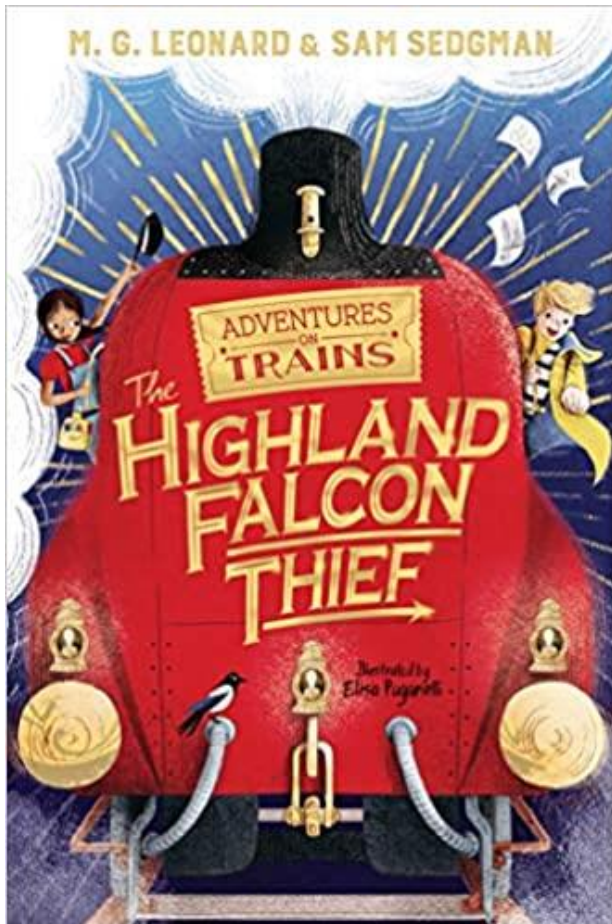


**Berkshire Book Award 2021 – Longlist title
The Highland Falcon Thief by M G Leonard
and Sam Sedgman, illustrated by Eliza
Paganelli**



Harrison Beck is reluctantly joining his travel-writer Uncle Nat for the last journey of the royal train, The Highland Falcon.

But as the train makes its way to Scotland, a priceless brooch goes missing, and things are suddenly a lot more interesting. As suspicions and accusations run high among the passengers, Harrison begins to investigate and uncovers a few surprises along the way.

Can he solve the mystery of the jewel thief and catch the culprit before they reach the end of the line?

Questions for Book Groups -

Not all books for this age group are illustrated, yet this story has lots of illustrations. Why do you think that it was decided to have illustrations in this book and do they enhance the story? Why or why not?

Is this a book that would grab you with its cover design?

This book is the start of a series, but each story is complete in itself – so you don't have to read them all in order. Do you like series that are like this or prefer series that flow in an order?

Hal is the main protagonist. Do you relate to him at all? What are his strengths and weaknesses as a character?

Do you think it is realistic for a group of children to solve a high profile robbery case?

Did you enjoy the details about the train and its route? Has this inspired you to find out more about railway journeys? Have you ever taken a train journey that has done a similar route?