product, the serum including all of the 39 Clues, which makes whoever drinks it the most powerful person in the world. The antagonists are the other Cahill members taking part in the hunt for the 39 Clues.

Entry 2-

The setting is all over the world as the clue hunt leads them. The point of view is from all the members of the clue hunt which adds suspense. The theme is that the people who cheat lose, even though in reality they might win.

Entry 3-

They find that the next clue was aloe, although Isabel and everyone else believes it is diamond after Dan pretends that it was diamond. Isabel almost kills them, but with the help of Professor Bardsley they escape using Graces' plane, and they fly to Grace's African home to heal Dan so that he doesn't die.

**Fish says**

## Evan Gratteaux says

I'm actually reading this whole series to introduce 3 and 4th grade students to a series that discusses history and science topics that aren't covered in the classroom, and encourage them to use library resources to look for more "clues." I wrote a review of the first book and did not intend to write reviews for the rest of the series (there are 11 books total), but Lerangis' writing was actually a step above what I had come to expect. There were a number of moments where the characterization was spot on, and done through dialogue and actions rather than long paragraphs explaining the characters thoughts and feelings. He also manages to cover the difficult subject of apartheid in a way that would express to young readers how awful it was and how important the history of subjugation and struggle for independence is to the South African people. While "The Viper's Nest" has only brief history of apartheid may not cover everything (it is after all a 3rd grade book) I still learned some new facts that create a solid foundation for learning about South Africa.

## Lady Flo says

All I can say about the book it was the easiest one about the events, about Amy and Dan's itinerary and finding clue until now. But realization was worse. How they could be a Madrigal, when they two hated them so much.

Mike says

[these Cahills are also (view spoiler)??? (hide spoiler)]

## Devanshi Gupta says

Why was Dan so pushed in the spotlight? I kinda wished everyone contributed equally in the novel.

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### **Addy S. says**

This book was really exciting. There is lots of danger in the series, and Amy and Dan are trying really hard to find all the clues before their enemies do.

The reason I put four stars is because of several inappropriate words that were mentioned in the book. ?

Can't wait to start on #8. ?

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### **Allie says**

I've been listening to all of these books with my kids, but I just don't know how I'd rate them. I think it's because I wouldn't listen to them on my own --- and I love middle grade reads.

My 11 year old son gave this 5 stars.

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### **Sara says**

In this *39 Clues* installment, Amy and Dan are reeling from their experiences in Indonesia and ready to go wherever their clue takes them. Unfortunately, they don't have a lead... but fortunately, something turns up (as it always does) to help them along and take them to Africa. Lots of history lessons are given and family backgrounds are explored, including the big revelation of which Cahill branch Dan and Amy belong to!

Some of the dialogue - especially at the beginning of the book - felt forced, with Nellie the au pair giving speeches peppered with "like", as if to make her sound young but really making her sound stilted and unbelievable. But, overlooking problems like this, I thought the book was well done overall. There was a good blend of history, action, background, and emotion, and I really liked the places the characters went and the people they met. I'm still not quite sure what all this is building up toward as an ending in the final book, but I'm enjoying the journey.

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### **Mia Claire says**

#### **\*\*\*\*\*MINOR SPOILERS AHEAD\*\*\*\*\***

Oh my gosh. Here is yet another awesome *39 Clues* book. I wonder how do the *39 Clues* writers come up with those mind-boggling puzzles and codes topped with historical background and everything. And speaking of puzzles, codes, and history, in this particular book, readers are brought into another action-filled adventure to South Africa (Pretoria---because of the song March to Pretoria which was a clue from Irina Spasky---and I even checked out the youtube video of that song just because it's included in the book---and Johannesburg). And about the puzzle, well, the moment I saw the "Church Hill" word in the postcard given by some taxi driver to the Cahill siblings, the first person that came to my mind was Winston Churchill and I

immediately googled his name. When I learned that he is British, I abandoned the idea. But a few pages later, it turns out that he knew what the next clue is and I was actually right about his association with the clue "Church Hill". And also, expect some juicy revelations about Amy and Dan's real family branch. ^\_^ Plus...expect a new love team. Forget the Ian-Amy pairing. Peter Lerangis introduces yet another love team here. And I won't be surprised if he will abandon it just like what he did with the Ian-Amy tandem he first introduced in Book 3: The Sword Thief. Anyway, the Ian-Amy love team is impossible in the first place but I can't help it... I like the love team... but oh well, a Kabra with a Cahill wouldn't work out nicely. And take note...you'll also meet some Zulu warrior called Shaka. And...before I forget, you might want to learn some Morse code before reading the book. It'll come in handy, trust me. But if you're a busy person, well, there's an online Morse code decoder you can use. ;) So there you go. Happy reading!

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### **Mugdha Keskar says**

The most dangerous secret in Amy and Dan's past is unveiled in Book 7 of the #1 New York Times bestselling series. The hunt for 39 hidden Clues that lead to an unimaginable power have taken a heavy toll on fourteen-year-old Amy Cahill and her younger brother, Dan. They've just seen a woman die. They're wanted by the Indonesian police. They're trapped on an island with a man who knows too much about the death of their parents. And a tropical storm is rolling in. Just when they think it can't get any worse, it does. Because the Cahills have one more rattling skeleton for Amy and Dan to discover . . . the terrible truth about their family branch.

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### **J.c. Drost says**

So a lot of stuff happened in this book, big stuff for Dan and Amy. But that's not what affected my perception of this book. I couldn't get past how annoying and whiny Amy was. In a way, it's very understandable because of what happens to them in this book. They are forced to go through a lot of things that young children should not have to deal with. All the same, I can't help but feel that perhaps it was the way Peter Lerangis wrote the book that made Amy seem so annoying.

The book was a little more focused on Dan's point of view, which wasn't a bad thing at all. In many ways I feel like Dan hasn't gotten the attention he deserves. So he took center stage a little more in this novel. And maybe it was because the story was being filtered through his consciousness that really made Amy seem, again, very annoying. This could just be me and the way that I read the book. Even so, this book gets the lowest rating of the series, and is without a doubt my least favorite.

Aside from Amy being annoying, this book was on par with all the rest in terms of action and secrets and betrayal. And of course, for every clue they discover, more questions are raised, both about their family, the clue hunt, and now even Nelly. But despite everything that is thrown at these kids, they keep going.

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### **Renee Crooks says**

I thought that this book was really exciting, because there was so many problems Amy and Dan had to face. But most of all, after reading the end, it made me want to continue the series even more now.

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### **Anastasia Antonova says**

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### **Cathy Field says**

The Viper's Nest is book number seven in a mystery series, which incorporates game cards and an Internet site that continues the adventure. This would be a great book for Haidyn to read independently. The characters are a part of an ancient family that is broken apart into its branches and is searching for a great source of power. These family branches are all racing to get this power and to keep the other members from getting it first. They must find 39 clues, which lead them to the power. I chose this book for Haidyn because his interest inventory showed he likes to read mysteries and playing computers and video games. This book series incorporates all three of his interests and is very exciting and action-packed. The story takes place in Haidyn's modern world, and one of the heroes is a boy about his age who also likes to solve mysteries. Haidyn can go on the internet and play the 39 Clues game as he reads the book. He can find clues to solve the mysteries, which hopefully gives him incentive to keep reading the other books. Outside of this assignment, I would give him the first book in the series, but it was written before 2010, so I chose this volume. To hook Haidyn on this book I would lay out the first five or six books so he could see the covers and say, "I think you will love this series as much as I do. It has mystery, a modern quest, playing cards, and you can go on the internet to play the game that goes with it! There are even prizes you can win as you collect the clues."

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