

UPPER LEVEL

L.A. Movie by Philip Prowse

A Before Reading

- 1 Lenny Samuel, the main character in this book, is a private detective. There are lots of famous fictional private detectives, in books and films. Make a list of the ones you know. Which ones are your favourites? Why?
- 2 Look at *The People in This Story* on pages 5 to 6. Choose some of the characters – up to ten – and write a short story about them. Write about 1000 words. Do not try to find out what they do in this book. Imagine that your story will be made into a movie. Include lots of action.

B While Reading

3



Gail Lane

Here is Gail Lane. She is an important character in this story. Write the names of these eight characters, and write a few notes about how each of them is connected with Gail in the story. Make notes as you read.



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(b).....

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(c).....

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(d).....

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(e).....

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(f).....

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(g).....

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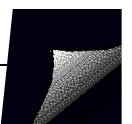
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(h).....

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- 4 This book is written in the *first person* Lenny Samuel himself tells the story, so the story is told from Lenny's *point of view*. As you read, make some notes about the things which happen, but from the points of view of (a) Mike Levine; and (b) three characters – Captain Roberto Garcia, Costas and Toni Trenton – who only know about small parts of the story. Write a few sentences about the story from the point of view of each of these four people.

C After Reading

- 5 Write a conversation between Lenny and Costas. The conversation takes place at Crazy Ellen's the day after the end of the story. Here is the start –



Lenny : Hi Costas! I'm back again! Guess what has been happening to me!

Costas: I can't guess Len. Tell me about it, but tell me real fast. I'm going to see my old mother in two minutes!

Lenny : Well, it started...



- 6 Rik hired Lenny to protect Gail Lane.
 (a) Why? Is there more than one reason? Is there a reason which is not given in the story? You should think about what Rik really wanted to happen.
 (b) At the end of the story, Lenny makes a decision about Rik. Do you agree with Lenny's decision?
- 7 You are going to make a movie. It is *Death Behind the Door*. Write some notes about the plot. The plot must include the characters and scenes which are being filmed in this story (i.e. the person climbing on a mountain, the scene in the Recoleta Cemetery, the car chase in Istanbul), but they must happen as they were *meant* to happen, not as they happen in this book. E.g. the woman on the mountain does *not* fall off the rope. The plot can include anything else you want, and you can add any characters you want to add. Choose one of the pictures in this book to be part of a poster for the film. Describe what you would add to the picture to make it into the film poster. Choose some real film stars who you would like to be in your movie.
- 8 Many of the scenes in this book happen in real places in real cities. Look at the chapters about the car chase through Istanbul (Chapters 16 – 18). All the places mentioned in these chapters are real places. Imagine that you are in a car chase through a town or city in your own country. Write a description of the chase. You are in the car which is being chased. Write the description in the first person, i.e. from your own point of view. Give the chase an exciting end. (If you live in Istanbul, choose a different route, and don't cross the Galata Bridge!)

