

People in the story

Luke Robinson: a fourteen-year-old boy

Alex Brown: also fourteen; Luke's neighbour

Jet: a black panther

Mrs Robinson: Luke's mother

Mrs Brown: Alex's mother

Mr Clark: one of Luke's teachers

BEFORE YOU READ



- 1 Look at 'People in the story' and the pictures in the first two chapters. Answer the question.

Which characters are in these first two chapters?

.....

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answer to *Before you read* on page 4.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Complete the sentences with the names in the box.

Luke (x2) Alex (x4) Jet (x2)

- 1 Luke tells the story in Chapter 1.
- 2 is bored with life.
- 3 wants to be free.
- 4 doesn't like school.
- 5 is very strong and dangerous.
- 6 gets angry very easily.
- 7 enjoys doing bad things.
- 8 doesn't like trouble.

- 3 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 The woman with the phone has got *two* / three children.
- 2 The boy begins to cry because *he falls over* / *Alex steals the phone*.
- 3 Luke thinks that Alex is going to *steal the mother's phone* / *help the mother*.
- 4 *Alex* / *Luke* runs faster than his friend.
- 5 Luke *is* / *isn't* happy that Alex stole the phone.
- 6 Alex is *the same as* / *different from* when he was a child.
- 7 Jet often dreams about *light* / *her next meal*.
- 8 This *is* / *isn't* the first time Jet has killed.
- 9 The man lives *with his family* / *on his own*.

4 What do the underlined words refer to in these lines from the text?

- 1 'Did you see the size of him?' (page 6) *the man in the car*
- 2 'They've taken my phone!' (page 7)
- 3 'It won't be her, Luke,' he said. (page 8)
- 4 'Why won't it work?' (page 8)
- 5 Earlier that day, when Jet had thrown herself against it, something had broken. (page 11)
- 6 As her sharp teeth closed on his neck (page 13)
.....

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 Why does Alex steal the mobile phone?
Because everything is boring.
- 2 Why does Alex say 'stupid thing' to the phone?
.....
- 3 How long have Alex and Luke been friends?
.....
- 4 Why is Jet unhappy?
.....
- 5 Where does Jet go when she escapes?
.....

LOOKING FORWARD

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6 Tick (✓) what you think happens in the next two chapters.

- 1 Luke and Alex meet Jet and have an adventure. ☐
- 2 Jet kills again. ☐

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answer to *Looking forward* on page 15.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Put the sentences in order.

- 1 Alex and Luke take off their jumpers. ☐
- 2 Luke's mum goes to work. ☒
- 3 Alex comes out of his house. ☐
- 4 Alex and Luke go to the Heath. ☐
- 5 Luke puts his school books in his bag. ☐
- 6 Alex's cigarette falls to the ground. ☐
- 7 Alex's mum comes to the door. ☐
- 8 Alex says he wants to go to the Heath after school. ☐

- 3 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- 1 Luke's mum is going out ☒
 - 2 Luke's mum works hard ☐
 - 3 Alex's mum wants him to come home ☐
 - 4 Alex takes a lighter ☐
 - 5 The animals stay ☐
 - 6 Jet hides ☐
- a after school.
 - b from his school bag.
 - c in the darkness.
 - d at her job.
 - ~~e~~ after work.
 - f under the ground.

4 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Alex's dad isn't at home very often. ☒
- 2 Alex and his mum argue a lot. ☐
- 3 Alex's mum has a job. ☐
- 4 Jet eats two rabbits. ☐
- 5 The animals hide from Jet. ☐

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 Why is Alex's dad often away from home?

.....

- 2 What did Luke and Alex do on the Heath when they were children?

.....

- 3 Who is Rob?

.....

- 4 Why doesn't Luke like smoking?

.....

- 5 What is the 'strange orange light' that Jet sees?

.....

LOOKING FORWARD



6 Answer the questions.

- 1 Luke's teacher wants to speak to him. What do you think he says?

.....

- 2 Jet is very hungry. What do you think she eats?

.....

- 3 Luke finds something on the Heath. What do you think it is?

.....

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Looking forward* on page 25.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 Luke *looks* / *doesn't look* at Mr Clark's face.
- 2 Mr Clark speaks to Luke about *his writing* / *the Heath burning*.
- 3 Luke's mum is *going out* / *working late* tonight.
- 4 Now Jet is afraid of *people* / *the strange orange light*.
- 5 Luke feels sick because *the Heath was burnt* / *the people were talking about him*.
- 6 The last thing Luke finds is a *plastic bag* / *dog's collar*.
- 7 Luke *thinks* / *doesn't think* the noise in the woods was a deer.
- 8 Luke *phones* / *doesn't phone* Westy's owner.

- 3 Complete the sentences with the names in the box.

Mr Clark (x2)	Westy's owner	Luke (x3)	Alex	Jet
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- 1 Mr Clark is Luke's English teacher.
- 2 's work hasn't been as good as usual recently.
- 3 was happy when the Heath burned.
- 4 thinks that Luke can write well.
- 5 doesn't want to be on his own at home.
- 6 can smell people.
- 7 is worried about his dog.
- 8 finds a dog's collar.

4 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Mr Clark is going to write to Luke's mother. ☒
- 2 Luke still feels sad about his dad. ☐
- 3 Mr Clark says that Luke should write about the Heath again. ☐
- 4 Luke lies to Mr Clark. ☐
- 5 Jet has eaten some rabbits. ☐
- 6 Westy dies quickly. ☐
- 7 Luke doesn't like playing football. ☐
- 8 Luke runs away when he finds the name tag. ☐

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 What does Mr Clark think Luke's problem is?
.....
- 2 How has the Heath changed since the fire?
.....
- 3 Why does Luke look for the dog?
.....
- 4 What has happened to Westy?
.....
- 5 What exactly does Luke see in the trees at the end of Chapter 7?
.....

LOOKING FORWARD

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6 Tick (✓) what you think happens in the next three chapters.

- 1 Luke goes to look for Jet again. ☐
- 2 Alex starts another fire. ☐

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answer to *Looking forward* on page 37.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Put the sentences about Luke in order.

- 1 He picks up Westy's fur. ☐
- 2 He almost has a fight with Alex. ☐
- 3 He asks his mum to stay at home. ☐
- 4 He finds some animal tracks. ☐
- 5 He meets Alex before school. ☒
- 6 He burns the pizza. ☐
- 7 He sees Alex sitting on a wooden seat. ☐
- 8 He sits on his mum's bed. ☐

- 3 What do the underlined words refer to in these lines from the text?

- 1 I'd kept it to give to his owner, but I hadn't phoned him yet.
(page 38) Westy's collar
- 2 I had cut it running through the trees the day before.
(page 38)
- 3 They stopped the sun from getting through and drying it out.
(page 40)
- 4 He was using it to cut into the seat. (page 42)
.....
- 5 We'll do it tomorrow, OK? (page 45)
- 6 I threw it away. (page 46)

4 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- 1 Alex doesn't know ☒ b
- 2 Luke watched films ☐
- 3 Alex is sitting ☐
- 4 Luke is very angry ☐
- 5 Luke's mum looks ☐
- 6 Jet runs back ☐
- a on a wooden seat.
- ~~b~~ about Jet.
- c into the trees.
- d with his dad.
- e with Alex.
- f at her watch.

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 Why does Luke know all about tracks in the ground?
.....
- 2 What is Westy's owner's name?
.....
- 3 Why doesn't Luke want his mum to go out?
.....
- 4 Why doesn't Jet leave the Heath?
.....

LOOKING FORWARD

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6 Answer the questions.

- 1 Luke has a plan for Jet. What do you think it is?
.....
- 2 Chapter 11 is called 'Arguing'. Who do you think argues?
.....

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Looking forward* on page 49.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Luke thinks the cat will stop killing if he gives it meat. ☒ T
- 2 Luke doesn't have lunch because he doesn't feel well. ☐
- 3 Luke and his mum don't have much fun these days. ☐
- 4 The meat in the fridge was bad. ☐
- 5 Luke doesn't want to meet his mum's new friend. ☐
- 6 Luke buys some cheap meat. ☐
- 7 Jet disappears after she jumps on Alex. ☐
- 8 Luke doesn't want to be Alex's friend any more. ☐

- 3 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- 1 Luke doesn't use the bathroom because ☒ b
 - 2 Luke doesn't have lunch because ☐
 - 3 Luke turns the shower on because ☐
 - 4 Luke doesn't see Alex following him because ☐
 - 5 Luke doesn't want anyone to catch Jet because ☐
 - 6 Luke doesn't want to see Alex again because ☐
- a he wants the money to buy meat for Jet.
 - ~~b~~ he doesn't want to wake his mum.
 - c he gets him into trouble.
 - d he doesn't want to listen to his mum.
 - e they might kill her.
 - f he is thinking about Jet.

4 Read the sentences from the text and answer the questions.

- 1 I could feel my mouth like a hard line across my face.
(page 55) How do you think Luke is feeling here?
.....
- 2 'Friends spend time together.' (page 57) What is Alex saying here?
.....
- 3 It was all my fault. (page 62) Why does Luke feel bad?
.....

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 Why does Luke think about getting a part-time job?
.....
- 2 Who is Sam?
.....
- 3 Why doesn't Luke sleep well that night?
.....
- 4 Why does Jet attack Alex?
.....
- 5 Why does Luke try to start a fire?
.....

LOOKING FORWARD

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6 What do you think happens in the final chapters?

- 1 The police look for Jet and
.....
- 2 Luke and his mum
.....

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Looking forward* on page 67.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 Luke is waiting at the hospital with *Mrs Brown* / a policewoman.
- 2 Luke's mum *is* / *isn't* angry with him.
- 3 The policewoman leaves the room to *tell someone about the cat* / *leave Luke and his mum to talk*.
- 4 Luke's mum will continue to be busy because she *has to work* / *wants to go out with the girls*.
- 5 Luke thinks that his dad *would* / *wouldn't* be happy for his mum to go out with Sam.
- 6 Luke's mum *understands* / *doesn't understand* why he wants to go to a new school.
- 7 Jet doesn't sleep because she *wants to walk while it is dark* / *is hungry*.

- 3 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 There are a lot of people at the hospital. ☒ T
- 2 Luke's mum is waiting at the hospital when he arrives. ☐
- 3 Luke doesn't have a drink. ☐
- 4 At first the policeman isn't sure if Luke is telling the truth. ☐
- 5 Luke's mum loves him more than she loves Sam. ☐
- 6 Luke is very happy when the policewoman tells him that Alex is OK. ☐
- 7 Luke gives Jet her name. ☐

4 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- 1 Mrs Brown is the first to ☒
- 2 The policeman wants to ☐
- 3 Luke is worried that Jet is going to ☐
- 4 Luke's mum is going to ☐
- 5 Luke wants to ☐
- 6 Luke doesn't want to ☐
- 7 At the zoo, Jet can ☐

- a see Sam again.
- b smell other panthers.
- c die.
- d visit Alex.
- ~~e~~ arrive at the hospital.
- f get away from Alex.
- g talk to Luke.

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 Why is Luke thinking about his dad at the hospital?

.....

- 2 Why does the policeman leave the room?

.....

- 3 Why does Luke want to move house?

.....

- 4 Do you think Jet is happy in the end?

.....

- 5 Why does Luke call the panther Jet?

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