

1. Department of Sensitive Crimes Author. Alexander McCall Smith

“In the Swedish criminal justice system, certain cases are considered especially strange and difficult. In Malmo, the dedicated detectives who investigate these crimes are members of an elite squad known as the Sensitive Crimes Division. These are their stories.

The team: Ulf “the Wolf” Varg, thoughtful and diligent; Anna Bengtsdotter, in love with Varg’s car (and possibly Varg, too); Carl Holgersson, eager to take on even the most dangerous paperwork; and Erik Nykvist, fly-fishing expert. With the help of a rather verbose local police office, this crack team gets to the bottom of cases others won’t bother to handle, like the small matter of a man stabbed in the back of the knee, an imaginary boyfriend who goes missing, and what seems like a pesky werewolf keeping spa guests awake. Equal parts hilarious and heartening, The Department of Sensitive Crimes is a tour de farce from a true master.

Book Club Questions

1. Why does Ulf Varg need to be in therapy?

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2. What do you think the chapter headed “A Very Low Crime” means?

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3. How do you feel about Bim, Signe, and Matilda's friendship?

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4. Do you think Bim's upbringing had anything to do with why she did what she did?

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5. Do you feel sorry for Hampus? Do you think it justified what he did?

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6. Do you really think Balster is a werewolf?

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7. What about the relationship between Ulf and Anna? Does Anna have feeling for Ulf?

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8. What's your opinion on Blomquist?

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9. Do you think it's possible to teach a dog to read lips like Ulf taught Martin?

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10. Did you like the book?

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