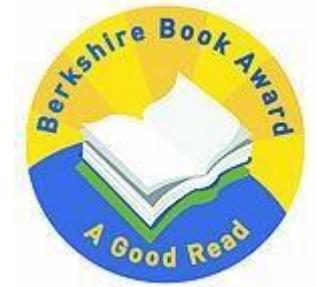
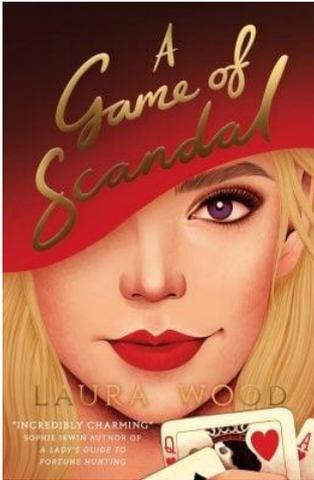


## Berkshire Book Award 2026: Longlisted title



### *A Game of Scandal by Laura Wood*



An all-female detective agency righting wrongs at the end of the nineteenth century; infiltrating a scandalous upper-class world and using their wit and bravery to unmask a villain. Felicity Vane may be a mathematical genius, but getting her family to understand her academic ambition is proving difficult. As her first social season is fast approaching, it might be time to take matters into her own hands. Infiltrating the glamorous world of The Lucky Penny and winning her university fees over a game of cards could be the perfect plan - if only it weren't for the interference of Ash, the piratical and frustratingly handsome owner who accuses her of cheating.

### Discussion Questions

- Do you think Felicity's choice to join the agency makes her rebellious, or is it a pragmatic way to find purpose?
- How does the "game of scandal" concept reflect the actual dangers and social rules of the era?
- Were you surprised by any of the scandals uncovered?
- How effective are the agency's methods for solving mysteries and righting wrongs?
- What did you think of the book's blend of historical fiction, mystery, and romance?
- How does the novel challenge or confirm your ideas about women's and men's roles in the past?
- If you could ask the author one question, what would it be?