

THE DEADLINE PLATE

Four student journalists. One impossible printing plate.
A past someone is trying to erase.

The Chronicle Keepers, Book One | Eric Jourgensen

A school time capsule sends Lila, Zora, Benji, and Quinn to 1887 New York. Nellie Bly is preparing an investigation, and the Redactor is changing the records around her. The students must follow witnesses, preserve evidence, and protect a story someone wants erased.

A mystery that invites better questions

Use the story to discuss corroboration, missing context, corrections, archives, and the responsibilities of publication. Suggested for high-school discussion; educators should assess suitability for their own readers. The novel includes institutional mistreatment and questions about vulnerable witnesses.

Ready for your group

A companion discussion guide includes six spoiler-conscious questions, a 25-minute evidence activity, a printable source ledger, and an optional discussion for readers who have finished the novel.

Author conversation topics

How a student newsroom became a time-travel adventure; how to tell a compelling story without outrunning the evidence; why preserving records matters. To discuss a visit or virtual conversation, contact Eric. Dates, format, and any fees are arranged individually.

Book details

Young adult historical adventure / time-travel mystery
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