



Cherry Ames, Student Nurse

Helen Wells

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

Cherry Ames, Student Nurse

Helen Wells

Cherry Ames, Student Nurse Helen Wells

In Student Nurse, Cherry starts nursing school at Spencer with a mixture of anxiety and anticipation - would she have what it takes to be a nurse? She leaves her quiet town of Hilton, Illinois for the bustle of hospital life, to meet challenges she wouldn't have imagined. The U.S. is at war. Many nurses have gone to the front, and there is a shortage of RNs at Spencer-which Cherry and her classmates help to fill, as they learn the skills they need to graduate. And who is the mysterious patient in the secret room that no one seems to know anything about? Should Cherry risk expulsion to save his life?

Cherry Ames, Student Nurse Details

Date : Published 1943 by Grosset & Dunlap Publishers (first published November 30th 1942)

ISBN :

Author : Helen Wells

Format : Hardcover 213 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Fiction, Mystery, Childrens, Classics

 [Download Cherry Ames, Student Nurse ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Cherry Ames, Student Nurse ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Cherry Ames, Student Nurse Helen Wells

From Reader Review Cherry Ames, Student Nurse for online ebook

Sally906 says

I devoured these teen 'career' books in my teens. There are 27 books in the Cherry Ames series and I did read all of them. Cherry Ames, Student Nurse is the first book and we are introduced to Cherry and her friends. The series was started in the early 1940s at the height of WWII and were originally designed to encourage girls to become nurses and join the war effort. Each story has a set of challenges to conquer and a mystery to solve, in this book Cherry has to convince a grumpy head surgeon she is ok as a nurse and break the rules to save a life.

David Merrill says

After reading some other Cherry Ames reviews, I thought it would be a good idea to suggest an approach to this series. If you are used to reading girls series like Nancy Drew, Cherry Ames is rather a switch. In Nancy Drew the mystery drives the plot it's the central focus. Not so, with Cherry Ames. In this series the mystery is more a sub-plot that you probably won't get a taste of until the latter 1/2 to 1/3 of the book. Cherry's plots are driven by her experiences in her new nursing job, the problems she encounters and the people she meets. If you read the books expecting that, I think it will be a much more pleasurable reading experience.

How I ended up reading Cherry Ames

When I was in Grad School studying nutrition, I discovered, after studying biochemistry, I needed something light to read before going to bed. I started re-reading my Three Investigators books from when I was a kid. When I finished those I re-read Hardy Boys, ran out of them and started collecting Nancy Drew. Now I read them when I'm sick and need something light. This year I found a gay parody of Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys. Nancy Clue's girlfriend in the book was Cherry Aimless. So, I got curious about the origins of this character, Cherry Ames.

I've been reading them out of order as I find them. I read Country Doctor's Nurse, which reminded me of an old 40's noir B&W movie. Then I read Chief Nurse. I was surprised for a kid's book how hard hitting the war stuff was handled. I found Cherry Ames to be much better written than any of the Nancy Drew books. I was hooked.

Student Nurse was an interesting read. Wells builds her story well, introducing us to all Cherry's fellow students and her teachers. The book is nearly finished before we even get a hint at the mystery Cherry solves. I like that aspect of the book. It was very character driven as a result. I also liked the fact that things don't come to Cherry easily. She has to work at learning to be a nurse and at her relationships with a classmate and a doctor who don't like her. Sometimes she makes mistakes. Since I'm just getting to know Cherry Ames, how she handles the mistakes and how they work out are a surprise, drive the plot forward and keep my interest. I find myself getting into the plot and not wanting to put it down at times, like when I hit the mystery in the story, I really should have been going back to bed, but I ended up finishing the book instead. There's a surprising lot to like about these books.

I'll be reading Senior Nurse next but I'm over the flu, so I'll likely be moving on to something a little more challenging soon.

Livesimpleread says

Read all of these as a young girl (12ish) and loved them. Similar to Nancy Drew but for a bit older girl. Very clean and written at a time when student nurses were boarded.

Virginia Messina says

I devoured these books when I was in grade school. I wanted to be Cherry Ames—headed off to nursing school on the train, all decked out in a red suit and ready to help people on a “grand and practical scale.” It still sounds pretty good to me.

But rereading this as an adult, I found it to be quite a bit less sophisticated and entertaining as the Sue Barton books, which I recently started reading for the first time. Cherry’s experience feels a little bit less believable and it was very interesting to see how this series shamelessly borrowed details from the earlier Sue Barton books (I had been told to watch for this and it really is amazing!)

This was a 2-star book for me now, but since I loved it the first time I read it, I gave it a lifetime score of 3 stars.

Trina Coyle says

My daughter & I picked up 3 Cherry Ames books from a Free Little Library in NC. I had never seen or heard of this series but it looked like the Nancy Drew series, which I loved growing up. The first thing I noticed was that the book was an early edition and produced during wartime complying with the government standards for conservation of materials. This tidbit sparked good discussion on it's own. I enjoyed the book, very wholesome and appropriate for all ages. We were amused by the conflict Cherry had with an older doctor that kept insisting she "take off that rogue" as it was not allowed in his hospital. In the day of tattoos, facial piercings and colored hair it was a good reminder that "we've come a long way baby".

Jane Irish Nelson says

Cherry Ames wants to be a nurse, partly due to the influence of Dr. Joseph Fortune, the family friend who delivered her and her twin brother, Charlie. But as she begins her training at Spencer School of Nursing she wonders if she is really cut out for nursing, especially when she encounters problems, or falls afoul of one of the doctors. But she perseveres in spite of everything, including a mysterious patient in a secret room. The girls in her class are a broad spectrum; however, except for a Chinese-American girl, they are all white, reflecting the period when this book was originally published (1944). Despite this, and the changes in the nursing profession, this is still an interesting and enjoyable book, since people don't change.

Olivermagnus says

When I was growing up, there were primarily three fields for woman to work in if they didn't want to be wives and mothers. You could be a secretary, a teacher, or a nurse. I still remember reading my first Cherry Ames book, Cherry Ames, Student Nurse. I eventually read them all and joined her on her fabulous adventures as an Army nurse, a cruise ship nurse, boarding school nurse, etc. Cherry was a black-haired, red cheeked beauty who was smart, courageous, mischievous, quick-witted, and above all, devoted to nursing. Cherry had all sorts of adventures and was one of the first "modern" women who traveled on their own and didn't need anyone else to support her. She had loads of friends but she could take care of herself.

The first book in the Cherry Ames series follows Cherry as she leaves home and goes away to nursing school. The setting of this book is pre-WW2 and I still find it so charming. The friendships that Cherry forms in this book last throughout the entire series. Because of its age, the writing will feel dated to many readers but I expect most of them will be revisiting an old friend from a different era who inspired them to become the strong and inspiring women of the 21st Century.

Daisy Paquet says

Just re-read this- And I think Cherry and Nancy Drew would be good friends.

Tama says

Betsy got me the 1942 edition of Cherry Ames, Student Nurse for Mother's Day. I've loved reading it and am surprised how much hasn't changed. Used the new student orientation section for our New Student Orientation. Finished the book last week and was struck by how nursing was really the nurse's entire life, as the students stayed in hospital dorms, worked all shifts (alone!) and feared those in power. I think the public still has that image of nursing, but the profession has changed drastically in many ways. We now see so many students who chose nursing because they are likely to have a job and not necessarily a profession. On the other hand, students in Cherry's day assumed the responsibility of a licensed nurse. You can really pick up the difference between training and education. But setting the philosophical aside, I hear Cherry falls for a doctor in every book. This was a fun read and I hope to read more in the series.

Hannah says

Not a fine form of literature, but an enjoyable and light-hearted tale of a young woman leaving a pampered life to become a nurse during WW2. She has a deep calling to be a nurse and to help others, and a natural outgoing nature that makes it easy for her to gain friends. I'll definitely be reading more in the series as I need something lighter to read.

Linda says

I read almost all of the Cherry Ames books a lifetime ago, when I was a pre-teen. Be warned that they are

terribly sexist by today's standard, nevertheless, they feature a smart, determined, competent young woman (WWII era) who manages to overcome all manner of difficult, and often misogynistic situations! Cherry Ames was, to little girls who might want a medical career, what Nancy Drew was to those who fancied a future as a sleuth! I honestly don't remember if it was ever suggested in the series that Cherry, or any other woman could aspire to be a doctor, but I'm guessing not! Still, if you take it for what it is, at this point, historical fiction....a window that brings into focus all of the reasons that change was needed, and a heroine who politely persisted!

Jennifer Schneider says

I originally read this book kind of as a joke; I wanted to see how silly and antiquated it was. And while the book was obviously written in a time when nursing was very different from what it is now, I found the book to be surprisingly charming. Cherry is a very strong character, which I wasn't expecting. I found the "old school" aspect of nursing interesting, and was pleased to be entertained through the whole book. I often read YA fiction to find good books to share with my nieces and nephews, and while I loved this book, I worry that the charm may be lost on today's younger kids. Either way, I really liked this book and plan to read more of them.

Jennifer Heise says

I read this at, maybe, 7 or 8, and adored it. Of course it's very dated and was a piece of propaganda even at the time... but it still retains a place in my heart. (It was also responsible for my mother and I having our first feminism argument: she didn't want me to want to be a nurse, but a doctor. I maintained that I wanted to take care of people, and nurses did that; doctors didn't. I realized, later in life, that I lacked the calm and the strong feet for the job... but that was the first of many arguments...)

Maria Elmvang says

How this book managed not to get sued for plagiarism of "Sue Barton - Student Nurse" I will never understand. It is a complete rip-off, right down to even many of the smaller details.

That said, "Sue Barton" is one of my favourite books, so I didn't mind terribly much finding a new 'version' of it, and I still enjoy reading about the life of a student nurse and was sad to have 'run out' of Sue Barton books, so I'll probably find myself reading more of Cherry Ames as it's not bad reading - even if it does seem like cheating ;)

lia says

A friend recently asked me what the nelliest book I read was when I was little. This surpasses little women, anne of green gables and literally anything else you can think of. Straight up straight fem propaganda.

Mikayla says

This was probably three and a half stars for me because the first half of the book was really cute but in the second half Cherry developed what she thinks is a love interest, but it turns out not to be. Then they tried to add in a little mystery which was okay but I didn't feel it worked very well. I might try some of the others though.

Hilary says

My grandmother was a World War 2 Navy Nurse and when my mother was old enough she bought these books for my mom. Cherry Ames is a bright, dark-haired, and cheery nurse as was my grandmother.

Everyday that my grandmother, now a mother herself in post-war America, set out to volunteer at the Red Cross she left in a cape, and a hat not unlike Cherry's own that you see on the cover. Also, of course she wore her official Red Cross pin. My mother, especially impressed with this dashing attire (I am too!) consequently loved the Cherry Ames books and admired my grandmother very much.

Lots of unexpected things happen in this series but the one I liked most of all is when Cherry Ames accidentally happens upon the secret project of a doctor on staff at the hospital she works at. He has discovered Penicillin! Cherry must now protect this wartime secret. I had never thought of it that way, but as the wise doctor points out this drug will save many lives of the men fighting the war. He wants it to stay on the side of the good.

These books made me contemplate a world without antibiotics which makes me so grateful for the times I live in now and also that Cherry Ames was able to keep the secret! Whew! That was a close call Cherry!

Also, these books make an interesting study of the emerging role of women in the workplace. As a 1940's character Cherry is *very* cheery, brisk, bright, but decidedly at the whim of the male doctors she works for. Somethings are slow to change, aren't they? Still, we progress! Cherry is known for her almost boundless enthusiasm a la bright, attentive homemaker model. Yet she is also a woman in the workplace pioneer like my grandmother was in her lovely cape, hat, and pin. I do wish nurses now could at least have the very lovely cape. I think they deserve a bit of dashing fashion if they would like it for special occasions of course!

How much we women owe to these ladies who took the first brave steps towards what we enjoy today. The freedom to choose the work that suits us best.

Molly S says

I felt like I was reading about my grandmother...which is a GREAT thing!

Emily V says

I love this book!!! This book is about a girl (Cherry Ames) who becomes a student nurse. This is a fantastic story! I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who loves a good read!

Tarissa says

Perfection. It has just enough of vintage times, effort during the war, descriptions of the life and work as a student nurse... Everything I wanted, presented with charm and intrigue. I can't wait to get started on book #2.
