

Mysterious Skin Parents Guide



Mysterious Skin: A Parents' Guide to Navigating a Complex Film

Navigating the world of cinema with your children can be tricky, especially when dealing with mature themes. "Mysterious Skin," Gregg Araki's 2004 film, is a powerful and disturbing exploration

of trauma, abuse, and identity. This isn't your typical teen drama; it tackles complex and sensitive subjects that require careful consideration before viewing with or discussing it with your children. This parents' guide aims to equip you with the knowledge needed to decide if this film is appropriate for your family and how to approach sensitive conversations that may arise afterward. We'll break down the film's content, themes, and potential impact, providing you with the tools for a productive and informed discussion.

H2: Understanding the Film's Premise

"Mysterious Skin" tells the parallel stories of two young men, Neil and Brian, both grappling with the aftermath of childhood sexual abuse. The film explores how this trauma manifests differently in their lives, shaping their identities, relationships, and perceptions of reality. Neil's narrative involves a perceived alien abduction, a coping mechanism born from his repressed memories, while Brian's path is marked by a more outwardly destructive search for validation and understanding. The film doesn't shy away from the explicit depiction of sexual abuse and its devastating consequences.

H2: Key Themes Explored in "Mysterious Skin"

This film delves into several complex and often challenging themes that parents should be aware of before viewing:

H3: Sexual Abuse and its Long-Term Effects

The film's central theme is the lasting impact of childhood sexual abuse. It realistically portrays the various ways trauma can manifest, including psychological distress, self-destructive behaviors, and difficulty forming healthy relationships. The film doesn't offer easy answers but instead portrays the struggle for healing and recovery as a long and arduous process.

H3: Identity and Sexuality

"Mysterious Skin" explores the formation of identity, particularly in the context of sexual identity and orientation. The film demonstrates the complexities of self-discovery and how past trauma can significantly impact one's sense of self. Both Neil and Brian navigate their sexualities in ways shaped by their traumatic experiences.

H3: Memory and Trauma

The film intricately weaves the themes of memory and trauma, showcasing how repressed memories can resurface and the profound impact this can have on an individual's mental and emotional well-being. Neil's belief in his alien abduction serves as a potent example of how the mind can create alternate narratives to cope with unbearable realities.

H3: Family Dynamics and Support Systems

The film portrays the roles of family and support systems, or lack thereof, in the aftermath of trauma. The absence of adequate support and understanding contributes to the characters' struggles, highlighting the importance of open communication and professional help in such situations.

H2: Age Appropriateness and Parental Guidance

"Mysterious Skin" is definitively not suitable for younger viewers. The graphic depictions of sexual abuse and the mature exploration of psychological trauma make it inappropriate for children and even some teenagers. The film's mature themes necessitate parental guidance and subsequent discussion. We recommend a minimum age of 18, but even then, parental discretion is strongly advised. The film's impact can be profoundly disturbing and requires emotional maturity to process.

H2: Facilitating Post-Viewing Discussions

After watching "Mysterious Skin," initiating a thoughtful conversation with your children or partner is crucial. Begin by acknowledging the film's difficult content and validating any feelings they might have. Here are some discussion points:

How did the film make you feel?

What are your thoughts on the characters' actions and motivations?

How did the film portray the effects of trauma?

What resources are available for individuals who have experienced similar situations?

H2: Resources for Support and Further Information

If you or someone you know has been affected by sexual abuse, it's essential to seek professional help. Numerous organizations provide support and resources for survivors. Research local and national hotlines and support groups for victims of sexual assault. Remember, there is help available, and recovery is possible.

Conclusion

"Mysterious Skin" is a challenging but powerful film that tackles significant and sensitive issues. This parents' guide aims to equip you with the information needed to make an informed decision

about viewing it and to facilitate meaningful discussions afterward. Remember that open communication, empathy, and access to appropriate support systems are vital when navigating such complex themes. Prioritize the emotional well-being of yourself and your family, and don't hesitate to seek professional guidance if needed.

FAQs

1. Is "Mysterious Skin" suitable for teenagers? Generally, no. The graphic nature of the content and the complex themes require a high level of emotional maturity, making it unsuitable for most teenagers.
2. Where can I find resources for victims of sexual abuse? Contact your local sexual assault crisis center or RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) at 800-656-HOPE.
3. What if my child has questions after watching the film? Be honest, patient, and empathetic. Answer their questions to the best of your ability and seek professional guidance if needed.
4. Is there a less graphic version of the film? No. The film's impact relies heavily on its unflinching portrayal of sensitive subjects.
5. Should I watch the film with my child? This is entirely dependent on your child's maturity level and your comfort. A pre-viewing discussion outlining the film's content is crucial. It's often better to watch it separately and then discuss it afterward.

mysterious skin parents guide: Mysterious Skin Scott Heim, 2009-03-17 A disturbing incident sends two young boys down vastly different paths that reunite ten year later in this "impressive" debut novel (Publishers Weekly). At the age of eight Brian Lackey is found bleeding under the crawl space of his house, having endured something so traumatic that he cannot remember an entire five-hour period of time. During the following years he slowly recalls details from that night, but these fragments are not enough to explain what happened to him, and he begins to believe that he may have been the victim of an alien encounter . . . Neil McCormick is fully aware of the events from that summer of 1981. Wise beyond his years, curious about his developing sexuality, Neil found what he perceived to be love and guidance from his baseball coach. Now, ten years later, he is a teenage hustler, unaware of the dangerous path his life is taking. His recklessness is governed by idealized memories of his coach, memories that unexpectedly change when Brian comes to Neil for help and, ultimately, the truth.

mysterious skin parents guide: The Initial Insult Mindy McGinnis, 2021-02-23 In the first book of a suspenseful YA duology, award-winning author Mindy McGinnis draws inspiration from Edgar Allan Poe and masterfully delivers a dark, propulsive mystery in alternating points of view that unravels a friendship . . . forevermore. Perfect for fans of One of Us Is Lying and Truly Devious! Tress Montor's family used to mean something—until she didn't have a family anymore. When her parents disappeared seven years ago while driving her best friend home, Tress lost everything. The entire town shuns her now that she lives with her drunken, one-eyed grandfather at what locals refer to as the "White Trash Zoo." Felicity Turnado has it all: looks, money, and a secret. One misstep could send her tumbling from the top of the social ladder, and she's worked hard to make everyone forget that she was with the Montors the night they disappeared. Felicity has buried what she knows

so deeply that she can't even remember what it is . . . only that she can't look at Tress without feeling shame and guilt. But Tress has a plan. A Halloween costume party at an abandoned house provides the ideal situation for Tress to pry the truth from Felicity—brick by brick—as she slowly seals her former best friend into a coal chute. Tress will have her answers—or settle for revenge. * A Junior Library Guild Selection * Texas Tayshas Reading List of the Year * A YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults & Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults Book of the Year *

mysterious skin parents guide: A Parents' Guide for Children's Questions Benito Casados, 2010-07-16 Children by nature are curious about the world and people around them. As they grow older their level of awareness increases and questions begin to pour from their inquiring minds. Their questions maybe motivated by what they hear and see in their surroundings, what they see on television or what they are trying to learn in school. In most cases the burden of answering these questions falls on the parents. Parents are busy people. Children want the answers right now. This guide will provide answers for many questions traditionally asked by children between the ages of eight and sixteen. This guide is published in E-Book format only and is intended to reside in your e-book reader so the information is easily accessed whether at home or on the road.

mysterious skin parents guide: The Uninvited Tim Wynne-Jones, 2010-03-16 Who IS the uninvited? This twisty page-turner from a master of suspense plumbs the unsettling goings-on at a picture-perfect woodland cottage. Mimi Shapiro had a disturbing freshman year at NYU, thanks to a foolish affair with a professor who still haunts her caller ID. So when her artist father, Marc, offers the use of his remote Canadian cottage, she's glad to hop in her Mini Cooper and drive up north. The house is fairy-tale quaint, and the key is hidden right where her dad said it would be, so she's shocked to find someone already living there -- Jay, a young musician, who is equally startled to meet Mimi and immediately accuses her of leaving strange and threatening tokens inside: a dead bird, a snakeskin, a cricket sound track embedded in his latest composition. But Mimi has just arrived, so who is responsible? And more alarmingly, what does the intruder want? Part gripping thriller, part family drama, this fast-paced novel plays out in alternating viewpoints, in a pastoral setting that is evocative and eerie -- a mysterious character in its own right.

mysterious skin parents guide: The Inheritance Games Jennifer Lynn Barnes, 2020-09-01 OVER 3 MILLION COPIES SOLD OF THE #1 BESTSELLING SERIES! Don't miss this New York Times bestselling impossible to put down (Buzzfeed) novel with deadly stakes, thrilling twists, and juicy secrets—perfect for fans of One of Us is Lying and Knives Out. Avery Grambs has a plan for a better future: survive high school, win a scholarship, and get out. But her fortunes change in an instant when billionaire Tobias Hawthorne dies and leaves Avery virtually his entire fortune. The catch? Avery has no idea why—or even who Tobias Hawthorne is. To receive her inheritance, Avery must move into sprawling, secret passage-filled Hawthorne House, where every room bears the old man's touch—and his love of puzzles, riddles, and codes. Unfortunately for Avery, Hawthorne House is also occupied by the family that Tobias Hawthorne just dispossessed. This includes the four Hawthorne grandsons: dangerous, magnetic, brilliant boys who grew up with every expectation that one day, they would inherit billions. Their apparent Grayson Hawthorne is convinced that Avery must be a conwoman, and he's determined to take her down. His brother, Jameson, views her as their grandfather's last hurrah: a twisted riddle, a puzzle to be solved. Caught in a world of wealth and privilege with danger around every turn, Avery will have to play the game herself just to survive. **The games continue in The Hawthorne Legacy, The Final Gambit, and The Brothers Hawthorne!

mysterious skin parents guide: As Good as Dead Holly Jackson, 2021-09-28 THE MUST-READ MULTIMILLION BESTSELLING MYSTERY SERIES • The final book in the A Good Girl's Guide to Murder series that reads like your favorite true crime podcast or show. By the end, you'll never think of good girls the same way again... Pip is about to head to college, but she is still haunted by the way her last investigation ended. She's used to online death threats in the wake of her viral true-crime podcast, but she can't help noticing an anonymous person who keeps asking her: Who will look for you when you're the one who disappears? Soon the threats escalate and Pip realizes that someone is following her in real life. When she starts to find connections between her

stalker and a local serial killer caught six years ago, she wonders if maybe the wrong man is behind bars. Police refuse to act, so Pip has only one choice: find the suspect herself—or be the next victim. As the deadly game plays out, Pip discovers that everything in her small town is coming full circle . . . and if she doesn't find the answers, this time she will be the one who disappears. . . And don't miss Holly Jackson's next thriller, *Five Survive*!

mysterious skin parents guide: The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Riddle of Ages Trenton Lee Stewart, 2020-04-02 Book 4 in the New York Times bestselling series - perfect for curious readers! 'This book reminded me of some of the children's books I grew up with, like *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *The Phantom Tollbooth*.' RICK RIORDAN, author of the PERCY JACKSON series on book 1 'Like the Potter books, this story goes beyond mere adventure' BOOKLIST on book 1 After starring in three adventures, the inimitable quartet of Reynie, Sticky, Kate, and Constance haven't had a mission together in some time. But with the arrival of a new Society member - and a new threat - they must reunite to face dilemmas more dangerous than ever before. Including the return of the villainous Mr Curtain and his Ten Men, and a formidable enemy with a mystifying ability to track their every move ... Book 4 in the New York Times bestselling adventure series - ideal for children aged 10 and up Join a group of smart and resourceful junior sleuths as they solve a series of page-turning puzzles and mysteries Perfect for fans of Robin Stevens's MURDER MOST UNLADYLIKE series Want to know how it all began? Check out the prequel to the series, THE EXTRAORDINARY EDUCATION OF NICHOLAS BENEDICT

mysterious skin parents guide: *Keeper of the Lost Cities* Shannon Messenger, 2012-10-02 A New York Times bestselling series A USA TODAY bestselling series A California Young Reader Medal-winning series In this riveting series opener, a telepathic girl must figure out why she is the key to her brand-new world before the wrong person finds the answer first. Twelve-year-old Sophie has never quite fit into her life. She's skipped multiple grades and doesn't really connect with the older kids at school, but she's not comfortable with her family, either. The reason? Sophie's a Telepath, someone who can read minds. No one knows her secret—at least, that's what she thinks... But the day Sophie meets Fitz, a mysterious (and adorable) boy, she learns she's not alone. He's a Telepath too, and it turns out the reason she has never felt at home is that, well...she isn't. Fitz opens Sophie's eyes to a shocking truth, and she is forced to leave behind her family for a new life in a place that is vastly different from what she has ever known. But Sophie still has secrets, and they're buried deep in her memory for good reason: The answers are dangerous and in high-demand. What is her true identity, and why was she hidden among humans? The truth could mean life or death—and time is running out.

mysterious skin parents guide: A Parents' Guide To Primary School Elizabeth Grahamslaw, 2011-05-31 Education is an obsession for parents and children alike and parents will worry about anything to do with their children's schooling, from which school to choose and when their child should start to what they need to learn and how they'll cope in the playground. Schools are crying out for parents to become more involved in their children's education. A Parents' Guide to Primary School contains indispensable advice on: - Pre-school and choosing the right primary school - Getting ready for school and the first day - The curriculum, SATs, homework and the importance of parents' involvement in their children's learning - Discipline and bullying - Governors and the PTA - how to get involved - Parents' evenings and reports - Extracurricular activities - Special needs - Moving on - preparing for secondary school

mysterious skin parents guide: When You Reach Me Rebecca Stead, 2011-09-01 Miranda's life is starting to unravel. Her best friend, Sal, gets punched by a kid on the street for what seems like no reason, and he shuts Miranda out of his life. The key that Miranda's mum keeps hidden for emergencies is stolen. And then a mysterious note arrives: 'I am coming to save your friend's life, and my own. I ask two favours. First, you must write me a letter.' The notes keep coming, and Miranda slowly realises that whoever is leaving them knows things no one should know. Each message brings her closer to believing that only she can prevent a tragic death. Until the final note makes her think she's too late.

mysterious skin parents guide: These Violent Delights Chloe Gong, 2020-11-17 An Instant New York Times Bestseller! A BuzzFeed Best Young Adult Book of 2020 Perfect for fans of *The Last Magician* and *Serpent & Dove*, this heart-stopping debut is an imaginative *Romeo and Juliet* retelling set in 1920s Shanghai, with rival gangs and a monster in the depths of the Huangpu River. The year is 1926, and Shanghai hums to the tune of debauchery. A blood feud between two gangs runs the streets red, leaving the city helpless in the grip of chaos. At the heart of it all is eighteen-year-old Juliette Cai, a former flapper who has returned to assume her role as the proud heir of the Scarlet Gang—a network of criminals far above the law. Their only rivals in power are the White Flowers, who have fought the Scarlets for generations. And behind every move is their heir, Roma Montagov, Juliette's first love...and first betrayal. But when gangsters on both sides show signs of instability culminating in clawing their own throats out, the people start to whisper. Of a contagion, a madness. Of a monster in the shadows. As the deaths stack up, Juliette and Roma must set their guns—and grudges—aside and work together, for if they can't stop this mayhem, then there will be no city left for either to rule.

mysterious skin parents guide: Last Things Jacqueline West, 2019-05-07 Everything I love in a book.—Victoria Schwab, author of #1 New York Times bestseller *This Savage Song* “The kind of taut, atmospheric thriller that gets your heart racing and sets your imagination on fire. Sensational.”—Claire Legrand, New York Times-bestselling author of *Furyborn* Finalist for the Minnesota Book Award New York Times-bestselling author Jacqueline West captivates readers with a dark, hypnotic story about the cost of talent—and the evil that lurks just out of sight. Fans of *Holly Black* and Victoria Schwab will be mesmerized by this gorgeous, magnetic novel. High school senior Anders Thorson is unusually gifted. His band, *Last Things*, is legendary in their northern Minnesota hometown. With guitar skills that would amaze even if he weren't only eighteen, Anders is the focus of head-turning admiration. And Thea Malcom, a newcomer to the insular town, is one of his admirers. Thea seems to turn up everywhere Anders goes: gigs at the local coffeehouse, guitar lessons, even in the woods near Anders's home. When strange things start happening to Anders, blame immediately falls on Thea. But is she trying to hurt him? Or save him? Can he trust a girl who doesn't seem to know the difference between dreams and reality? And how much are they both willing to sacrifice to get what they want? Told from Anders's and Thea's dual points of view, this exquisitely crafted novel is full of unexpected twists and is for fans of *Holly Black's* *The Darkest Part of the Forest* and Melissa Albert's *The Hazel Wood*.

mysterious skin parents guide: Firekeeper's Daughter Angeline Boulley, 2021-03-16 A PRINTZ MEDAL WINNER! A MORRIS AWARD WINNER! AN AMERICAN INDIAN YOUTH LITERATURE AWARD YA HONOR BOOK! A REESE WITHERSPOON x HELLO SUNSHINE BOOK CLUB YA PICK An Instant #1 New York Times Bestseller Soon to be adapted at Netflix for TV with President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama's production company, Higher Ground. “One of this year's most buzzed about young adult novels.” —Good Morning America A TIME Magazine Best YA Book of All Time Selection Amazon's Best YA Book of 2021 So Far (June 2021) A 2021 Kids' Indie Next List Selection An Entertainment Weekly Most Anticipated Books of 2021 Selection A PopSugar Best March 2021 YA Book Selection With four starred reviews, Angeline Boulley's debut novel, *Firekeeper's Daughter*, is a groundbreaking YA thriller about a Native teen who must root out the corruption in her community, perfect for readers of *Angie Thomas* and *Tommy Orange*. Eighteen-year-old Daunis Fontaine has never quite fit in, both in her hometown and on the nearby Ojibwe reservation. She dreams of a fresh start at college, but when family tragedy strikes, Daunis puts her future on hold to look after her fragile mother. The only bright spot is meeting Jamie, the charming new recruit on her brother Levi's hockey team. Yet even as Daunis falls for Jamie, she senses the dashing hockey star is hiding something. Everything comes to light when Daunis witnesses a shocking murder, thrusting her into an FBI investigation of a lethal new drug. Reluctantly, Daunis agrees to go undercover, drawing on her knowledge of chemistry and Ojibwe traditional medicine to track down the source. But the search for truth is more complicated than Daunis imagined, exposing secrets and old scars. At the same time, she grows concerned with an

investigation that seems more focused on punishing the offenders than protecting the victims. Now, as the deceptions—and deaths—keep growing, Daunis must learn what it means to be a strong Anishinaabe kwe (Ojibwe woman) and how far she'll go for her community, even if it tears apart the only world she's ever known.

mysterious skin parents guide: Red Hood Elana K. Arnold, 2020-02-25 A dark, engrossing, blood-drenched tale of the familiar threats to female power—and one girl's journey to regain it. Five starred reviews greeted this powerful story from Elana K. Arnold, author of the Printz Honor winner *Damsel*. You are alone in the woods, seen only by the unblinking yellow moon. Your hands are empty. You are nearly naked. And the wolf is angry. Since her grandmother became her caretaker when she was four years old, Bisou Martel has lived a quiet life in a little house in Seattle. She's kept mostly to herself. She's been good. But then comes the night of homecoming, when she finds herself running for her life over roots and between trees, a fury of claws and teeth behind her. A wolf attacks. Bisou fights back. A new moon rises. And with it, questions. About the blood in Bisou's past, and on her hands as she stumbles home. About broken boys and vicious wolves. About girls lost in the woods—frightened, but not alone.

mysterious skin parents guide: **The Magical Imperfect** Chris Baron, 2021-06-15 Highly recommended... Perfect for readers of *Wonder* and Erin Entrada Kelly's *Hello, Universe*.— Booklist magazine, starred review Etan has stopped speaking since his mother left. His father and grandfather don't know how to help him. His friends have given up on him. When Etan is asked to deliver a grocery order to the outskirts of town, he realizes he's at the home of Malia Agbayani, also known as the Creature. Malia stopped going to school when her acute eczema spread to her face, and the bullying became too much. As the two become friends, other kids tease Etan for knowing the Creature. But he believes he might have a cure for Malia's condition, if only he can convince his family and hers to believe it too. Even if it works, will these two outcasts find where they fit in?

mysterious skin parents guide: **Where the Crawdads Sing** Delia Owens, 2021-03-30 NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE—The #1 New York Times bestselling worldwide sensation with more than 18 million copies sold, hailed by The New York Times Book Review as “a painfully beautiful first novel that is at once a murder mystery, a coming-of-age narrative and a celebration of nature.” For years, rumors of the “Marsh Girl” have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life—until the unthinkable happens. *Where the Crawdads Sing* is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps.

mysterious skin parents guide: **Willodeen** Katherine Applegate, 2021-09-07 From #1 New York Times bestseller Katherine Applegate, a singular middle-grade novel about a girl who risks everything to help a handmade creature who comes to life. The earth is old and we are not, and that is all you must remember . . . Eleven-year-old Willodeen adores creatures of all kinds, but her favorites are the most unlovable beasts in the land: strange beasts known as “screechers.” The villagers of Perchance call them pests, even monsters, but Willodeen believes the animals serve a vital role in the complicated web of nature. Lately, though, nature has seemed angry indeed. Perchance has been cursed with fires and mudslides, droughts and fevers, and even the annual migration of hummingbears, a source of local pride and income, has dwindled. For as long as anyone can remember, the tiny animals have overwintered in shimmering bubble nests perched atop blue willow trees, drawing tourists from far and wide. This year, however, not a single hummingbear has returned to Perchance, and no one knows why. When a handmade birthday gift brings unexpected magic to Willodeen and her new friend, Connor, she's determined to speak up for the animals she

loves, and perhaps even uncover the answer to the mystery of the missing hummingbirds. A timely and timeless tale about our fragile earth, and one girl's fierce determination to make a difference.

mysterious skin parents guide: *Where the Heart Is* Billie Letts, 2001-04-15 A down on her luck pregnant teen finds herself living in a shopping center in this Oprah's Book Club selection that inspired the film starring Ashley Judd and Natalie Portman. Talk about unlucky sevens. An hour ago, seventeen-year-old, seven months pregnant Novalee Nation was heading for California with her boyfriend. Now she finds herself stranded at a Wal-Mart in Sequoyah, Oklahoma, with just \$7.77 in change. But Novalee is about to discover hidden treasures in this small Southwest town—a group of down-to-earth, deeply caring people willing to help a homeless, jobless girl. From Bible-thumping blue-haired Sister Thelma Husband to eccentric librarian Forney Hull, they are about to take her—and you, too—on a moving, funny, and unforgettable journey.

mysterious skin parents guide: *The Lady's Handbook for Her Mysterious Illness* Sarah Ramey, 2021-05-11 The darkly funny memoir of Sarah Ramey's years-long battle with a mysterious illness that doctors thought was all in her head—but wasn't. In her harrowing, darkly funny, and unforgettable memoir, Sarah Ramey recounts the decade-long saga of how a seemingly minor illness in her senior year of college turned into a prolonged and elusive condition that destroyed her health but that doctors couldn't diagnose or treat. Worse, as they failed to cure her, they hinted that her devastating symptoms were psychological. *The Lady's Handbook for Her Mysterious Illness* is a memoir with a mission: to help the millions of (mostly) women who suffer from unnamed or misunderstood conditions—autoimmune illnesses, fibromyalgia and chronic fatigue syndrome, chronic Lyme disease, chronic pain, and many more. Ramey's pursuit of a diagnosis and cure for her own mysterious illness becomes a page-turning medical mystery that reveals a new understanding of today's chronic illnesses as ecological in nature, driven by modern changes to the basic foundations of health, from the quality of our sleep, diet, and social connections to the state of our microbiomes. Her book will open eyes, change lives, and, ultimately, change medicine. *The Lady's Handbook for Her Mysterious Illness* is a revelation and an inspiration for millions of women whose legitimate health complaints are ignored.

mysterious skin parents guide: *Malorie* Josh Malerman, 2020-07-21 In the “fast-paced, frightening” (The New York Times Book Review) sequel to *Bird Box*, the inspiration for the record-breaking Netflix film starring Sandra Bullock, bestselling author Josh Malerman brings unseen horrors to life. **NOMINATED FOR THE BRAM STOKER AWARD** • “Malorie is even more of a psychological thriller than *Bird Box*, and all the scarier for it.”—The Wall Street Journal Twelve years after Malorie and her children rowed up the river to safety, a blindfold is still the only thing that stands between sanity and madness. One glimpse of the creatures that stalk the world will drive a person to unspeakable violence. There remains no explanation. No solution. All Malorie can do is survive—and impart her fierce will to do so on her children. Don't get lazy, she tells them. Don't take off your blindfold. **AND DON'T LOOK.** But then comes what feels like impossible news. And with it, the first time Malorie has allowed herself to hope. Someone very dear to her, someone she believed dead, may be alive. Malorie has already lost so much: her sister, a house full of people who meant everything, and any chance at an ordinary life. But getting her life back means returning to a world full of unknowable horrors—and risking the lives of her children again. Because the creatures are not the only thing Malorie fears: There are the people who claim to have caught and experimented on the creatures. Murmurings of monstrous inventions and dangerous new ideas. And rumors that the creatures themselves have changed into something even more frightening. Malorie has a harrowing choice to make: to live by the rules of survival that have served her so well, or to venture into the darkness and reach for hope once more.

mysterious skin parents guide: *Tarantula* Thierry Jonquet, 2011-12-31 Richard Lafargue is an eminent plastic surgeon haunted by dirty secrets. He has an operating theatre in the basement of his chateau and keeps his partner Eve imprisoned in her bedroom, a room he has equipped with an intercom and 300-watt speakers through which he bellows orders. Eve is only allowed out to be paraded at cocktail parties and on the last Sunday of each month, when the couple visit a young

woman in a mental asylum. Following these outings, Lafargue humiliates Eve by forcing her to perform lewd sexual acts with strangers while he watches through a one-way mirror. In alternating chapters, Jonquet introduces seemingly unrelated characters - a criminal on the run after murdering a policeman, and an abducted young man who finds himself chained naked in a dark chamber, forced to endure all manner of physical torture at the hands of a mysterious stranger, whom he calls Mygale, after a type of tropical spider. All of these characters are caught in a deceitful web, waiting to meet their fate.

mysterious skin parents guide: *A Wrinkle in Time* Madeleine L'Engle, 2010-04-01
NEWBERY MEDAL WINNER • TIME MAGAZINE'S 100 BEST FANTASY BOOKS OF ALL TIME • NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE FROM DISNEY Read the ground-breaking science fiction and fantasy classic that has delighted children for over 60 years! *A Wrinkle in Time* is one of my favorite books of all time. I've read it so often, I know it by heart. —Meg Cabot Late one night, three otherworldly creatures appear and sweep Meg Murry, her brother Charles Wallace, and their friend Calvin O'Keefe away on a mission to save Mr. Murray, who has gone missing while doing top-secret work for the government. They travel via tesseract--a wrinkle that transports one across space and time--to the planet Camazotz, where Mr. Murray is being held captive. There they discover a dark force that threatens not only Mr. Murray but the safety of the whole universe. *A Wrinkle in Time* is the first book in Madeleine L'Engle's Time Quintet.

mysterious skin parents guide: *Look Both Ways* Jason Reynolds, 2020-10-27 A collection of ten short stories that all take place in the same day about kids walking home from school--

mysterious skin parents guide: *Beyond the Black Door* A.M. Strickland, 2019-10-29 *Beyond the Black Door* is a young adult dark fantasy about unlocking the mysteries around and within us—no matter the cost... Everyone has a soul. Some are beautiful gardens, others are frightening dungeons. Soulwalkers—like Kamai and her mother—can journey into other people's souls while they sleep. But no matter where Kamai visits, she sees the black door. It follows her into every soul, and her mother has told her to never, ever open it. When Kamai touches the door, it is warm and beating, like it has a pulse. When she puts her ear to it, she hears her own name whispered from the other side. And when tragedy strikes, Kamai does the unthinkable: she opens the door. A.M. Strickland's imaginative dark fantasy features court intrigue and romance, a main character coming to terms with her asexuality, and twists and turns as a seductive mystery unfolds that endangers not just Kamai's own soul, but the entire kingdom ... An Imprint Book "I couldn't put down this deliciously dark dream of a fantasy." —New York Times bestselling author Lisa Maxwell "A dark delight, gorgeously written and as twisty and enigmatic as a labyrinth at twilight. I wanted to stay lost in its pages forever, wandering ever deeper into the maze of Strickland's beguiling, intricately imagined world." —Margaret Rogerson, New York Times bestselling author of *An Enchantment of Ravens*

mysterious skin parents guide: *The Innocent* Harlan Coben, 2005-04-26 NOW THE NETFLIX ORIGINAL SERIES *EL INOCENTE*! The bestselling author and creator of the hit Netflix drama *The Stranger* takes readers on an electrifying ride in this thriller that peeks behind the white picket fences of suburbia—where one mistake can change your life forever. One night, Matt Hunter innocently tried to break up a fight—and ended up a killer. Now, nine years later, he's an ex-con who takes nothing for granted. His wife, Olivia, is pregnant, and the two of them are closing on their dream house. But all it will take is one shocking, inexplicable call from Olivia's cell phone to shatter Matt's life a second time...

mysterious skin parents guide: *Cherish Farrah* Bethany C. Morrow, 2022-02-08 Named a Most Anticipated Book of 2022 by PopSugar, Ms. magazine, Medium, Book Riot, BookPage, CrimeReads, Tor Nightfire, Bookshop, Book Talk, BiblioLifestyle, and more! AN APRIL 2022 BELLETRIST BOOK CLUB PICK "Morrow uses her heroine's warped perspective to examine painful truths about race and class in America, but this isn't a book intended to teach anyone a lesson, except maybe: Be careful. You never know who's really in control."—Los Angeles Times From bestselling author Bethany C. Morrow comes a new adult social horror novel in the vein of *Get Out*

meets My Sister, the Serial Killer, about Farrah, a young, calculating Black girl who manipulates her way into the lives of her Black best friend's white, wealthy, adoptive family but soon suspects she may not be the only one with ulterior motives. . . . Seventeen-year-old Farrah Turner is one of two Black girls in her country club community, and the only one with Black parents. Her best friend, Cherish Whitman, adopted by a white, wealthy family, is something Farrah likes to call WGS—White Girl Spoiled. With Brianne and Jerry Whitman as parents, Cherish is given the kind of adoration and coddling that even upper-class Black parents can't seem to afford—and it creates a dissonance in her best friend that Farrah can exploit. When her own family is unexpectedly confronted with foreclosure, the calculating Farrah is determined to reassert the control she's convinced she's always had over her life by staying with Cherish, the only person she loves—even when she hates her. As troubled Farrah manipulates her way further into the Whitman family, the longer she stays, the more her own parents suggest that something is wrong in the Whitman house. She might trust them—if they didn't think something was wrong with Farrah, too. When strange things start happening at the Whitman household—debilitating illnesses, upsetting fever dreams, an inexplicable tension with Cherish's hotheaded boyfriend, and a mysterious journal that seems to keep track of what is happening to Farrah—it's nothing she can't handle. But soon everything begins to unravel when the Whitmans invite Farrah closer, and it's anyone's guess who is really in control. Told in Farrah's chilling, unforgettable voice and weaving in searing commentary on race and class, this slow-burn social horror will keep you on the edge of your seat until the last page.

mysterious skin parents guide: The Essential Guide to the What Doesn't Kill You Romantic Mystery Series Pamela Fagan Hutchins, 2019-08-03 All the stories behind the hilarious and heartfelt stories, plus behind-the-scenes character interviews, and much, much, more. You may think you know the What Doesn't Kill You series, but this Guide will fill in the gaps for you. Or maybe you're new to the series and trying to decide whether to dip a toe into the water—the Guide will put you in the know. The What Doesn't Kill You series features romantic mystery and suspense characters whose lives are interconnected in a myriad of ways. The protagonists are smart, kickass women who solve whatever problems—including a few dead bodies—life throws at them as they navigate their unique and adventurous journeys of friendships, romance, career, families, amateur aka accidental sleuthing, and more: Katie, Emily, Ava, Michele, Maggie, and Laura, and counting. The novels are mostly PG-13, with a thread of everyday magic running through them. Whether you've run the table on Pamela Fagan Hutchins' USA Today bestselling and Silver Falchion Best Mystery-winning series and are yearning for a deeper dive or are wanting a low-cost way to see whether the novels or one of the multi-book box sets are right for you, this guide is your ticket. NOTE: this guide does not contain the novels! >>> See why Pamela wins contests and makes best seller lists. USA Today Best Seller #1 Amazon Best Seller Top 50 Amazon Romantic Suspense and Mystery Author Silver Falchion for Best Adult Mystery USA Best Book Awards Cross-Genre Fiction Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award, Romance, Quarter-finalist >>> Once Upon A Romance calls Hutchins an up-and-coming powerhouse writer. If you like Sandra Brown or Janet Evanovich, you will love Pamela Fagan Hutchins. A former attorney and native Texan, Pamela lived in the U.S. Virgin Islands for nearly ten years. She refuses to admit to taking notes for this series during that time. >>> The reviews for the series are top-notch. Hutchins' Maggie is an irresistible train wreck—you can't help but turn the page to see what trouble she'll get herself into next. Robert Dugoni, #1 Amazon Best-selling Author of My Sister's Grave Murder has never been so much fun! — Christie Craig, New York Times Best Seller You're guaranteed to love the ride! — Kay Kendall, Silver Falchion Best Mystery Winner Taut suspense. — Midwest Book Review Quick, entertaining read. — Kirkus Reviews Fantastic mystery. — Once Upon a Romance >>> Catch the adventures of Katie, Emily, Ava, Michele, Maggie, Laura, and their friends in the What Doesn't Kill You romantic mysteries. Scroll up and grab your copy of The Essential Guide to the What Doesn't Kill You Romantic Mystery Series to get started now.

mysterious skin parents guide: Last Days Brian Evenson, 2016-02-01 The deceptively simple prose keeps the book brisk and even gripping as its puzzles grow more craggy and complex. This is

Evenson's singular, Poe-like gift: He writes with intelligence and a steady hand, even when his characters decide to lop their own limbs off.—Time Out New York When Kline is kidnapped by a dark sect that believes amputation brings you closer to God, he's tasked with uncovering who murdered their leader. Will he uncover the truth in time to save himself, take on the mantle of prophet, or destroy all he sees with a rain of biblical violence?

mysterious skin parents guide: Swim That Rock John Rocco, Jay Primiano, 2014-04-08 A young working-class teen fights to save his family's diner after his father is lost in a fishing-boat accident. When his dad goes missing in a fishing-boat accident, fourteen-year-old Jake refuses to think he may have lost his father forever. But suddenly, nothing seems certain in Jake's future, and now his family's diner may be repossessed by loan sharks. In Narragansett Bay, scrabbling out a living as a quahogger isn't easy, but with the help of some local clammers, Jake is determined to work hard and earn enough money to ensure his family's security and save the diner in time. Told with cinematic suspense and a true compassion for the characters, *Swim That Rock* is a fast-paced coming-of-age story that beautifully and evocatively captures the essence of coastal Rhode Island life, the struggles of blue-collar family dynamics, and the dreams of one boy to come into his own.

mysterious skin parents guide: *Guardian of the Dead* Karen Healey, 2010-04-01 You're Ellie Spencer. I opened my mouth, just as he added, And your eyes are opening. Seventeen-year-old Ellie Spencer is just like any other teenager at her boarding school. She hangs out with her best friend Kevin, she obsesses over Mark, a cute and mysterious bad boy, and her biggest worry is her paper deadline. But then everything changes. The news headlines are all abuzz about a local string of serial killings that all share the same morbid trademark: the victims were discovered with their eyes missing. Then a beautiful yet eerie woman enters Ellie's circle of friends and develops an unhealthy fascination with Kevin, and a crazed old man grabs Ellie in a public square and shoves a tattered Bible into her hands, exclaiming, You need it. It will save your soul. Soon, Ellie finds herself plunged into a haunting world of vengeful fairies, Maori mythology, romance, betrayal, and an epic battle for immortality.

mysterious skin parents guide: Cemetery Girl David Bell, 2018-02-06 A missing child is every parent's nightmare. What comes next is even worse in this riveting thriller from the bestselling and award-winning author of *Bring Her Home*. Tom and Abby Stuart had everything: a perfect marriage, successful careers, and a beautiful twelve-year-old daughter, Caitlin. Then one day Caitlin vanished without a trace. For a while they grasped at every false hope and followed every empty lead, but the tragedy ended up changing their lives, overwhelming them with guilt and dread, and shattering their marriage. Four years later, Caitlin is found alive but won't discuss where she was or what happened. And when the police arrest a suspect connected to her disappearance, she refuses to testify. Taking matters into his own hands, Tom tries to uncover the truth—and finds that nothing that has happened yet can prepare him for what he is about to discover.

mysterious skin parents guide: *American Book Publishing Record* , 2003

mysterious skin parents guide: To Best the Boys Mary Weber, 2019-03-19 The task is simple: Don a disguise. Survive the labyrinth . . . Best the boys. Every year for the past fifty-four years, the residents of Pinsbury Port have received a mysterious letter inviting all eligible-aged boys to compete for an esteemed scholarship to the all-male Stenwick University. The poorer residents look to see if their names are on the list. The wealthier look to see how likely their sons are to survive. And Rhen Tellur opens it to see if she can derive which substances the ink and parchment are created from, using her father's microscope. In the province of Caldon, where women train in wifely duties and men pursue collegiate education, sixteen-year-old Rhen Tellur wants nothing more than to become a scientist. As the poor of her seaside town fall prey to a deadly disease, she and her father work desperately to find a cure. But when her mum succumbs to it as well? Rhen decides to take the future into her own hands—through the annual all-male scholarship competition. With her cousin, Seleni, by her side, the girls don disguises and enter Mr. Holm's labyrinth, to best the boys and claim the scholarship prize. Except not everyone is ready for a girl who doesn't know her place. And not everyone survives the deadly maze. Welcome to the labyrinth. Praise for *To Best the Boys*:

"Atmospheric, romantic, inspiring." —KRISTEN CICCARELLI, internationally bestselling author of *The Last Namsara Smart*, determined, and ready to take on the world: Rhen Tellur is an outstanding heroine with every reason to win a competition historically intended for boys. —Jodi Meadows, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Incarnate Trilogy* and coauthor of *My Lady Jane A "Hunger Games/Handmaid's Tale mash-up."* —BN Teen Blog

mysterious skin parents guide: *The Leftovers* Tom Perrotta, 2011-08-30 With heart, intelligence and a rare ability to illuminate the struggles inherent in ordinary lives, Tom Perrotta's *The Leftovers*—now adapted into an HBO series—is a startling, thought-provoking novel about love, connection and loss. What if—whoosh, right now, with no explanation—a number of us simply vanished? Would some of us collapse? Would others of us go on, one foot in front of the other, as we did before the world turned upside down? That's what the bewildered citizens of Mapleton, who lost many of their neighbors, friends and lovers in the event known as the Sudden Departure, have to figure out. Because nothing has been the same since it happened—not marriages, not friendships, not even the relationships between parents and children. Kevin Garvey, Mapleton's new mayor, wants to speed up the healing process, to bring a sense of renewed hope and purpose to his traumatized community. Kevin's own family has fallen apart in the wake of the disaster: his wife, Laurie, has left to join the Guilty Remnant, a homegrown cult whose members take a vow of silence; his son, Tom, is gone, too, dropping out of college to follow a sketchy prophet named Holy Wayne. Only Kevin's teenaged daughter, Jill, remains, and she's definitely not the sweet A student she used to be. Kevin wants to help her, but he's distracted by his growing relationship with Nora Durst, a woman who lost her entire family on October 14th and is still reeling from the tragedy, even as she struggles to move beyond it and make a new start. A *New York Times* Notable Book for 2011 A *Washington Post* Notable Fiction Book for 2011 A *USA Today* 10 Books We Loved Reading in 2011 Title One of NPR's 10 Best Novels of 2011

mysterious skin parents guide: *The Night and Its Moon* Piper CJ, 2022-09-20 An addictive fantasy romance from TikTok sensation Piper CJ, now newly revised and edited. Two orphans grow into powerful young women as they face countless threats to find their way back to each other. Farleigh is just an orphanage. At least, that's what the church would have the people believe, but beautiful orphans Nox and fae-touched Amaris know better. They are commodities for sale, available for purchase by the highest bidder. So when the madame of a notorious brothel in a far-off city offers a king's ransom to purchase Amaris, Nox ends up taking her place — while Amaris is drawn away to the mountains, home of mysterious assassins. Even as they take up new lives and identities, Nox and Amaris never forget one thing: they will stop at nothing to reunite. But the threat of war looms overhead, and the two are inevitably swept into a conflict between human and fae, magic and mundane. With strange new alliances, untested powers, and a bond that neither time nor distance could possibly break, the fate of the realms lies in the hands of two orphans — and the love they hold for each other.

mysterious skin parents guide: *Gated* Amy Christine Parker, 2014-05-27 A fast-paced, nerve-fraying contemporary thriller that questions loyalties and twists truths. Appearances can be deceiving. Lyla Hamilton is a loyal member of the Community. Her family was happy to be chosen by Pioneer to join such a lovely gated neighborhood. Here, life seems perfect. But after meeting Cody, an outsider boy, Lyla starts questioning Pioneer, her friends, her family--everything. And if there's one thing not allowed in the Community, it's doubt. As Pioneer cleverly manipulates his flock toward disaster, the real question is: Will Lyla follow her heart or follow Pioneer over the edge? From the outside looking in, it's hard to understand why anyone would join a cult. But *Gated* tells the story from the inside looking out, and from behind the gates things are not quite so simple. Amy Christine Parker's beautiful writing creates a chilling, utterly unique YA story. Perfect for fans of creepy thrillers and contemporary fiction alike. A tense psychological thriller that will leave you gasping for breath as you race to the very last page. --Gretchen McNeil, author of *Ten HelloGiggles.com*, August 3, 2013: When I found out that there was a YA book about cults, of course I had to read it. As it turns out, Amy Christine Parker's *Gated* is an awesome, creepy book that reminds me of my favorite cult

films while still being surprising. Starred Review, Kirkus Reviews, June 15, 2013: Parker doesn't pull punches, indicating a level of brutality that will appropriately disturb even as it successfully conveys Lyla's complete entrapment in the Community. Compelling and not that distant from real-world cults that have ended in tragedy. Publishers Weekly, June 10, 2013: Parker skillfully explores the mindset and inner workings of an apocalyptic cult, steadily building toward the inevitable moment of truth...As for the apocalypse itself, Parker keeps things suitably ambiguous, resulting in a complex, intriguing tale rooted in real-world events. School Library Journal, October 2013: This well-plotted tale will allow readers a glimpse into the possible world of a doomsday cult...The language is accessible, making it a good choice for reluctant readers. After the last page is turned, the question will linger: 'Could I ever be deceived like this?' Examiner.com A well-rounded and thorough look into cults while still remaining entertaining throughout. I look forward to reading more of Parker's works in the future.

mysterious skin parents guide: *A Slight Trick of the Mind* Mitch Cullin, 2006-05-09 The basis for the Major Motion Picture Mr. Holmes starring Ian McKellen and Laura Linney and directed by Bill Condon. It is 1947, and the long-retired Sherlock Holmes, now 93, lives in a remote Sussex farmhouse with his housekeeper and her young son. He tends to his bees, writes in his journal, and grapples with the diminishing powers of his mind. But in the twilight of his life, as people continue to look to him for answers, Holmes revisits a case that may provide him with answers of his own to questions he didn't even know he was asking—about life, about love, and about the limits of the mind's ability to know. A novel of exceptional grace and literary sensitivity, *A Slight Trick of the Mind* is a brilliant imagining of our greatest fictional detective and a stunning inquiry into the mysteries of human connection.

mysterious skin parents guide: *The Circus Train* Amita Parikh, 2022-12-06 International Bestseller and #1 LibraryReads Pick *Water for Elephants* meets *The Night Circus* in this World War II debut about a magnificent travelling circus, a star-crossed romance, and one girl's coming-of-age during the darkest of times. "A powerful reminder that to live is not just to survive, but to be seen and known for ourselves." —Pam Jenoff, author of *The Orphan's Tale* When all is lost, how do you find the courage to keep moving forward? 1938. Lena Papadopoulos has never quite found her place within the circus, even as the daughter of the extraordinary headlining illusionist, Theo. Brilliant and curious, Lena—who uses a wheelchair after a childhood bout with polio—yearns for the real-world magic of science and medicine, her mind stronger than the limitations placed on her by society. Then her unconventional life takes an exciting turn when she rescues Alexandre, an orphan with his own secrets and a mysterious past. As World War II escalates around them, their friendship blossoms into something deeper while Alexandre trains as the illusionist's apprentice. But when Theo and Alexandre are arrested and made to perform in a town for Jews set up by the Nazis, Lena is separated from everything she knows. Forced to make her own way, Lena must confront her doubts and dare to believe in the impossible—herself.

mysterious skin parents guide: *Stardust* Neil Gaiman, 2009-10-13 New York Times Bestselling Author Give the gift of STARDUST! Young Tristran Thorn will do anything to win the cold heart of beautiful Victoria—even fetch her the star they watch fall from the night sky. But to do so, he must enter the unexplored lands on the other side of the ancient wall that gives their tiny village its name. Beyond that old stone wall, Tristran learns, lies Faerie—where nothing not even a fallen star, is what he imagined. From the #1 New York Times bestselling author Neil Gaiman comes a remarkable quest into the dark and miraculous—in pursuit of love and the utterly impossible.

mysterious skin parents guide: *Fawkes* Nadine Brandes, 2018-07-10 Guy Fawkes's son must join his father's plot to kill the king in this magical retelling of the Gunpowder Plot that will sweep you back in time to a divided England where plagues turn victims to stone. In 17th-century London two forces rule the people: the color powers and the Stone Plague. Brown masks can manipulate wood. Black masks control the night. And red masks . . . Well, red is the color of blood. Thomas Fawkes's Color Test is upon him, and he is sure his father, the infamous Guy Fawkes, will present him with a mask and Thomas will finally bond with a color. He desperately hopes for a gray mask so

he can remove the stone that has invaded his body and will ultimately take his life. But when Guy refuses to give Thomas his mask or even his presence, Thomas has no place in school or society. His only hope is to track down his father and demand a mask to regain what he's lost. But his father has other plans: to kill the king. Thomas must join forces with his father if he wants to save his own life. When his errands for the cause bring him time and again to Emma Areben, a former classmate, Thomas is exposed to a whole new brand of magic. And Emma doesn't control just one color—she controls them all. Emma wants to show Thomas the full power of color magic, but it goes against everything his father is fighting for. If Thomas sides with his father, he could save his own life—which would destroy Emma and her family. To save one, he must sacrifice the other. No matter Thomas's choice, one thing is clear: once the decision is made and the color masks have been put on, there's no turning back. Praise for Fawkes: "An imaginative, colorful tale about choosing for yourself between what's right and what others insist is the truth." —Cynthia Hand, New York Times bestselling author of *My Lady Jane* "Hold on to your heart as this slow burning adventure quickly escalates into an explosion of magic, love, and the truth about loyalty." —Mary Weber, bestselling author of the *Storm Siren Trilogy* and *To Best the Boys* Full-length young adult historical fantasy Includes discussion questions for book clubs Also by Nadine Brandes: *Romanov* and *Wishstress*, coming September 2022

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Jan 8, 2025 · mysterious (comparative more mysterious, superlative most mysterious) Of unknown origin. synonym Synonym: untraceable He received a mysterious phone call this morning. Having unknown qualities. synonyms hyponyms quotations Synonyms: esoteric, uncertain, undefined; see also Thesaurus: mysterious

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"Mysterious" refers to something that is difficult or impossible to understand, explain, or identify. It often pertains to circumstances, situations, or objects that are characterized by secrecy, obscurity, or are enigmatic in nature, which can arouse curiosity or fascination.

Mysterious - Definition, Meaning & Synonyms | Vocabulary.com

Something that is mysterious has a secret-like quality that makes it hard to understand or define, like your mysterious answers that made your friends curious about what you were really up to.

Mysterious Definition & Meaning | Britannica Dictionary

MYSTERIOUS meaning: 1 : strange, unknown, or difficult to understand; 2 : to talk or behave in a way that makes other people feel that you must have a secret

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