

*Closed for the Season*

Mary Downing Hahn

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This novel is about a boy named Logan who has recently moved into a house in an old, run-down town. He befriends a smart but mouthy kid called Arthur who is his neighbor. At first, Logan does not want anything to do with Arthur because he seems like a geek, but as the story progresses, they become close friends. Arthur tells Logan about the history of his new house and introduces him to the town.

Logan is told that Mrs. Donaldson, who was the previous owner of the house, was accused of stealing money from an amusement park. The amusement park, called Magic Forest, is closed because a rich man has bought off the property but Logan and Arthur go in there anyways. Mrs. Donaldson was also murdered in her house, and the police have not caught the murderer yet. So the boys go meeting people and looking for evidence about the murder. Their adventures take them to the library, criminals' houses, rich peoples' houses, and most importantly, the Magic Forest amusement park.

This book was amusing, but I feel that it lacked in action and the "mystery" part. The ending had a twist, but it was not very expected. I would recommend this book for middle school students, and as a book to be borrowed from the library.