

KAT WOLFE INVESTIGATES

LAUREN ST JOHN



DISCUSSION NOTES

1. Imagine this mystery on the big screen. Which scenes would work well? Can you see it as a live action film or an animation?
2. **'Animals are the world's greatest truth-tellers.'** [Kat] Discuss what the animal characters add to this story. Why do you think the author chose the species she did?
3. **Tiny kept one eye open.** Occasionally we see things from an animal's point of view - why do you think the author chose to switch to their perspective from time to time?
4. Which - if any - of the animals in this book would you like to have as a pet?
5. **'Luckily, we don't have to stick to the rulebook like real detectives do. We can go wherever the feelings in our bones lead us.'** Do Kat and Harper make a good detective team? Discuss how their methods differ from those of professional detectives.
6. How does the author build the mystery? Were you fooled by any red herrings - i.e. clues that turned out to be misleading?
7. **'Let's be clear. There is NO mystery here. None whatsoever.'** What is Sergeant Singh's role in the story development?
8. **[Harper] didn't feel guilty about trying to hack into a private account. If she could use what she knew to help Ramon, she was going to try everything in her coding toolbox.** What are the implications of computer hacking? Is Harper right not to feel guilty? Why do you think the author chose to have one of the female characters have strong skills with computers?
9. **For the entirety of Kat's twelve and a quarter years, it had only ever been the two of them against the world.** Discuss Kat's relationship with her mum. What makes them so close? Does their relationship change after they move to Dorset?
10. Look at the ways in which Dirk Hamilton-Crosse is portrayed from the outset. Did you make any assumptions about his character?



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ABOUT THE BOOK

Kat Wolfe loves her new home in idyllic Bluebell Bay, especially as it comes with a resident wildcat. But when she starts pet-sitting for pocket money, she finds that beneath the town's perfect surface lie some dark and dangerous secrets...

After a pet owner vanishes from his cliff-top mansion, Kat turns to her new friend, Harper Lamb, for help. What began as mystery-solving holiday fun quickly turns deadly for Wolfe and Lamb. Can they count on their unruly animals to save their lives?

Kat Wolfe Investigates is the first in a compelling middle-grade mystery series from bestselling author Lauren St John.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Lauren St John grew up surrounded by horses, cats, dogs, warthogs and even a pet giraffe on a farm and game reserve in Zimbabwe. Her childhood in Africa inspired her bestselling *White Giraffe* series and *The Snow Angel*, set in Kenya and the Scottish Highlands. As a child, she dreamed of becoming a vet, a pop singer or an eventer like Casey Blue in her *One Dollar Horse* series. At 17, she spent a year working as a veterinary nurse before becoming a journalist. *Dead Man's Cove*, the first in her Laura Marlin Mysteries series, won the 2011 Blue Peter Book of the Year Award. *The Glory*, her YA novel about a long distance horse race across the American West, has been optioned for film. A passionate conservationist, she is an Ambassador for the Born Free Foundation. When not rescuing leopards and dolphins, she is a full-time valet to her rescued, and not in the least demanding, Bengal cat, Max.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT
KAT WOLFE INVESTIGATES

BY
LAUREN ST JOHN

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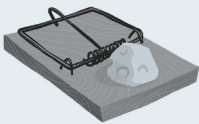


CREATE YOUR OWN WOLFE & LAMB MYSTERY STORY

Feel inspired to write your own mystery story after reading *Kat Wolfe Investigates*? Combine a human character with an animal, a location and a mystery to help shape the plot. Choose one option from each of the categories below to get you started.

HUMAN CHARACTER

Kat
Harper
Dr Wolfe
The Dark Lord
Edith
Sergeant Singh
The Exterminator
The Ghost Owl
You!



ANIMAL SIDEKICK

Tiny
Bailey
Hero
Eva
Charming Outlaw
Toby
Your own pet!



LOCATION

A Jurassic Coast Beach
Avalon Heights
A castle
An old smuggler's tunnel
A locked room
A library
A wildlife sanctuary



MYSTERY

A poisoning
A kidnapping
A disappearance
A jewel theft
An unexplained death



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DRAW YOUR OWN DREAM ANIMAL SIDEKICK . . .

In *Kat Wolfe Investigates*, Kat's pet Tiny (actually a giant and rather wild Savannah cat) becomes her loyal sidekick, protecting her from harm while she solves Bluebell Bay's latest mystery.

IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY ANIMAL SIDEKICK
IN THE WORLD, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

A DOLPHIN OR MAYBE EVEN A SHARK? A JAGUAR, TIGER OR LION? A GIRAFFE?
AN ELEPHANT? A PYTHON? A HUSKY OR WOLF? A CAPYBARA?
AN ARAB, MUSTANG, APPALOOSA OR THOROUGHBRED HORSE?



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