



Some Danger Involved: A Novel (Barker and Llewelyn Book 1)

By Will Thomas

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Some Danger Involved: A Novel (Barker and Llewelyn Book 1) By Will Thomas

An atmospheric debut novel set on the gritty streets of Victorian London, *Some Danger Involved* introduces detective Cyrus Barker and his apprentice, Thomas Llewelyn, as they work to solve the gruesome murder of a young scholar.

When a student bearing a striking resemblance to artists' renderings of Jesus Christ is found murdered -- by crucifixion -- in London's Jewish ghetto, 19th-century private detective Barker must hire an assistant to help him solve the sinister case. Out of all who answer an ad for a position with "some danger involved," the eccentric and enigmatic Barker chooses downtrodden Llewelyn, a gutsy young man whose murky past includes recent stints at both an Oxford college and an Oxford prison.

As Llewelyn learns the ropes of his position, he is drawn deeper and deeper into Barker's peculiar world of vigilante detective work, as well as the dark heart of London's teeming underworld. Together they pass through chophouses, stables, and clandestine tea rooms, tangling with the early Italian mafia, a mad professor of eugenics, and other shadowy figures, inching ever closer to the shocking truth behind the murder.

Brimming with wit and unforgettable characters, and steeped in authentic period detail, *Some Danger Involved* is a captivating page-turner that introduces an equally captivating duo while signaling the start of an exciting career for Will Thomas.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Modeled after the adventures of Sherlock Holmes, but with a verve all its own, this debut mystery introduces a likable pair of sleuths and explores the Jewish quarter of Victorian London. Fresh, self-effacing Thomas Llewelyn is a plucky lad down on his luck (he was booted out of Oxford and served eight months in prison for petty theft) when he becomes the unlikely assistant to idiosyncratic Cyrus Barker, a patently Holmesian private detective with an enigmatic background in China. Hardly has Llewelyn settled into his new quarters in his employer's residence when he is called upon to assist Barker in an investigation of the crucifixion death of a young Jewish scholar. The convoluted tale leads through the tightly circumscribed Jewish ghetto, as it appears that the murder may be the overture to a pogrom by vicious anti-Semitic factions. Barker's methods ("You see, I try to throw a web over London and sit like a spider in the midst of it all, my fingers on the strands") and Thomas's tone ("I must admit, sir," I confessed, 'that I doubted you a little') may owe much to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, but the author's lively, learned tour of the various foreign enclaves of 19th-century London is notably contemporary. Besides initiating Llewelyn into the rigors of detective work, Barker introduces his young associate to a number of exotic cuisines, Chinese and Italian among them. Such period curiosities and the growing friendship between Llewelyn and Barker are the chief delights of this engaging novel.

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From [Booklist](#)

This intriguing first novel introducing the pugnacious Cyrus Barker, whose Holmesian intellect makes him an intimidating "enquiry agent," reads like a grotesque Anne Perry mystery, sans manners. Nothing and no one are as they seem in the cobblestoned dankness of this Victorian London, including the bizarre crucifixion of a young Jewish scholar and the vile suspects who rise to the attention of Barker and his new assistant, the downtrodden Welshman Thomas Llewelyn. The author's brilliantly complex plotting sends detectives and readers chasing clues down the dark alleyways of immigrant Jewish communities and into churches harboring menacing pseudo-Christian hate groups, frantically seeking the maniacal killer whose murders take their twisted inspiration from biblical savagery. The exploration of the chasm between Christians and Jews, the details of Jewish customs, and the vivid period ambience lend philosophical depth to the action. "Some danger" is involved in the investigation, as the title suggests, but Thomas also peppers his debut with plenty of dark humor. *Jennifer Baker*

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Review

"What lucky readers will find in *Some Danger Involved*, by sure-footed first-time novelist Will Thomas, is a vibrant gumshoe full of contradictions and wit, equally at ease among London's highest society and its lowest denizens...Thomas's storytelling is top-notch, generously filled with humor and attention to detail. He brings to life a London roiling with secret leagues, deadly organizations, and hidden clubs."

-- Ron Bernas, *Detroit Free Press*

"The characters are fresh and appealing and the setting strong and original...While we get to know young Llewelyn pretty well, there is still a lot to be learned about his enigmatic employer, which we hope will be revealed in books yet to come."

-- Tom and Enid Schantz, *The Denver Post*

"An exciting page-turner...I look forward to their next adventure!"

-- Anne Perry, *New York Times* bestselling author of *No Graves as Yet* and *The Whitechapel Conspiracy*

"Adds an appealing new duo to the hall of paired detectives...A colorful ride...terrific."

--John Orr, *San Jose Mercury News*

"Will Thomas explores wonderful uncharted territory...true believers who go along for the ride will hate to see it end."

-- Marilyn Stasio, *The New York Times Book Review*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Junior Price:

What do you think about book? It is just for students because they are still students or the idea for all people in the world, what the best subject for that? Only you can be answered for that problem above. Every person has different personality and hobby for every single other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't would like do that. You must know how great in addition to important the book *Some Danger Involved: A Novel* (Barker and Llewelyn Book 1). All type of book is it possible to see on many methods. You can look for the internet resources or other social media.

Lisa Bentley:

The event that you get from *Some Danger Involved: A Novel* (Barker and Llewelyn Book 1) could be the more deep you digging the information that hide inside the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to recognise but *Some Danger Involved: A Novel* (Barker and Llewelyn Book 1) giving you joy feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by means of anyone who read this because the author of this book is well-known enough. This book also makes your own vocabulary increase well. So it is easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We advise you for having this specific *Some Danger Involved: A Novel* (Barker and Llewelyn Book 1) instantly.

Modesto Delarosa:

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