

TOP 10 CLUES ABOUT NANCY DREW'S MYSTERIOUS HISTORY...



1. Edward Stratemeyer, of the Stratemeyer Syndicate, created Nancy Drew in 1929.
2. The first three books in the series: *The Secret of the Old Clock*, *The Hidden Staircase*, and *The Bungalow Mystery* all debuted on April 28, 1930.
3. Carolyn Keene is a pen name for various ghostwriters who have written the books over the years. The first Carolyn Keene was Mildred Wirt Benson who wrote 23 of the first 30 Nancy Drew books.
4. When Stratemeyer died 2 weeks after his Nancy Drew series debuted in 1930, his daughters Harriet Stratemeyer Adams and Edna Stratemeyer took over the series. Harriet ran the Syndicate for 52 more years. She also penned volumes 31 and 33-56 in the classic series.
5. Nancy Drew first came to the big screen in 1938 with *Nancy Drew...Detective*, the first of what would be 4 movies released from 1938-1939 and produced by Warner Brothers.
6. Beginning in 1959 through 1978, the first 34 volumes in the series were revised and cut down from 25 chapters to just 20.
7. Nancy Drew made her television debut along with The Hardy Boys in 1978 with alternating Sunday night mysteries on ABC. Actress Pamela Sue Martin played Nancy Drew.
8. The Stratemeyer Syndicate switched publishers in 1979 from Grosset & Dunlap to Simon & Schuster resulting in a lawsuit between the parties. Both publishers continue to publish Nancy Drew books today. The Stratemeyer Syndicate was sold to Simon & Schuster in 1984.
9. Over 500 Nancy Drew books have been published since 1930. From the classic series to spin-offs like the Nancy Drew Files, there isn't a case that Nancy Drew hasn't solved!
10. In 1993, the first ever Nancy Drew Conference was held at the University of Iowa with over 500 in attendance and original Carolyn Keene Mildred Wirt Benson made the news as ABC's Person of the Week. Today, the tradition of annual conventions continues with the Nancy Drew Sleuths fan group hosting yearly conventions for fans and would-be gumshoes. Visit their website: www.ndsleuths.com.