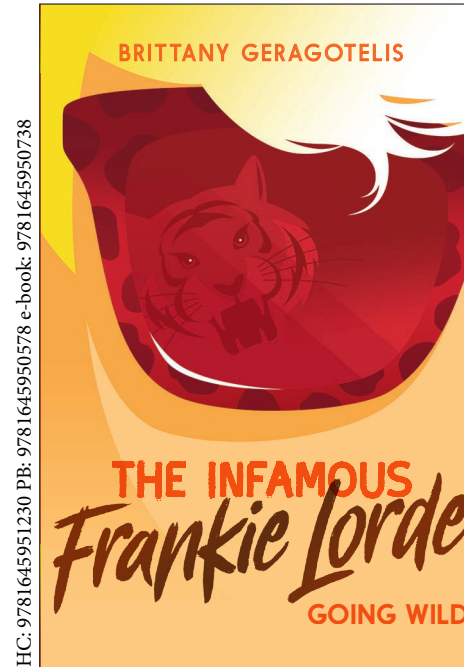
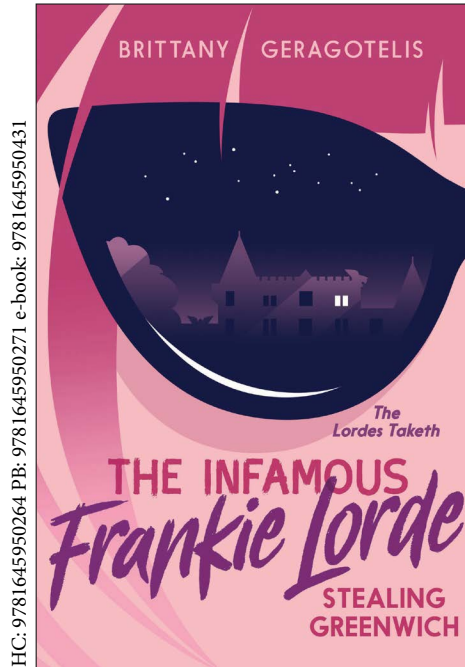


READING GROUP GUIDE

THE INFAMOUS *Frankie Lorde* SERIES



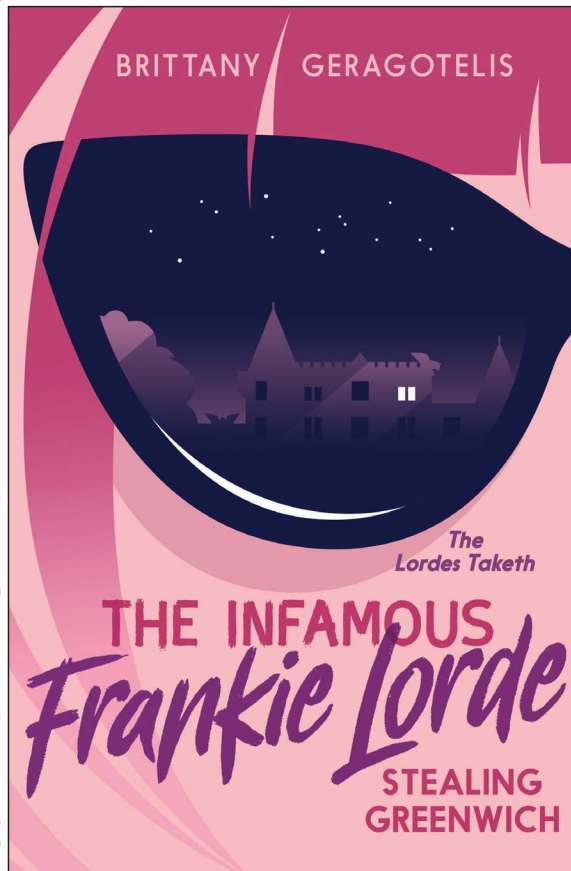
ABOUT THE SERIES

A pre-teen international thief turns over a new leaf (sort of) to right societal wrongs in her snooty new town in this upper middle grade series starter.

The series begins with *Stealing Greenwich*. Frankie Lorde and her dad have been a team for as long as Frankie can remember. Being a student under the man responsible for some of the world's biggest heists has given Frankie a unique perspective on the world. And a special set of life skills. Frankie can spot an FBI agent in a second. Pick a lock in two seconds. Steal a Bugatti in three. But then Dad is arrested. Frankie is sent to Greenwich, Connecticut and learns that maybe she can use her skills to even the score of the community's wealth gap.

Going Wild follows *Stealing Greenwich*. After pulling off a high stakes heist and with the realization that her time in Connecticut will be much longer than originally planned, Frankie has found herself starting to get restless. Sessions of volunteering at a local animal shelter quickly turn into a plot to free the exotic animals rumored to be held captive at an elite Greenwich animal farm.

HC: 978-1-6459-5026-4 • Grades 5-9



THE INFAMOUS *Frankie Lorde* STEALING GREENWICH

by BRITTANY GERAGOTELIS

ABOUT THE BOOK

A new series for upper middle graders about a girl who lived as an international thief, and now must return to the real world whether she likes it or not. And she does not. . . .

Frankie Lorde and her dad have been a team for as long as Frankie can remember. Being a student under the man responsible for some of the world's biggest heists has given Frankie a unique perspective on the world. And a special set of life skills. Frankie can spot an FBI agent in a second. Pick a lock in two seconds. Steal a Bugatti in three. But then Dad is arrested.

Frankie is sent to live with her uncle, her dad's brother who she barely knows and is, ironically, a cop. Now Frankie must go to middle school and learn what suburban kids wear and eat. Frankie is now in Greenwich, Connecticut, one of the richest towns in America. Seeing the starkness of super rich and the super not-rich who support the community gives Frankie an idea. Maybe she can use her skills for doing good and even the score.

READING GROUP DISCUSSION

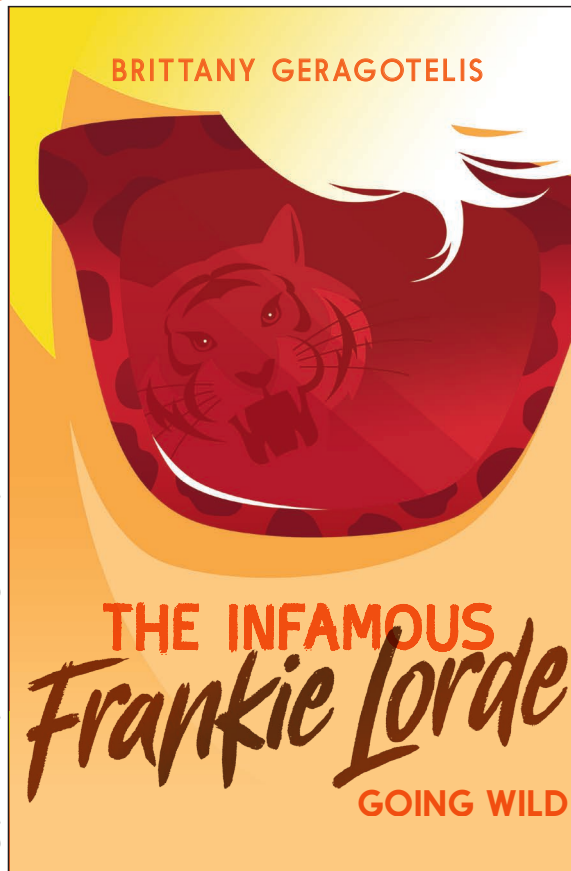
- Study the book's cover. What does it mean to be "infamous"? Why is the title of the book ironic?
- Discuss the structure and the point of view presented in *The Infamous Frankie Lorde: Stealing Greenwich*. How are the two related? How do the structure and the point of view enhance the meaning and tone of the story?
- Describe how the author uses the character Dr. Deerchuck to give the reader background knowledge on the setting, plot, and character development. Did you find it to be an effective way of telling the story?
- Describe Frankie's character. What does Frankie want people to believe about her as a person? Do you think people often believe the persona that she outwardly portrays? What events in Frankie's life have shaped her as an Individual? How does the author introduce Frankie's unique perspective of the world at the beginning of the novel? What are Frankie's strengths and what are her weaknesses? How does the author reveal these without Frankie explicitly stating them?

- How does Frankie describe Greenwich, Connecticut? What details does the author include that help to visualize and imagine this environment? Describe the impact the setting has on the story. How is Frankie's life influenced by the town?
- What role does Uncle Scotty play in the book? Why is the relationship between Uncle Scotty and Frankie ironic? Despite their differences, what do Uncle Scotty and Frankie have in common? Do you think Uncle Scotty was a good choice as guardian for Frankie? How do you think Frankie's dad would feel about how his daughter is doing in middle school as a student, as a friend, and as a thief?
- What roles do Ollie and Annabelle play in the story? Describe important details about these main characters as well as some of the supporting characters in the book. How do these details allow you to develop a better understanding of the characters, their actions, and their opinions?
- What conflicts does Frankie face in the story? Consider specifically some of the problems she encounters with people, with society, and with herself. How does her personality and her point of view affect these problems? After experiencing these conflicts, how does Frankie grow as a person? What has she learned?
- Which characteristics of the mystery genre are portrayed throughout the book? Find specific examples of how the author integrates these characteristics. Did the author answer the pressing questions you had? What were those questions? Did she reveal truths about characters falsely suspected?
- Did the conclusion relate clearly to the beginning of the story? Did the ending leave you feeling like you wanted more? A sequel? What can you take away with you as a reader? What did you learn from the story?
- What are the different themes in the book? How are the themes of friendship, trust, karma, and villain versus hero interwoven throughout the story? Explain how specific events in the book relate to the themes.
- Is Frankie a hero or is she a villain? Is it possible for her to be both? At which point in the story does Frankie appear to lean more toward a hero than a villain? When does she lean more toward a villain than a hero?

Initial Reactions: Describe how you felt when . . .

- Frankie and her dad were sitting in the café in Paris
- Frankie was taken away from her father
- you met Uncle Scotty
- Ollie first held the door for Frankie
- Frankie sat in the hearing with Uncle Scotty at the courthouse and listened to Mrs. Martinez's story
- Annabelle read her journal entry to the class
- Ollie revealed that he knew who Frankie really was
- Uncle Scotty asked Frankie questions about Ollie and invited him over for dinner
- Ollie and Frankie went undercover as watch cleaners
- Frankie and Ollie walked into the Gala
- Frankie was attempting to switch the cell phones
- Miles' security guard saw Frankie coming out of the private office
- Frankie stood up to Annabelle in the cafeteria
- Ollie and Frankie finally share their feelings of true friendship

HC: 978-1-6459-5026-4 • Grades 5-9



THE INFAMOUS *Frankie Lorde* GOING WILD by BRITTANY GERAGOTELIS

ABOUT THE BOOK

For Frankie, using her less-than-legal set of skills to pull a heist against a crooked real estate mogul with the help of her new friend Ollie was super gratifying, but she's getting restless now. And with her no end in sight for her dad's prison sentence, she's finally coming to terms with the fact that she may be in Connecticut for a lot longer than she expected.

Volunteering at a local animal shelter over school break, Frankie and Ollie hear that there's a dangerous exotic animal farm supplying Greenwich's elite with lions and tigers and bears. (Oh my!) Feeling an instant kinship with the endangered creatures locked away in their cages, Frankie makes it her mission to find the perpetrators, free the beautiful beasts, and ensnare the bad guys in a trap of her own.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- In the first book of the series, *Stealing Greenwich*, the reader learns that Frankie is the daughter of Tom Lorde, "the most notorious international thief in the modern world". In *Going Wild*, Frankie says, "the student has become the teacher." (p. 1) What skills has Frankie learned from her father about being a thief? Who is her student? Contrast Frankie's teaching method with that of her father. Why does Ollie want to meet Frankie's father?
- Frankie's father is in prison. Discuss Uncle Scotty's reaction when Frankie talks with her dad on the telephone. Frankie finally gets to visit her dad in prison. How does Uncle Scotty give Frankie and Tom space? Describe Frankie's visit with her dad. What goes wrong? Explain what she means, "I was conflicted." (p. 41)
- Western Middle School requires students to do community service during vacation. Frankie and Ollie volunteer at The Farm, an animal rescue facility. What is Frankie's attitude toward The Farm when she and Ollie show up for work on the first day? How does working at The Farm give them an idea for their next heist? Explain how Frankie's views about animal rescue changes by the end of the novel.
- In Connecticut, it's illegal to own a level-one wild animal. Frankie and Ollie learn that the FBI has come across a Bengal tiger belonging to Christian Miles. How do they know Christian Miles? Explain why Frankie feels bad for the tiger. Discuss why people like Christian Miles, and Emma and Sam Brasko deal in exotic animals. Frankie thinks that by stopping the supply of exotic animals, there would be no demand. Discuss Frankie and Ollie's process in identifying and stopping the supply of wild animals.

- Frankie understands that to pull off a great heist, a thief must: find the mark, devise the plan, execute the plan, and disappear rich. Discuss how Frankie and Ollie follow these steps in the exotic animal heist. How do they get Emma and Sam Brasko to talk? Debate whether the information that Cap'n Bob provides is intentional or unintentional.
- Explain the difference in “clean money” and “dirty money”. How does Frankie propose to turn “dirty money” into “clean money”? Why is Emma and Sam’s ledger a clue for making this happen? Explain the anonymous donation to the sanctuary, an exotic animal rescue.
- Frankie thinks that home is with her dad. Explain what she means, “Uncle Scotty’s place was like a family vacation. A layover from moving to our next destination.” (p. 46). Angus, her father’s friend, contacts Frankie and offers for her to go on adventures with him. Explain Frankie’s decision to stay with Uncle Scotty. What does Ollie have to do with her decision? Discuss why Ollie shows Frankie where he lives. How does Geronimo, a cat at The Farm, become a symbol of home.
- At the beginning of the novel, Frankie says, “We’re literally playing cops and robbers here.” (p. 4). Make the argument that Frankie and Ollie play both roles.
- Explain the title, *Going Wild*. Debate whether there is a double meaning,

CONNECTING THE SERIES

- Contrast Frankie’s relationship with Uncle Scotty in *Stealing Greenwich* with that in *Going Wild*.
- In the series, Frankie records her hopes, dreams, and fears in a journal. Identify her hopes, dreams and fears. Debate whether these change with each new book in the series.
- In *Going Wild*, Frank worries that she is becoming someone she doesn’t recognize. Contrast the Frankie in *Stealing Greenwich* with who she becomes in *Going Wild*. In what ways might she continue to grow now that she has become a little more altruistic?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Brittany Geragotelis, a former Olympic-bound gymnast and a magazine editor, is a self-professed pop-culture junkie turned author. *Stealing Greenwich* is the first book in her new series, *The Infamous Frankie Lorde*. Her paranormal action book *Life’s a Witch* received 18 million reads on the writing site Wattpad.com. *What the Spell* is the first published book in the series, followed by *Life’s a Witch* and *The Witch Is Back*. Brittany lives in Los Angeles with her husband, Matt, and two cats.