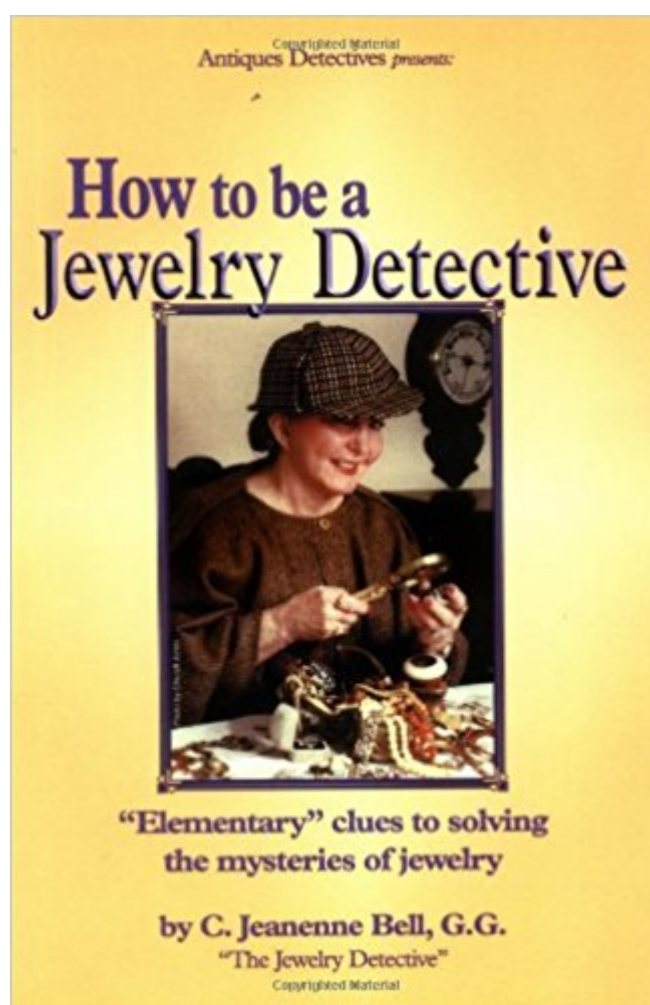


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How To Be A Jewelry Detective: Elementary Clues To Solving The Mysteries Of Jewelry (Antiques Detectives How To Series)



Synopsis

Solving the mysteries that surround the jewellery world, this text provides clues to separate old from new, gold from gold-plate, diamonds from rhinestones, and junk from jewels. The book features comprehensive lists of designers and marks, and information about fine, costume and Mexican jewellery.

Book Information

Series: Antiques Detectives How to Series

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Customer Reviews

"---A most informative book giving the basics to help any collector or dealer---" -- "Old Stuff " Feb./March 2001 This elementary handbook supplies the necessary knowledge and tools to uncover the mysteries of fine, costume, and Mexican jewelry. -- Naine Antique Digest, December ,2000

With 30 years experience , C. Jeanenne Bell is well known throughout the country as an expert in all phases of the jewelry business. Her national television appearances include Pax TV's "Treasures in Your Home", "The FX Collectable Show" on the Fox Network, Nostalgia TV, and "The Antiques Roadshow". She travels extensively through the United States ,Great Britian, Europoe and Asia, collectig and researching antique jewelry and its history. Her books include " Answers to questions about Old Jewelry,1840-1950" now in its 5th Edition and "The Collectors Encyclopedia of Hairwork Jewelry".

By the rather high price of this book, I expected it to be a gold mine of well-organized information on recognizing antique jewelry. Honestly, it didn't tell me much that I don't already know from online research. I would recommend this book only to absolute novices at jewelry collecting/dealing, and even then, this work only touches on the many facets of jewelry identification. I especially wanted information on dating clasps and catches, with the years that different styles came in and out of style. There is a section dedicated to this but only the vaguest dates are given for each style, if at all. Many types of clasps are not even mentioned. The photos are mostly black-and-white, something I didn't expect from a contemporary book on jewelry. Many of them are too dark or out of focus. There are some glaring, repeated typos as well. Also DO NOT take this lady's advice to "hot point" test your jewelry! Sticking a piece of jewelry with a hot pin leaves a permanent mark and most collectors will not buy hot-pointed pieces. Conclusion: Invest in better-made books with large color photos, and do plenty of online research.

How to be a Jewelry Detective.... I found this book somewhat informative with some interesting facts here and there but nothing that captured my interest for very long, (probably just me on a bad day) I guess I'd say I liked it, although it may be more interesting to others, so I leave it up to you to decide and suggest you read more feedback from others as I am no expert by any means what-so-ever, but on that note, I'll say that I do like and enjoy some of C. Jeanenne Bell's other books.

I love this book. It has a lot of info for the jewelry collector. I have about 20 books on vintage jewelry, I think this is my fav.

Exactly what I was looking for to help me go through all my mom's jewelry.

It helped to glean about \$100 in costume jewelry from five lbs of "junk" including a 1940's rhinestone brooch with open back construction. We need a re-touch on the 409 Bakelite test as the 409 original is now Blue and may not work if it has been reformulated. I cannot find original non blue 409 on the market.

This is a well written paperback with lots of helpful clues as to buying both used and new jewelry. I feel a lot smarter now about my future purchases. Well worth the cost and I would recommend this book to the person wanting to know more about purchasing Jewelry from different sources.

I love this guide! I actually picked it up in an antique store but I decided not to buy it that day because I had too much already to buy. I regretted that from the moment I left the store. I then spent the next three months trying to remember what the name of it was. I happened onto it while searching for jewelry on the internet. If you collect costume jewelry, then you must get this guide because she teaches you all about how to tell the difference in Bakelite, pearls, etc., vs. fake/faux stones or materials. A must-have for the serious collector who will refer to it again and again.

Easy, practical approaches discussed that amateur jewelry collectors like myself find those "diamonds in the rough." This book was easy to read and was well organized. Since reading this book, have been able to sort through jewelry at thrift stores and tag sales & more readily determine which items are valuable.

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