



Elli Gibbons is 10 years old and will soon begin 6th grade at Seaside Middle School. She loves writing because it lets her imagination run wild. Her favorite books are Pegasus by Kate O'Hearn and Harry Potter. Someday she wants to write books because she would like to inspire others. Elli loves to read, sing, act, and play piano

Sherlock by Elli Gibbons

You look around, familiarizing yourself with your surroundings. Quiet as a mouse, you creep up to the gap in your neighbor's fence. You press your eye to the hole; no one's home. Silently you slip through the gap. Hoping your parents don't notice, you begin to slide towards the back door. You check the handle, just in case it isn't locked. As expected, though, the door is locked up tight. Smirking, you reach into your pocket to retrieve the set of lock picks you so wisely brought along. After a good deal of frustration, you gain access to the home. Slowly but surely, you plod towards the first apparent room. Carefully, you sift through CDs and candy wrappers. Nothing suspicious, just an alarming amount of junk. You head towards the master bedroom, hoping against all hope the glimmer coming from the nightstand is a diamond-encrusted jewelry box. Just as you are about to expand on this theory, you hear the crunch of gravel as a car pulls into the driveway. Quickly, you tiptoe to the back door, inspecting to make sure everything is in its place. You exit the house and hurriedly fumble with the lock. You dive through the gap and enter your first floor window, just as the car doors swing open. Phew; you smile a secret smile to yourself, knowing your mission is far from over. "Maribelle Jane Petty, where HAVE you been?" shouts your mother. Looks like you'll have to postpone your investigation deciding whether or not your neighbors are Russian jewel thieves!