

colette

She has a passion for clothing and style, especially anything pink. When she grows up, she wants to be a fashion editor.



violet

She's the bookworm of the group, and she loves learning. She enjoys classical music and dreams of becoming a famouse violinist.



paulina

Cheerful and kind, she loves traveling and meeting rodents from all over the world. She has a magic touch when it comes to technology.

THEA SISTERS



Nicky

She comes from Australia and is very enthusiastic about sports and nature. She loves being outside and is always ready to get up and go!



Pamela

She is a great mechanic: Give her a screwdriver and she'll fix anything! She loves pizza, which she eats every day, and she loves to cook.



Do you want to help the Thea Sisters in this new adventure? It's not hard — just follow the clues!

When you see this magnifying glass, pay attention: It means there's an important clue on the page. Each time one appears, we'll review the clues so we don't miss anything.

ARE YOU READY?
A NEW MYSTERY AWAITS!



At Mouseford Academy, the spring semester was winding down. It was time for Headmaster Octavius de Mousus to deliver his **traditional** end-of-term speech. He straightened his **BOW TIE** and strode into the **GREAT HALL**, but it was **deserted**!

The headmaster stared at the empty seats in dismay. Where were all the students?

Just then, the school handymouse, Boomer Whale, scurried in with a **huge** mop.

"Headmaster! What in the name of **string cheese** are you doing in here?" he asked.

"I was supposed to squeak to the students," the headmaster said. "Where are they?"

Boomer smiled. "Oh, you haven't heard?



The Volcano Chase hits stores today! After *Mystery on Ice*, the students just can't wait for the next installment."

"Volcano? ICE? What are you talking about?" the headmaster asked.

"You know, the latest masterpiece from Vígmar Ratsson, the great mystery writer," Boomer explained. "Haven't you heard of him? His books are total page-turners! I was





up all WGHT reading the last one."

"Um . . . I . . . actually, I don't know who he is. And I don't understand what that has to do with my **STUDENTS** disappearing," the headmaster said grumpily.

Boomer chuckled. "Headmaster, do I really need to spell it out for you? They all scampered off to the bookstore to get their copies!"

Curious, the headmaster headed for the school bookstore. A crowd of students had gathered outside, including the THEA SISTERS — best friends Colette, Nicky, Pam, Paulina, and Violet.

"Headmaster, I didn't know you were a fan of Vígmar Ratsson," **Exclaim** d Violet. "Have you come to get a copy of **The Volcano Chase**?"

"To be honest, I just heard about the book



about five minutes ago. But it must be pretty compelling reading to make everyone **forget** our assembly in the Great Hall," the headmaster replied sternly.

Violet gasped and turned redder than a cheese rind. "Oh, the end-of-term speech!"

"OH NO! We forgot!" Pamela said.

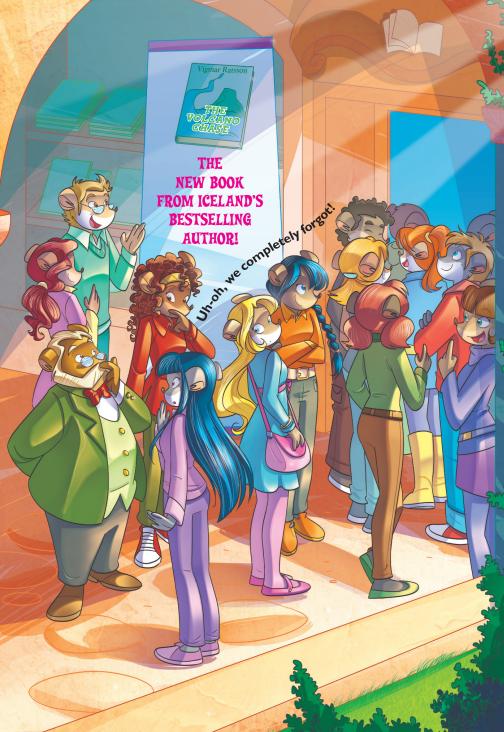
"We're very sorry · · · " Colette added.

"It's just that the book is **HO+** off the presses, and we couldn't wait to get our paws on it," Paulina chimed in.

The headmaster smiled. "Oh, it's all right. What kind of headmaster would I be if I complained about my students reading? But perhaps this means . . ."

The mouselets exchanged a worried L22K: Was the headmaster thinking up a punishment for them?

"... that I should pick up a few BOOKS





by this author myself," the headmaster concluded.

The Thea Sisters burst out laughing.

"You'll go gaga for his stuff, you'll see!" Pam said.

"Ratsson's mysteries will make your heart race. And you'll love the setting — it takes place in the author's homeland, **Iceland!**"

Violet nodded. "That's right. We've learned so much about Iceland's amazing volcanoes and geysers and glaciers."

"Start with the first book, *The Case of the Silver Waterfall*," Colette suggested. "That's the one where Inspector Ólafur investigates a **mysterious** art thief who has a secret hideaway under —"

"Stop, stop!" the headmaster interrupted her. "Don't spoil it! I want to solve the mystery myself . . . Otherwise, where's the fun?"