

# Magic Mates



and the *Holiday of Horrors*



RISEING★STARS

*Jane West*





# Magic Mates

## and the Holiday of Horrors

Jane West



Illustrated by

*Stik*

RISING★STARS

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# Meet the Magic Mates

The Magic Mates are best friends – but that doesn't mean they're all alike.

Name: *Izzie*



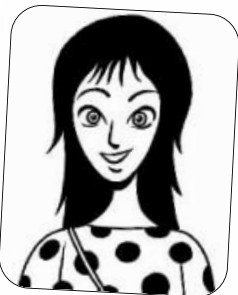
**The sporty one:** can climb trees, surf and take on the boys at their own game – and win.

**Travels by:** running!

**Loves:** trendy tracksuits, open skies and sandy beaches.

**Hates:** standing still.

Name: *Meena*



**The girly one:** uses her mobile for networking and planning her social life.

**Travels by:** Mum's car (her personal chauffeur).

**Loves:** pink and her Magic Mates.

**Hates:** breaking a nail.

**Name:** *Ginger*



**The ginger one:** you don't wanna mess with this feisty gal – the Kung Fu and quick quip queen!

**Travels by:** push-scooter.

**Loves:** Jackie Chan and her Magic Mate pals.

**Hates:** nail extensions.

**Name:** Jo



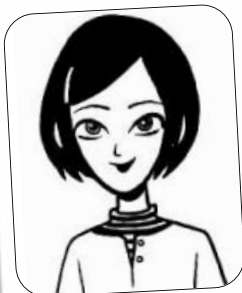
**The clever one:** uses her brains and quick wit to talk her way out of trouble. Sometimes she's a bit too quick.

**Travels by:** bicycle and is designing a pair of motorised rollerblades.

**Loves:** Jacqueline Wilson, Cathy Cassidy and Albert Einstein.

**Hates:** being called 'geek', 'nerd', 'swot' or 'boffin'.

**Name:** Ellie



**The fashion-conscious one:** can tell her Prada from her Asda and knows how to accessorise.

**Travels by:** limousine, of course!  
(But only in her dreams.)

**Loves:** shopping.

**Hates:** anything to do with getting dirty;  
anyone who upsets her Magic Mates.

**Name:** Yash



**The funky punky one:** the 'alternative' one of the gang who hugs trees, people and furry animals.

**Travels by:** skateboard.

**Loves:** having a good time.

**Hates:** bullies.

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## The Sun Always Shines



The Magic Mates are off on their holidays. It wasn't easy deciding where to go because they all like doing different things. But Izzie's mum thinks she has the perfect solution – Aunty Viv's caravan by the seaside. It sounds wonderful: sun, sea and sand, and all the Magic Mates together.



- Izzie** Look! I can see the sea!
- Meena** And the sun is shining.
- Jo** We must be nearly there.
- Izzie** Mum said Aunty Viv  
would meet us at the station  
and take us to the caravan.

**Aunty Viv** Hi, Izzie. These must be your friends. Hello, everyone. I can tell you're going to have a good week.

**Jo** Did the weather on TV show sunshine?

**Aunty Viv** I haven't got a TV – but I read it in my crystal ball.

**Yash** Pardon?



**Izzie** Aunty Viv is ... a bit different.

**Aunty Viv** That's me! Well, who wants to be the same as everyone else?

**Ginger** Too right!

**Ellie** Are we going in your van?

**Aunty Viv** Yes. This way, girls.

**Meena** At least it's not a broomstick.





The girls climb in the van and soon they're bumping down a country road. The windows are down, and they can smell the sea.

**Aunty Viv** Here we are, girls.

**Meena** Oh, it's so beautiful!  
Are we staying in that caravan?

**Aunty Viv** Yes, it's all yours for a whole week, but my friend, Mrs Pengelly, is just over there in the farmhouse. Here's her phone number, just in case.

**Izzie** Wow, thanks, Aunty Viv!



**Aunty Viv** There's a tap outside,  
and you can wash in the stream.  
It's not too cold. You can get  
fresh milk, eggs and bread from  
Mrs Pengelly every morning.  
And if you leave her a list,  
she'll get you some food  
from the supermarket, too.  
Oh, and you'll find I've put some  
chocolate and fruit juice  
in the caravan already.



**Izzie** Thanks, Aunty Viv.  
You're the best!

**Aunty Viv** If you need anything,  
just give me a call  
or Mrs Pengelly can help you.

**Ellie** Do you have a telephone?

**Aunty Viv** Yes, but you can borrow  
my crystal ball if you like.

**Izzie** You're teasing us!



**Aunty Viv** Just a bit!

Oh, one thing  
I should say,  
don't go down  
to the house beyond the lake –  
they're not too keen on visitors.  
And don't worry if you hear  
any howling. Have a good  
holiday, girls!

**Ellie** I hope she was joking  
about the howling!

**Meena** I hope she was joking about  
washing in the stream!

**Jo** I don't think so. There's no shower in here, just six bunk beds and a little cooker. Er, Meena, I don't know how to tell you this, but the loo is in that shed under the tree.

**Meena** Outside?

**Izzie** It's a caravan – everything is outside.

**Ginger** It'll be fun.

**Yash** It's an adventure.



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## Things That Go Bump in the Night

It's the first night and Meena wakes up. It's dark and she can hear rain on the caravan roof. Worse still, her sleeping bag is getting wet. The caravan is leaking.



**Meena** Oh no! I'm being rained on!  
It's making me want to go to the  
loo. I don't want to go out to that  
horrid shed in the rain by myself.

**Izzie** Meena! You woke me up.  
What's the matter?



**Meena** I hate it here! The loo is outside,  
there's no shower, the field  
has turned into a bog and now  
I'm getting rained on in bed!  
If we stay here any longer,  
they'll need to rescue us by boat!

**Izzie** I'll phone Mrs Pengelly.  
She'll come and get us.  
At least her house should be dry.

Izzie picks up her mobile phone.  
But there's a problem.

**Izzie** Oh no!

**Meena** What now?

**Izzie** I can't get a signal. We'll have  
to go to Mrs Pengelly's house.

**Meena** I'll come with you.

**Izzie** You'll get soaked.



**Meena** I'm already soaked but I'm not letting you go off in the dark by yourself. I'll write a note to let the others know where we've gone in case they wake up.

The girls pull on some shoes and coats and head off to the farmhouse carrying torches. It's hard to see with the rain blowing in their faces. Soon they are lost.



**Meena**     Where's the farmhouse?

**Izzie**        I don't know. We must have missed it in the dark.

**Meena**        But that's impossible.

**Izzie**        If we walk up the hill, we might be able to see it.



The girls are cold and wet and fed up. It doesn't look like it can get any worse – but it can. They jump when they hear something howling.

**Meena**    Aaaaaaaaagh!

**Izzie**     What was that?



## Out of the Frying Pan ...



Meena and Izzie have been scared by something howling. It sounds big. And it sounds like it's close.

**Meena** I'm scared!

**Izzie** Me too. At least the rain has stopped.

**Meena** Yes, 'cos it really helps to see what's about to eat you!

**Izzie** We're not going to be eaten.  
There haven't been any  
wild wolves in Britain for ages.

**Meena** What about bears?

**Izzie** There aren't any bears either.

**Meena** What about lions?

**Izzie** Sssh. I heard something.



A loud howl echoes across the fields.

**Meena** Can we run now?

**Izzie** Yes! This way!



The girls run as fast as they can.  
Suddenly Izzie stops and Meena  
almost bumps into her.

**Meena** Why have you stopped running?

**Izzie** I've got a signal on my phone!

**Meena** Thank goodness!

**Izzie** Mrs Pengelly, it's Izzie.  
The caravan is leaking,  
everything is wet and we're lost!  
Can you come and get us?

**Mrs P** Oh dear. I'll come out  
to find you. I'm so glad  
your phone works – you can't  
always get a signal  
in the caravan.

**Izzie** We had to go outside.



**Mrs P** Do you know where you are?

**Izzie** Er ... not exactly.  
We thought we knew how  
to get to your house,  
but we got lost.

**Mrs P** What can you see, Izzie?

**Izzie** Not a lot. Oh, hang on.  
There's a big house near  
a lake ...

**Mrs P** No, no, NO!  
Don't move, I'll ...

**Izzie** Oh no! Stupid phone.  
Don't cut out again now!





But it's too late. A huge wolf  
is grinning at them.  
And it has very sharp teeth.

**Meena** You're good with animals.  
Talk to it.

**Izzie** I'm good with animals,  
not monsters. Er ... good boy.  
Sit. Stay ... I don't think  
it's working.

## ... And Into the Fire!



The girls are really scared.  
The monster wolf is coming closer.

**Meena** Let's run for it!

**Izzie** No, that's the worst thing  
you can do. He would think  
you're afraid.

**Meena** He'd be right!



The wolf's eyes glow yellow in the moonlight. Izzie thinks that screaming might be a good idea. Meena is thinking about fainting. Then they hear a voice.

**Mrs P**     Down, Grizzly. Leave those poor girls alone. Girls, don't be scared of the wolf. He won't hurt you. He's just being nosey.

**Meena** Izzie, I told you I heard a wolf.  
You said there weren't  
any wild wolves!

**Mrs P** Grizzly isn't a wild wolf.  
He lives at the animal centre  
by the lake, but he gets out  
sometimes.



**Izzie** So that was why Aunty Viv told us to keep away from here.

**Mrs P** Yes, because Grizzly gets scared if there are too many people around. There aren't any wild wolves left in Britain. Even if there were, they'd be more afraid of you.

**Meena** I'm not sure about that!





**Izzie** Why do you call him ‘Grizzly’?  
It makes him sound scary.

**Mrs P** It’s supposed to be a joke,  
because Grizzly is really a bit  
of a scaredy cat.

**Izzie** You might want to work  
on your jokes, Mrs Pengelly!



**Mrs P** I'm just not sure how you got here when you were trying to find my house.

**Izzie** We got in a bit of a muddle when the caravan started leaking. You are closer than Aunty Viv, so we tried to phone you. We had to go outside. Then I lost the signal on my mobile. We just got lost in the dark.

**Mrs P** My house is just beyond the trees, there, look. Let's go and get dry.

The girls arrive at Mrs Pengelly's. As they sit by the fire in the warm kitchen toasting marshmallows, their adventure doesn't seem so scary.



**Mrs Pengelly**

Oh, you poor dears!  
You've had quite an adventure.  
I bet that silly Grizzly gave you  
a scare.

**Izzie**

You could say that!





**Meena** It was really scary when we heard him howling.

**Mrs P** What do you mean?  
Grizzly doesn't howl.  
He never has.

**Izzie** Well, there was something howling out there – and it wasn't just Meena!

**Mrs P** Oh, I'm sure you imagined it.  
More tea, dears?



Meena and Izzie look at each other. They are both thinking the same thing. It's time to call Aunty Viv to rescue all the Magic Mates and take them to her cottage by the sea. Now *that* sounds more like a holiday from heaven rather than a holiday of horrors!

# About the Author



Jane West has never had a holiday quite like that one, but she knows how spooked you can get if you sit round a camp fire and swap ghost stories or horror stories ...

Jane West:

lives by the beach in Cornwall

likes taking her dog Pip paddling  
in the sea

loves bodyboarding

has worked in an art gallery,  
a bookshop and a school.

Now she's a writer, and has had great fun writing about the Magic Mates. She hopes you liked reading about them.

# Wolf Facts



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*Dogs and wolves are closely related.*

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Wolves come in many shapes, sizes and colours. Some wolves are white (the ones who live in snowy areas); others are brown, grey or black.

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*Wolves can run as fast as 30 miles per hour.*

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Wolf cubs are born with blue eyes. Their eyes turn yellowy-orange as the cubs grow up.

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*A wolf's sense of smell is 100 times better than a human's.*

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*Wolves howl to greet one another.*

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Wolves are good swimmers.

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*The last wild wolf in the UK  
lived over 250 years ago.*

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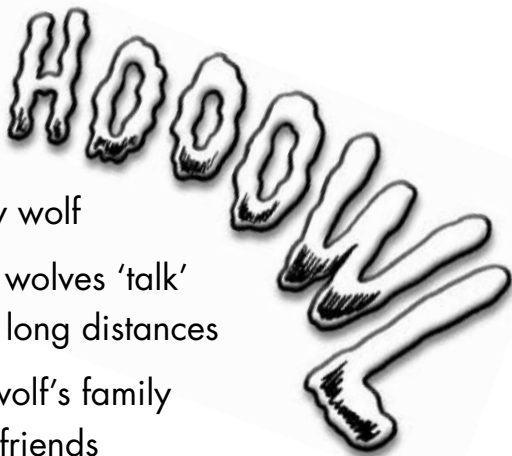
Wolves are related to dogs,  
but they're not dogs.  
You can't have a wolf  
as a pet.

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If you want to find out more wolf facts,  
go to: **[www.everythingwolf.com](http://www.everythingwolf.com)** or  
**[www.wolftrust.org.uk](http://www.wolftrust.org.uk)**.

# Wolf Lingo



- cub** baby wolf
- howl** how wolves 'talk' over long distances
- pack** the wolf's family and friends
- prey** what a wolf eats: usually smaller animals such as rabbits
- lone wolf** an outcast wolf who lives by itself, like Grizzly. A lone wolf rarely howls.

# Not All Wolves Are Baddies!

Do you know  
the ancient legend  
about the twin boys,  
Romulus and Remus?



Some say that their dad was Mars,  
the Roman god of War!

The two baby boys were left by themselves  
in a forest. They were found by a wolf  
who felt sorry for them. She fed them with her  
own milk and looked after them. The boys  
grew up into strong men.

One day, the brothers had a big fight  
and Remus was killed. After this, Romulus  
founded a new city. It became the capital city  
of Italy and was named after him: Rome.

Nobody knows if that story is true,  
but at least the wolf in it was a goodie!

# Izzie's Favourite Wolf Jokes



Why did  
the chicken  
cross the road?

To escape  
from the wolf.



Why did the wolf  
cross the road?



He was chasing  
the chicken!





How do  
wolves eat?

They wolf it down!



What do you  
get when you cross a  
wolf with a glove?

I don't know,  
but I wouldn't want to  
shake hands with it.



# Wolf Quiz

- 1** Can wolves swim?
- 2** Are a wolf's eyes blue?
- 3** Is the city of Rome named after a wolf?
- 4** Is a wolf's sense of smell 50 times better than a human's?
- 5** Do wolves make good pets?



## Answers

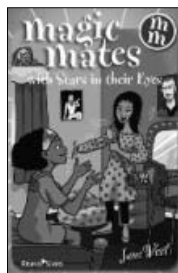
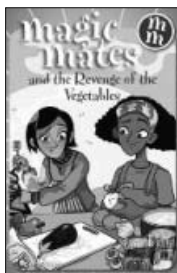
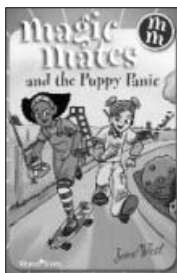
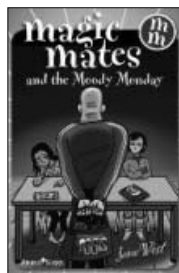
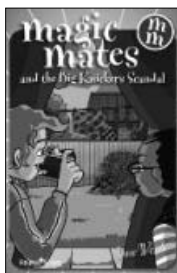
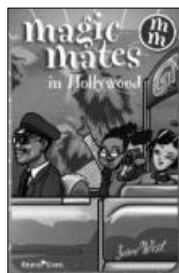
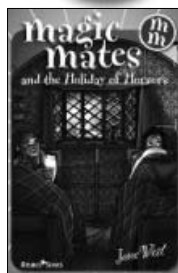
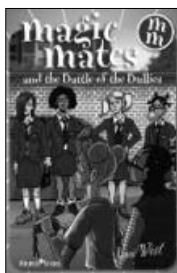
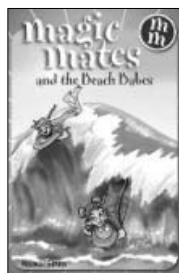
- 1 Yes.
- 2 Only when it is a cub, then they turn yellowy-orange.
- 3 No. It's named after a man called Romulus.
- 4 No. It's 100 times better.
- 5 No. They're wild animals.



### How did you score?

- 0-1** You must be a lone wolf!
- 2-3** You're not a member of the pack yet.
- 4-5** You're the leader of the pack!

# Magic Mates



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or visit [www.risingstars-uk.com](http://www.risingstars-uk.com)

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A dark and stormy night in a cold, leaky caravan is not Meena's idea of a good time. It can't get any worse – or can it? What's that howling noise out there?



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