

# Bad Love

## Aims

- To stimulate students to read the book.
- To introduce some key characters from the book.
- To introduce students to key vocabulary from the book.

1 Tell students that they are going to read a story called *Bad Love*. Ask them to read the list of people in the story (next page). What type of story do they think it will be? Where is it set?

**Possible answers:** detective story, thriller, murder mystery, in a hospital, in Denver and Aspen, Colorado (USA)

2 Ask students what they know about Denver, Aspen and Colorado. Where is Colorado? Has anyone been there? Show them a map if you have one, or draw a rough map of the US on the board. Elicit or introduce the following key items of vocabulary: city, mountains, Rockies.

3 Ask students about the character of the detective, Flick Laine. Is this a man or a woman? Don't tell them yet. Ask students to read Extracts 1–5 taken from the beginning of the book. Can they find out at least six facts about Flick Laine?

**Possible answers:**

- a She is a woman.
- b She's a detective (a cop).
- c She carries a gun.
- d She drives a red 1957 Chevrolet.
- e She likes to listen to music while she's driving.
- f Her real (full) name is Felicity.
- g Her dad gave her the name.
- h She likes Dr. Daly.

**Alternative:** You can give the students true/false statements about the facts.

4 Ask students to write a short paragraph describing Flick Laine, using the facts above.

**Alternative:** Ask students to draw a picture of Flick Laine. This is particularly good for a younger group. Ask students to pin up their pictures and decide which is the best.

5 Having established that it's a detective story, elicit some words students might find in a detective story and put them on the board.

Ask students to look at the following vocabulary items:

- a fingerprints
- b Ruger SP101
- c police badge
- d key
- e downtown (US)
- f store (US)

and match them to the following definitions:

- i the centre of the city
- ii type of gun
- iii you use it to open a door
- iv you buy things there
- v you leave them when you touch something
- vi a cop wears one

**Answers:** a v, b ii, c vi, d iii, e i, f iv

6 Review what the students know so far about the beginning of the book: e.g. Flick meets Jack Daly; he's a doctor; he works at the hospital with Flick's friend, Judy; they arrange to meet again.

What happens next? Elicit some ideas from the students, and then ask them to read Extract 6 to find out.

Once they've read Extract 6, students can also answer the following true/false statements.

- 1 Jack Daly phones Flick on Wednesday.
- 2 They meet at the coffee shop.
- 3 Leo Cohn tells Flick that Daly is dead.
- 4 Leo Cohn is lazy.
- 5 Daly died at the hospital.
- 6 Reno says that Daly killed himself.

**Answers:** 1 F (Monday), 2 F (Daly dies before that), 3 T, 4 F (he works 'too much'), 5 F (at his office downtown) 6 T

Ask students if they think that Jack Daly really killed himself. What do they think happened?

7 If you have the books, hand them out and start reading.

# Bad Love

## People in the story

**Flick Laine:** a detective in the Denver Police Department

**Judy Kaplan:** Flick's friend and a doctor at the University of Colorado Hospital, Denver

**Leo Cohn:** chief of the Denver Police Department and Flick's boss

**Danny Reno:** a young detective

**Jack Daly:** a doctor at Judy's hospital

**Sandy Baker:** a woman from Aspen, Colorado

## Extract 1

"Hi," he said. He had black hair and blue eyes. "My name's Jack. Jack Daly."

"Hi," I said. "I'm Flick. Flick Laine."

We talked a little. He told me he was a doctor and worked at the University of Colorado Hospital in Denver.

"What about you?" he asked me.

"I'm a detective," I said. "Denver Police Department."

"Oh, a cop!" he said with a smile. He had very white teeth.

I smiled back at him. "Yeah," I said, "a cop."

"So where's your police car?" he said.

"That's my car, over there," I said. "It's the red 1957 Chevrolet."

## Extract 2

"OK," he said, "now tell me more about *you*."

"Well," I said, "my first name's . . . er . . . Felicity." I laughed.

"Felicity?"

"Yes," I said. "My dad liked it. But please call me Flick."

We talked a little more. After some minutes, he said, "Well, I'm leaving now, Flick. Can I see you again some time?" He smiled again. He had a beautiful smile.

## Extract 3

"Tell me about the doctor," I said [to Judy].

"Jack Daly?" She looked at me. "He's a very good doctor. All the rich people go to him; you know, movie stars, sports stars. He's famous at the hospital." Judy is a doctor too, at the university hospital.

"Oh, famous, is he?" I said. "I don't often like famous people."

She looked into my eyes. "Oh, come on, Detective Laine," she said, "you like *him*! I watched you with him. All the women like him."

## Extract 4

I looked at my watch. It was nine o'clock. I took my car key and my gun and got into my red Chevrolet. I drove to Daly's office on Sherman.

## Extract 5

It was a hot day. It was late August and, at nine o'clock in the morning, it was hot. I drove fast and turned the radio on. I like to listen to music in the car. This time it was Norah Jones, singing 'Cold Cold Heart'. But it was no good. I only thought about Jack Daly. "I want to talk to you about something," he said.

## Extract 6

The next Monday, Jack Daly phoned me.

"I want to talk to you about something," he said. "How about coffee?"

"Sure," I said.

"Friday, eleven o'clock at the Black Cat coffee shop on Broadway?"

"OK," I said. "See you on Friday."

But I never saw Jack Daly again. On Wednesday my boss, Leo Cohn, chief of the Denver Police Department, called me into his office.

"Dead?" I said. "Jack Daly?"

"Did you know him?"

"Not very well," I said. "I met him at a party four days ago."

"Oh," said Cohn. "Well, now he's dead."

"How?" I asked. "Was it at the hospital?"

Cohn stood by his desk with some papers in his hand. He was a thin man who worked too much. He never sat down.

"No," said Leo. "He died in his office downtown. Reno's there now." Reno was Danny Reno, a detective in the Denver Police Department. "He thinks Daly killed himself."

"Killed himself?" I felt cold.

"Reno thinks so," said Leo.

"But he phoned me on Monday, Leo," I said. "He wanted to talk to me about something – this Friday. A man who wants to kill himself doesn't do that!"

"Well, Reno says he's dead and he has a gun in his hand," he said. "Reno's waiting for you. Go and have a look. The office is at 1237 Sherman."

I looked at my watch. It was nine o'clock. I took my car key and my gun and got into my red Chevrolet. I drove to Daly's office on Sherman.