

Dead Cold

Sue Leather

Before reading

1. Look at the front cover of the book. What does the picture show? Where do you think it is?
2. Read the blurb on the back cover. Who is the main character? What has she got to do?
3. Look at the maps on page 5. Where does the story take place? What sort of place is it?
4. Can you find the connection between the picture on the cover, the place where the story happens, the blurb and the title of the book?
5. If you have the recording, listen to Chapter 1.

Check your reading

CHAPTER 1

1. Look at the picture on page 7. Who are the two people? What is the man saying to the woman?
2. Why does Cohn want Flick Laine to go and investigate the murder?
3. What happened two months ago, in November?
4. Find out about Flick's car:
 - a What colour is it?
 - b How old is it?
 - c What make is it?
 - d What name does she call it?
 - e How does it make her feel?

CHAPTER 2

1. How did Detective Laine get the name Flick?
2. What are the Rockies?
 - a trees
 - b mountains
 - c towns
3. True or false?
 - a Flick keeps thinking about Scott.
 - b Scott died in October.
 - c Eddie Lang was a bad criminal.
 - d Scott and Flick were looking for Lang.
 - e They caught Lang.
 - f Scott died in hospital.
4. How does Bill Gershon feel about Flick Laine and why?
5. Make notes on what you know about these things
 - a Janine
 - b her friends
 - c her death
 - d her family
6. Who is visiting Pine Crest soon? Why is he important?
7. Look at the picture on page 15. Describe it, and relate it to question 6.

CHAPTER 3

1. Match the beginnings and endings:
 - 1 The two students both feel
 - 2 Flick Laine asks Teresa
 - 3 Teresa tried
 - 4 Jeff tells Flick that
 - 5 Janine wrote
 - a to save Janine, but she was dead.
 - b in her notebook every day.
 - c very sad about Janine's death.
 - d Janine went to Pine Crest every year.
 - e to tell her what happened.
2. How did Janine know the other two students?
3. Think about Janine's notebook.
 - a What did she use it for and why?
 - b Why is it interesting to Flick Laine?
4. Look at the last three questions on page 19. Can you suggest some possible answers?

CHAPTER 4

1. Which of these sentences is correct?
 - a Both policemen were at the swimming pool the night before.
 - b Sergeant Williams found Janine's pen the night before.
 - c You have to go by the hotel reception to get to the swimming pool.
 - d You could see the swimming pool from the street.
 - e The waiter remembered a young man who went there every night.
2. What did the young man in the restaurant do that was strange the night before?
 - a He left without paying.
 - b He didn't eat anything.
 - c He didn't drink his coffee.
3. Jeff comes to talk to Flick Laine. Which of these things does he tell her?
 - a He found Janine's notebook.
 - b There was a competition for students of journalism every year.
 - c Janine was the best student.
 - d She went to the library every afternoon after skiing.
 - e He thinks she was working on a big story about Pine Crest.
 - f She told Jeff what she was writing about.
4. What feeling do Jeff and Flick share?
5. What does Flick want to do about Eddie Lang, and why was she disappointed by Leo Cohn's phone call?

CHAPTER 5

1. Why did Janine's parents have to see her body?
2. How does Mr Anderson feel about his daughter as a student?
3. What three things did Janine tell her father about the story she was writing for the competition?

- What did Flick find out at the library
 - about the books Janine took out?
 - about the old newspapers Janine read?
 - about a movie star?
- What conflict is discussed in the final paragraph? Which side was winning?

CHAPTER 6

- Put the adjectives in the box into the correct sentences.

big old famous expensive beautiful tall
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- Hillside was where all the people lived in Pine Crest.
 - Susan Hunter lived in a house.
 - She had a very guard with a gun working for her.
 - Susan Hunter was a movie star.
 - Redridge was an silver town.
 - Now Redridge has stores and restaurants.
- How did the Government Land Office (GLO) make money?
 - How did Alpine Resorts and Ricky Klein get to develop Redridge?
 - What does it mean if you *bribe* somebody to do something?
 - Which of these sentences is true?
 - Janine Anderson talked to Susan Hunter just before she died?
 - Janine Anderson worked for a group called Save Colorado.
 - Janine Anderson found out who in the GLO took the money.
 - Why doesn't Susan Hunter work to save Colorado any more?
 - What is happening in the picture on page 35?

CHAPTER 7

- Match the beginnings and the endings.
 - Flick Laine drove thirty miles
 - Tina Nielson
 - The Alpine Resort was like
 - The Alpine Resort had all
 - You couldn't see the mountains
 - showed Flick around.
 - because the buildings were so big.
 - a small city.
 - to visit Alpine Resorts in Redridge.
 - the ski runs in Redridge.
- What surprised Flick about skiing at Alpine Resorts?
- What impression do you get about Alpine Resorts from this chapter?
- What kind of ski runs does Flick want to try? What did their names suggest?
- What does the man with gun want Flick to do?
- What do you think will happen next?

CHAPTER 8

- Put these events in the correct order.
 - Flick gives the man her gun.
 - Flick hits the gunman in the face.
 - Flick asks the man lots of questions.
 - The man pushes Flick into the ski lift.
 - Flick pushes the gunman out of the ski lift.
 - The gunman lifts the ski-lift bar.

- Which information does Flick find out in the ski lift?
 - Who the gunman works for.
 - Who killed Janine Anderson.
 - Why they killed Janine Anderson.
 - What happened to Janine's notebook.
 - The name of the man who took the bribe from Ricky Klein.
- Give the answers to the sentences in (2) above.
- What does Flick Laine still need to find out?

CHAPTER 9

- Tony Rizzo was a hit man. What does that mean?
- What is on the paper that Gershon gives to Laine?
- What does Laine find on the list, and why is she surprised?
- Why do Gershon and Laine both say 'Wow!' at the end?
- How do you think Gershon and Laine will catch Clark Johnson?

CHAPTER 10

- Who does Laine ask Jeff to telephone and why?
- Why does Laine want Jeff to do this?
- Answer the questions with short answers.
 - Where does the main action take place?
 - How many people are in the room at first?
 - Where is Jeff?
 - Where is Laine?
 - What are they waiting for?
- What does Laine do to the hit man?
- Why is Laine surprised when she takes off the hit man's mask?
- How does Flick Laine feel at the end and why?

After reading

Choose some of these activities.

- Either (a) write Flick Lane's police report of the case or (b) write Jeff Mason's news report of the case.
- If you were making a film of this story, which famous actors would you choose to star in the main parts?
- Think of another title for *Dead Cold* and explain why it would be good.
- Write an email to the author, Sue Leather, saying what you liked and didn't like about the story.
- At first Bill Gershon doesn't like Flick Laine because she's a woman detective. Write a few paragraphs about the place of women in dangerous jobs that have traditionally been for men, and men's attitudes to them.
- Look at the picture on page 12. Write a detailed description of Bill Gershon – both what he looks like and how he behaves.
- Imagine the conversation between Flick and Leo Cohn when she gets back to Denver. Write a dialogue with a partner and perform it for others. Be sure to mention Scott King.
- Make a quiz about this story for the other students, e.g. some True/False questions, or some correct/incorrect sentences.
- Write a composition about the conflict between big business and the environment.