

# Logan's Choice

Richard MacAndrew

## Before reading

1. Look at the title and front cover. What do you think happens in this story?
2. Read the blurb on the back cover. Do you know any books or films with a story like this?
3. Look at the map on page 4. How much do you know about Scotland?
4. Read about the people in the story on page 4. Then look at the pictures on pages 8, 10 and 22. Can you say who the people in the pictures are?
5. If you have the cassette, listen to Chapter 1.

## Check your reading

### CHAPTER 1

1. Look at the words in italics. Who is *she*, *he*, *I*?
  - a By a quarter past three *she* was driving through the streets of Edinburgh.
  - b Tonight *he* was looking old and tired.
  - c 'So how did *he* die, then?'
  - d *He* was wearing a black jogging suit and he needed a shave.
  - e 'I understand, Inspector. Please ask your questions.'

Sergeant Grant      Donald Johnstone      Inspector Logan  
 Alex MacLennan      Alice MacLennan

2. Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences.

- 1 Sergeant Grant phoned Logan
  - 2 Alice MacLennan couldn't open the bathroom door,
  - 3 Alex MacLennan was lying on the bathroom floor,
  - 4 Logan asked Alice MacLennan
  - 5 Logan was not sure
- a dead, with a broken neck.
  - b about her husband's business.
  - c so she called her brother, Donald, for help.
  - d if it was murder or not.
  - e to tell her that Alex MacLennan was dead.

### CHAPTER 2

1. Match Ian Ross's answers to Logan's questions.
  - 1 'Well, when did you first meet Mr MacLennan?'
  - 2 'Is the restaurant making money?'
  - 3 'Did you each take half of the money or ...?'
  - 4 'Tell me, were you here last night?'
  - 5 'Do you live by yourself, Mr Ross?'
  - 6 'How well do you know Alice MacLennan?'
  - a 'No. If you must know, Alex paid me.'
  - b 'Oh years ago ... We went to school together ...'
  - c 'Now, wait a minute, Inspector. If you think Alice and I ...'
  - d 'Yes.'
  - e 'Yes. As you can see, we're very busy.'
  - f 'Yes, Inspector. Until about eleven.'
2. Ross says, 'If you think Alice and I ...' What does Ross mean? Complete the sentence.

### CHAPTER 3

1. True or false?
  - a Donald Johnstone's business is losing money.
  - b The scientists know why Alex MacLennan died.
  - c Alex and Alice MacLennan were happily married.
  - d Alex and Alice MacLennan spent a lot of time together.
  - e Alex MacLennan probably had a lover.
  - f Logan thinks it was murder.

### CHAPTER 4

1. Complete the summary.

Grant took all the ..... clothes from the MacLennans' house for the ..... to look at. Alice MacLennan told Logan that her husband left the house and his ..... to her, but the ..... will go half to Alice and fifty per cent to ..... . Alice didn't know if Ian Ross and Alex MacLennan were good ..... any more. Alice said that she and her husband were not happily married, but she didn't have a ..... . Now Logan wanted to ask Ian Ross how he felt about ..... .

2. Who is the murderer? Alice MacLennan, Donald Johnstone or Ian Ross? What do you think?

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## CHAPTER 5

- Who ...
  - could lose his house?
  - became angry with Logan?
  - thinks Ross hated Alex MacLennan?
  - said the restaurant was a terrible place to work at?
  - doesn't come to the restaurant any more?
  - was not earning much money at the restaurant?

Sergeant Grant    Donald Johnstone    Alice MacLennan  
Ian Ross    the waitress
- Logan wants to know what Ross did in the army. Why? What do you think?

## CHAPTER 6

- Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences.
  - Major Innes told Logan
  - Logan knew that the SAS
  - Ross killed people in the army
  - Tam MacDonald phoned Logan with the news
  - Logan knew that both Johnstone and Ross
  - Logan asked Grant to tell her
  - what he thought of her idea.
  - that Johnstone nearly killed a man.
  - that Ross was a soldier in the SAS.
  - but the Major didn't think he was a murderer.
  - were the best soldiers in the British army.
  - could kill people.
- What do you think Logan's idea is?

## CHAPTER 7

- Put the events in the right order.
  - The police saw that the murderer was Ross.
  - He thought Grant was Fraser, and held a knife at his throat.
  - Late at night, a man dressed in black entered the house.
  - Alice told them that Mr Fraser saw someone climbing into the bathroom.
  - Logan asked Alice MacLennan to phone her brother and Ross.
  - Ross told Logan how much he hated MacLennan.
  - The police waited at Mr Fraser's house.

## CHAPTER 8

- True or false?
  - Alex and Alice MacLennan were happily married until she met Ross.
  - Alex MacLennan probably didn't know that Ross and his wife were lovers.
  - Ross said that he had to stop seeing Alice.
  - Alex tried to make his wife feel happy again.
  - Alice wasn't sure if Ross loved her.
  - Logan thinks Ross killed MacLennan because of Alice.
- What do you think will happen to Ian Ross?

## After reading

Choose some of these activities.

- What have you learnt about Edinburgh from reading *Logan's Choice*?
- Choose five of the pictures. Write a sentence about each picture.
- Do you think *Logan's Choice* is a good title? Make up another title.
- Imagine you work for the *Scottish Daily News*. Write the report on the MacLennan murder.
- Logan says she is going to tell Tam MacDonald who the murderer is (page 48). Write their conversation at Deacon Brodie's.
- What happens after the end of the story? What happens to Alice MacLennan, Ian Ross, Inspector Logan and Tam MacDonald?
- Write a letter to the author, Richard MacAndrew, telling him why you liked or didn't like the book.
- Make a quiz for other students to do. e.g. Write some 'Who said what?' questions.
- Word search. There are 10 words from the story in this puzzle. How many can you find?

P	M	O	X	I	E	C	B	H	R
I	N	S	P	E	C	T	O	R	E
O	S	O	L	D	I	E	R	G	S
T	Z	L	E	V	O	S	A	I	T
S	C	I	E	N	T	I	S	T	A
A	B	R	K	E	R	D	K	E	U
N	O	G	A	R	D	O	N	Y	R
G	D	I	A	R	M	Y	I	O	A
R	Y	M	I	R	O	W	F	V	N
Y	M	U	R	D	E	R	E	R	T

- Here is the blurb from another book at this level.

### The Double Bass Mystery

Penny Wade is a musician. She is enjoying her first visit to Barcelona with her orchestra. But her double bass is lost, and then someone with her orchestra dies. The police want to know what happened, and Penny's life changes as she also slowly learns the truth.

Do you want to read *The Double Bass Mystery*?