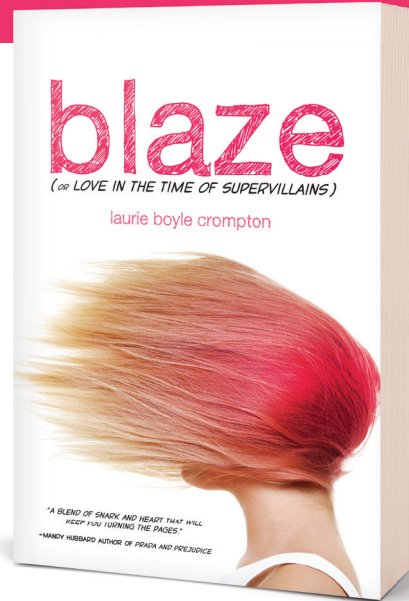


Blaze by Laurie Boyle Crompton

Discussion Guide

The battle royal begins.
But is Blaze ready for the fallout?

Blaze is tired of spending her life on the sidelines. All she wanted was for Mark the Soccer Stud to notice her. But not as that nerdy girl who draws comics and drives a turd-brown minivan. When her BFF texts Mark a photo of Blaze in sexy lingerie, it definitely gets his attention. After a few hot dates, Blaze is doodling hearts and contemplating her imminent girlfriend status when Mark dumps her. Blaze gets her revenge by posting a comic strip featuring uber-villain Mark the Shark. Mark then retaliates by posting her “sext” photo, and suddenly Blaze is gigabytes deep in an epic online battle to the (social) death. That life on the sidelines is looking pretty good right about now...



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



When she was 17, **LAURIE BOYLE CROMPTON** painted her first car hot pink using 40 cans of spray paint. This turned her into an overnight icon in Butler, PA. She now lives near NYC in Queens, but maintains a secret identity in New Paltz, NY, where she and her family can often be found tromping through the forest. Visit www.lboylecrompton.com or [@lbcrompton](https://twitter.com/lbcrompton).

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“Blaze (or Love in the Time of Supervillains) is at turns funny, cringe-worthy, and heartbreaking . . . Don’t miss out.”

—RT Book Reviews

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Discussion Questions



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the reasons why Blaze feels so much like an outsider?
2. Do you think Blaze had too much responsibility in her family? Why or why not?
3. Blaze turns to comics when she needs advice and direction—where do you turn when you are looking for guidance?
4. Where do you think Blaze's obsession with superheroes comes from?
5. Do you trust Mark the Shark in the beginning? Why or why not?
6. How does Blaze feel when Mark pressures her to do something she isn't ready to do? Have your friends pushed you to do something you didn't feel ready to do? How did it make you feel?
7. Blaze is a victim of bullying at her school. Do you think face-to-face bullying is more or less damaging than cyber-bullying, or are they equally hurtful?
8. Do you know anyone who is or was a victim of cyber-bullying? What do you think can be done to stop cyber-bullying?
9. Why was Blaze's reputation questioned for her racy photo and not Mark's?
10. Why do you think Blaze turned to gossip for revenge?
11. Why do you think Blaze fantasizes about being rescued by superheroes? Have you ever felt the need to be rescued?
12. Why do you think Blaze chose to get revenge with her father's prized possession?