

East 43rd Street

Alan Battersby

Before reading

1. Look at the front cover. Which city is this? What do you know about this city?
2. Read the list of characters on page 4 and the blurb on the back cover. Do you know any other books or films about private investigators?
3. Match the chapter titles with the sentences from each chapter.

Chapter 1	The client
Chapter 2	Jewelry
Chapter 3	Doubts
Chapter 4	Grand Central
Chapter 5	Fact-finding

- a I made my way through the crowds and went down to the Parcel Room on the lower level.
 - b My first call was to Ed Winchester at the *Daily News*.
 - c "Let's get down to business. Who are you and what can I do for you?"
 - d Why did it all have to be so secret?
 - e But sadly, it's not yours to keep. I expect every item to be returned to me within seven days.
4. If you have the cassette, listen to Chapter 1.

Check your reading

CHAPTER 1

1. Put the events in the right order.
 - a Marley decided to follow, but lost her.
 - b Marley watched a woman enter McFadden's Bar.
 - c The next day, the same woman was waiting in Marley's office.
 - d She opened an envelope and read a note.
 - e Suddenly she rushed out of the bar.
2. Chapter 1 ends: 'In my experience, women like her usually mean one thing – trouble.'
What sort of trouble do you think this might be?

CHAPTER 2

1. Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences.
 - 1 Angela Lake had received a letter from her husband
 - 2 Angela Lake explained she needed help
 - 3 Marley was surprised when Angela Lake
 - 4 Angela Lake asked Marley
 - 5 Angela Lake left the office in a hurry,
 - a because she didn't have all the jewelry.
 - b without waiting for a receipt.
 - c to take the jewelry to her husband's office.
 - d which said she had to return all the jewelry.
 - e showed him the bruises on her arm.

CHAPTER 3

1. Complete the gaps in the summary.

Gloria told Marley that she hadn't seen a tall woman leaving the building. Marley phoned Joe Blaney and asked him to buy a and leave it at the at Grand Central with the inside. Then Marley asked Stella to send Angela Lake's and to the General Post Office. Ed Winchester phoned to say that the Lake Corporation was losing of dollars. Stella examined the security film and found a tall woman with hair who looked like

CHAPTER 4

1. True or false?

- a The Chrysler Building is Marley's favorite building.
- b Marley gave away two thousand dollars.
- c Captain Oldenberg is an old friend of Marley's.
- d The police were delighted with what was in the briefcase.
- e Oldenberg didn't believe that Angela Lake had been in Marley's office.
- f The NYPD had some real evidence against Marley.

2. Chapter 4 ends: 'Whatever she was doing had been planned carefully.'
What do you think Angela Lake's plan is?

CHAPTER 5

1. Look at the words in italics. Who or what is *me*, *them*, *you*, *she*, *it*?

- a But what crime could they charge *me* with?
- b "Marley, give *me* a break and shut up."
- c "I tried to stop *them* but they've got a search warrant."
- d "So, looks like *you* both have lively imaginations."
- e "*She* was at her desk at the Lake Software Corporation all morning ..."
- f "I found *it* just before the police arrived."

Angela Lake Marley Marley and Stella the necklace
Oldenberg the police

CHAPTER 6

1. Correct the summary.

Robert Lake accepted responsibility for the dirty tricks against Osaka Net. There were pictures of the Lakes in *Vogue* magazine; Robert Lake was small and fat, with heart-shaped glasses, and there were no cuts on Angela Lake's arm. The cleaner found a make-up bag with an expensive face powder in it and Stella realized it might belong to Angela Lake. A jeweler at Macy's told Stella that the necklace was worth a million dollars. Meanwhile, outside the Lakes' apartment on Park Avenue, Joe saw Robert Lake with three Japanese guys.

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CHAPTER 7

1. Who said what?

- a "Why exactly do they need a fall guy to take the blame?"
- b "We're going to find out who mugged Angela Lake. Sweet dreams, Marley!"
- c "It could be a trap, Nat. Just keep cool."
- d "You're a failure, Marley. That's why we chose you to be the fall guy."
- e "In real life, Lake, people get hurt."
- f "We'll always be one step ahead. It's all exactly as I planned."

Robert Lake Marley Captain Oldenberg
Stella Ed Winchester

CHAPTER 8

1. Put the events in the right order.

- a Marley realized he had no choice but to cooperate with Lam.
- b Tommy Lam met Marley at 86th and Fifth, and took him for a drive.
- c Marley said that Angela Lake's key and claim ticket would be at the Post Office.
- d Lam explained that the Lakes owed him money.
- e Lam was annoyed because the package had not arrived.
- f Lam told Marley that he knew Angela Lake had visited Marley's office.

CHAPTER 9

1. Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences.

- 1 Captain Oldenberg arrested Marley for robbery and assault
- 2 Marley's lawyer, Lena Rosenthal, told him
- 3 Lena had Lake's security video examined
- 4 Oldenberg stopped the interview
- 5 Oldenberg apologized and told Marley
- 6 According to the Lakes, it had all been a mistake,

- a but she couldn't prove it had been edited.
- b but Oldenberg arrested them for making a false report.
- c that people make mistakes with identification.
- d that all charges against him would be dropped.
- e because the Lakes wanted to speak to him.
- f after Angela Lake identified him at a line-up.

CHAPTER 10

1. Complete the summary.

Lam knew Angela had left the in Marley's office. At the Post Office, the clerk refused to give Marley the packages because he had no Lam was arrested, then Oldenberg took Marley to the at Grand Central, where they opened the briefcase. Inside was a pair of Lena suggested the Lakes had planned to make an claim on the jewelry. Oldenberg left the briefcase in the Parcel Room and returned the and to Angela Lake. He wanted to see what would do next.

CHAPTER 11

1. Look at the words in italics. Who is *I*, *he*, *she*, *they*?

- a "That's what *I* can't figure out – he doesn't seem to be at all worried."
- b "But all *he* said was, 'We lost that one.'"

- c "... *she's* still trying to be as cool as possible."
- d But that claim might just have succeeded if *I* had been less suspicious ...
- e "Then *they* managed to lose them in the midtown traffic."
- f "*He* says you're a professional and the only guy he can trust."

Tommy Lam Angela Lake Robert Lake
Oldenberg Marley the police

CHAPTER 12

1. True or false?

- a Robert Lake apologized to Marley.
- b Lam wanted five million dollars for the return of Angela Lake.
- c Oldenberg insisted on being in charge of the case.
- d Lake said he would pay Lam in jewelry.
- e Lam phoned and told Marley to travel to 14th Street.
- f Oldenberg sent two officers with Marley.

CHAPTER 13

1. Match the questions and answers.

- 1 "Is Angela Lake safe and well?"
- 2 "Mr. Marley, is my wife safe?"
- 3 "What's the deal with Lam?"
- 4 "So where do we come in?"
- 5 "Don't you want a gun, boss?"
- a "I have to be at the Lakes' apartment tomorrow at nine to get instructions."
- b "Play that tape to Lake when you return to the Lakes' apartment."
- c "No, you know I don't like carrying them."
- d "Well, aren't you just the perfect caring husband!"
- e "I may be going on a mystery tour tomorrow to meet Lam, but I'm not going alone. I want backup."

CHAPTER 14

1. Who said what?

- a "I know worthless rocks when I see them."
- b "I've had enough of working with amateurs."
- c "So ask yourself, 'Do I feel lucky?'"
- d "I'd rather be shot here than die in prison."
- e "Robert. Oh, my God! Speak to me."
- f "Mr Marley? You're right. It's a rough tough world."
- g "What a way to spend Christmas, boss."

Joe Blaney the jeweler Tommy Lam
Angela Lake Robert Lake Marley

CHAPTER 15

1. Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences.

- 1 Eventually, Captain Oldenberg arrived
- 2 The necklace was the only real item of jewelry;
- 3 The Lakes couldn't pay Tommy Lam in cash
- 4 Angela Lake admitted that she and her husband
- 5 Marley had had enough excitement
- a were planning to disappear with the insurance money.
- b and explained how he had managed to find Marley.
- c and was looking forward to a quiet life.
- d everything else was a copy of the original.
- e because their bank accounts had been frozen.

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After reading

Choose some of these activities.

1. What did you learn about life in New York from *East 43rd Street*?
2. Which character do you like best or least? Why?
3. Do you think *East 43rd Street* is a good title? Make up an alternative.
4. Imagine you are making a film of *East 43rd Street*. Which actors would you choose to play the main characters? Would you make any changes to the story?
5. Write an article about the fall of the Lake Corporation for the *Wall Street Journal*.
6. Imagine Ed Winchester interviews Marley about the events on Christmas Day. Write the interview for the *Daily News*.

7. Make your own activities for other students to do. e.g. Write some True/False questions.
8. Here is the blurb from another book at this level.

Death in the Dojo

Reporter Kate Jensen is investigating the death of a karate master in a 'dojo', a karate training room, in London. Another death quickly follows and Jensen finds herself drawn into a mystery that leads her to Japan, and to a crime committed thirty years earlier.

Do you want to read *Death in the Dojo* ?