

QE GIRL



Of the pupils by the pupils and for the pupils

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Room 101: Mr Fielder's pet peeve.

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QE Girls' very own personality quiz

No turning back for new one way system

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We shall "overcomb" the Trump effect

It's crunch time in the biscuit challenge



FIRST EDITION

This is the very first edition of a new magazine written by QE Girls for QE Girls. In it you'll find every type of item - from serious opinion pieces to photo-journalism, funny quizzes & satirical cartoons.

Our aim is to tell you something new, show you what a brilliant school we go to, and make you laugh. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Journalism Club is open to anyone - do come along to a Media Room on a Tuesday lunchtime.

Send your story to rhanley2.302@lgfmail.org



Top Class

by Zara Joseph and Grace Hanley 8MEA

She's been an accountant, a qualified psychotherapist, a maths teacher and now she's our Headteacher.

But did you know her path to success started here at QE Girls?

Yes, Mrs Walker was once one of us, hurrying with her friends to the next lesson. We went to the Headteacher's study to find out more...



Q: What is your fondest memory of QE?

A: 'I remember walking down the corridors, singing to myself, I was just happy to be at school. There wasn't one memory that stands out from the rest. I loved school in general. I took part in debating club and I was the chairman of the International Friendship, where we funded a girl in India and a child in Africa to go to school.'

Q: Who was your Headteacher?

A: 'Miss Marjorie Payne. She was fine. Some people liked her and others didn't, it depended on your behaviour and which side you got of her. Her office is where mine is now but the most noticeable change is that there used to be a light system. You would press a button and a traffic light would come up. Green for go ahead, amber for wait a moment and red for go away! The lights don't work anymore but the button still exists in the PA's office next door.'

Q: What was your favourite lesson/s?

A: 'I liked English, French, Latin and Ancient Greek.'

Q: What was your least favourite lesson/s?

A: 'Geography. The teacher was not popular with anyone but it was a compulsory subject for O levels (the old fashioned GCSE exam). So we had to sit through her dictating the lessons. Years later we were at a QE Guild dinner and the Geography teacher was there - I asked my friends if they wanted to talk to her and none of them did, even though it was all so long ago! I went and had a chat.'

Q: Who was your favourite teacher?

A: 'That's really difficult. Miss Kitto who taught Ancient Greek was a favourite for everyone.'

Q: Which sports did you take part in?

A: 'Every Wednesday we had no lessons and took part in sport. I played lacrosse, netball and did swimming. In lacrosse, I was the goalie because I filled the goal quite well with all the padding on! In the swimming pool, there used to be a diving board, which seemed to be high but really it wasn't. I remember jumping in to the school pool in my pyjamas for my lifesaving badge.'

Q: Did you like the school dinners?

A: 'Yes, my favourite dessert was semolina and jam!'

Q: What did you do at lunch?

A: 'We went to many clubs so we were always busy. I really enjoyed the debating club. I also loved being in the choir and the orchestra and played the viola (like a large violin). I played the viola because we already had lots of violins.'

Q: How did you and your friends communicate outside school?

A: 'On our house phones. I remember being on there for hours and hours talking to my friends and my Mum shouting; "Are you still on that phone?"'

Q: Were your classes multi-cultural?

A: 'Yes, but the classes are more so now.'

Q: Do you think it is easier to learn with or without technology?

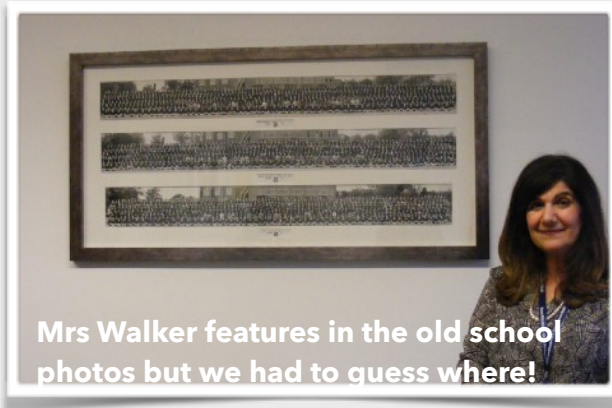
A: 'I couldn't say, we didn't even have calculators! We used slide rules to do our equations.' *At this point Mrs Walker showed us a slide rule and explained how it worked - just think yourself lucky we've got calculators!

Q: Did you go on any school trips?

A: 'Yes, there was an amazing trip in Year 12. It lasted for 3 weeks over the Christmas holiday. We flew to West Africa and went on a cruise ship. While we were on board we won the prize for having the tidiest dormitory (cabin).'

Q: What did you want to be when you were young?

A: I wanted to be a psychologist but my Headteacher told me it was not a good first degree subject - something you should study as a second degree. I went ahead anyway and had no regrets. I left University and went into the



Accountancy profession for ten years. I then left, having trained and qualified as a Psychotherapist.

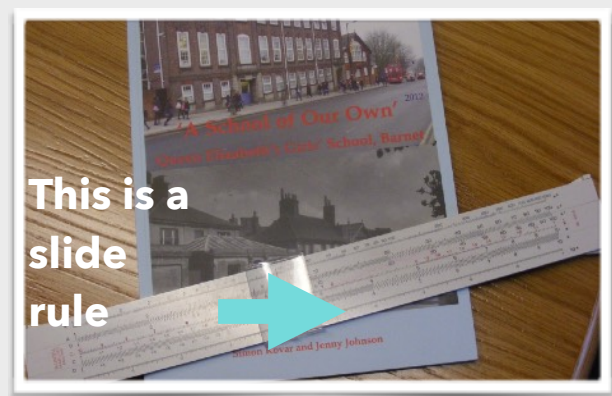
Years later wanted a new challenge so I decided to become a mathematics teacher, combining all my skill sets. I began teaching and realised what a brilliant job it was. It is really fun. It became my ambition to be a Headteacher.

Q :What advice would you give?

A: Always put your mind to something and you will achieve it. Don't limit yourself.

Q: What are your aims for the future?

A: I want QE to be recognised as an outstanding school and I want the girls to love school and have cherished memories of being here as a student as I do. I loved it.



P.S. Thanks for the cakes Mrs Walker!

Battle of the Biscuits

The debate as old as time: the question on everyone's lips- which biscuit is the best?



The jammy dodger, filled with strawberry jam and crumbly goodness.

Rating 6.5/10

Next up, the chocolate digestive, chocolate to biscuit ratio - perfect. It has a coated layer of flavour as tasteful as one from Gucci, therefore it gets a well-deserved 8/ 10.

And finally, the scrumptious snack you have all been waiting for...rich tea.

Yes, it's a tad plain, dull and inadequate, but mouth-watering if that's what you're into. Despite it's name, it lacks the richness of the chocolate digestive and receives a suitable 4.75/10.

By Niamh Quinn and Tito Molokwu 10 AAM

CLUB

At swimming club we are all working very hard on our strokes and techniques. We are hoping that there will be some swimming competitions coming up because of all our hard work. We train every Monday after school. We are always looking for new members so why don't you come along it's really fun and a great workout.

By **Amelia Hammond 7CRY**

Netball is going great! We are all trying extremely hard and have lots of tournaments and matches coming up. The year 7 and year 8 team have been working on strategies, plays & layouts. We train every Wednesday after school, except for when it's been cancelled thanks to all those exams! Good luck netballers!

By **Amelia Hammond 7CRY**

CLUB

ROCK

Rock Challenge 2017 brought together pupils from all years enabling them to collaboratively build skills in communication, team playing, leadership, and expression through art.

Participating in the Rock Challenge helped me step out of my comfort zone and try new challenges. I gained more confidence and increased my network of friends from all year groups.

I was unaware of the impact our given topic of autism had on the lives of individuals and their families until we explored the subject through dance and music.



We all worked as a team bringing to life our ideas to put across this difficult to understand topic. We worked and rehearsed very hard and the choreography, costumes and stage props came together to produce a spectacular artistic depiction of autism through dance and music.

We performed on stage alongside 10 other schools giving us the opportunity to experience their performances. The show was an explosion of talent each having grown through such an experience. We were delighted to win 8 awards for dance, music, set & lighting to name a few.

The feedback from the judges was that we had very cleverly conveyed the message of a very difficult topic (which is not understood at the best of times) through our performance. Congratulations and well done to QEGS!!!

Ella Pakoglu 7EMO



Rock challenge is a national competition where you can compete with other schools in the UK in the form of dance. Here at Queen Elizabeth's girls' school we run it as a club where you would audition at the start of the school year. Many people would say that it is a great way to express your thoughts and feelings about dance and show your artistic side. It's an amazing experience as you can meet new friends there and hang out with people from the other years as it is available for the whole school. Being able to meet other people could also help you to learn other styles of dance such as street dance and improve on your technique.

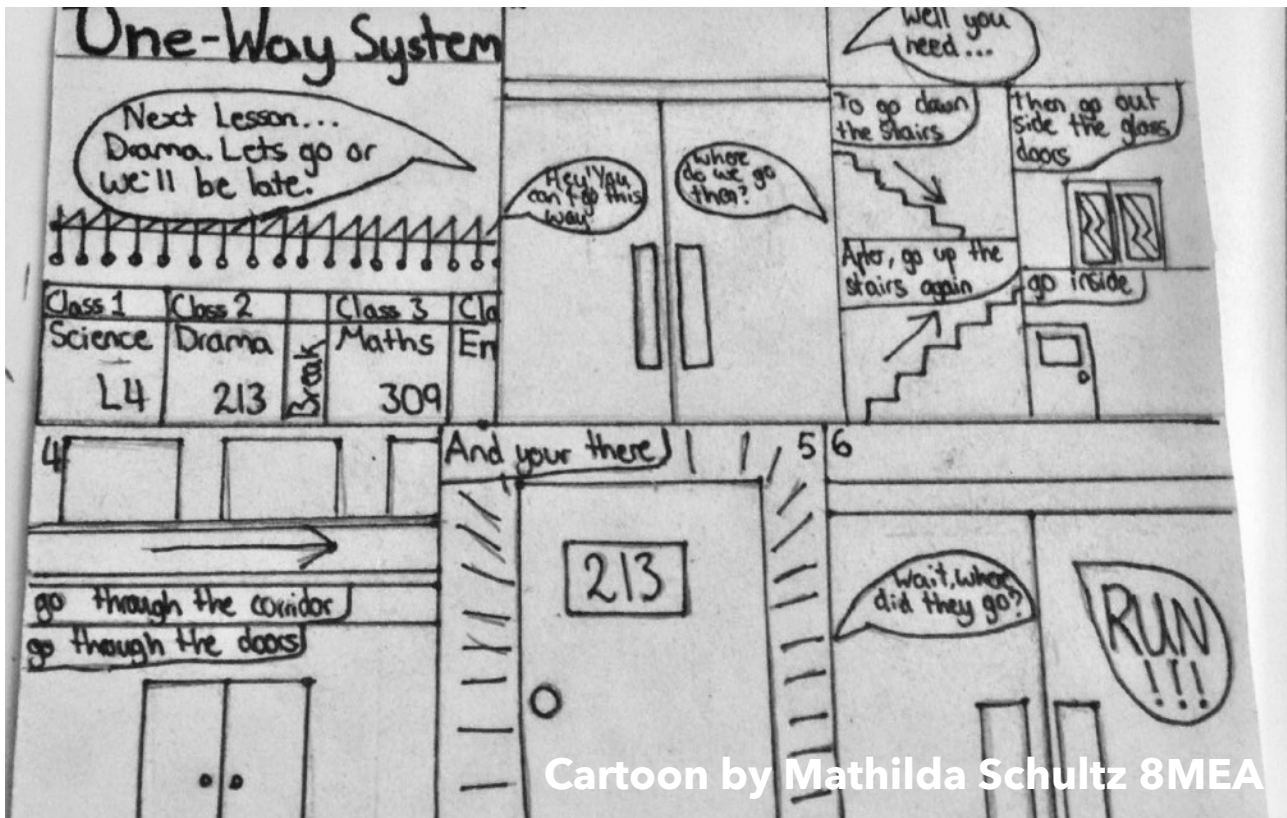
Cheryl Neves 9PPL.



Winter Wonderland

PE Department trip to the Italian Alps





There's no straight path to guide us about life, you sometimes have to take the odd route for once. It's been roughly 1 month since the One Way System has been put in place and I can certainly say it has been a change for all of us. One day going on time to a lesson and the next, late by five minutes. It was decided that we should go a certain route, like down the language stairs and up the maths stairs, to stop crowding. However, directions like these can sometimes makes things confusing and maybe difficult to remember. Is this the right path for us?

When travelling down from languages, I used to get a mouthful of hair when someone came up, but since we have separate stairs, not only it has become much calmer but also more easier to move around. As a teacher said; "It's easier to move and with some refinement, could be a useful system for us."

However there has been some complaints about the One Way System, as one student put it; "Simple routes like science to drama are more complicated since I can't go across the bridge." Now that the bridge has been cut off, students have to travel the long way. I imagine girls in crutches and casts could be in danger of a detention for being late. A year 9 told me; "It's not the best. When the bell goes, loads of students are in one place and if it's on the stairs, there's a high risk of someone getting hurt.". On the language stairs, everyone travels down but because of the tight space and everyone moving down so fast, there's a real safety hazard. . "Sometimes the teachers are going the wrong way while we go the right." Even the teachers are finding it confusing. Is there a chance to turn back for the One Way System?

In my opinion, I think that the One Way System should be removed. The safety of the school is more important than crowding. Do you think we can turn this system around?

Sienna Siu 9MNA



SCHOOL COUNCIL

An inside view of what's going on

School council has recently been discussing feedback given by the students.

Our main priority is the canteen.

We've had a meeting with the manager of our catering service.

We passed on suggestions to solve our minor complaints.

We also outlined the positive side of the canteen to reassure him that the staff were working very hard.

By Maya Bhantoo 7CRY

ROOM 101

A QEGS teacher is given the opportunity to rid the world of their pet hates



Mr Fielder's pet hate is useless technology.

We asked him to give us an example:

"Toilets on trains; instead of having a bolt lock they have buttons."

"So you have to press a green button to open it, a red one to shut the door and a yellow key to lock the door. It's too complicated!"

"I once went on a train up to Scotland and as I walked past the toilet, the door flew open to reveal a poor bloke sitting on the toilet for all to see, just because he didn't press the yellow button! It's completely pointless. Yes, useless technology in Room 101."

We at Room 101 feel very sorry for the "poor bloke" and hope Mr Fielder never experiences anything like this himself.

Mr Fielder, we couldn't agree more. We're using an old fashioned bolt lock to keep "useless technology" shut away forever in Room 101.

By Grace Hanley and Rachel Wennel 8MEA



Wonderful, Wonderful Copenhagen

English Department Trip



SECRET TEACHER

Everything you want to know
about a QEGS teacher but
were afraid to ask

Miss Myatt (Sociology) by Mina Ali
& Grace Amarasinghe 9PPL.

Q: Have you ever had a detention in secondary school?

A: Yes, because I had the incorrect PE uniform.

Q: What did you choose for GCSEs?

A: English Language, English Literature, Maths, Double Science, Geography, Drama, French and Sociology.

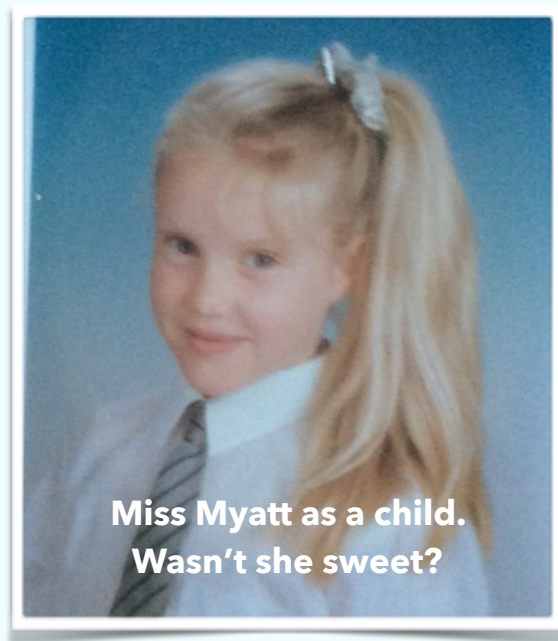
Q: Which primary school did you go to?

A: The Grove Primary School (Malvern)

Q: Who was your favourite teacher in school and why?

A: Mr Ransingh, he was a very strict maths teacher but he always gave out jelly beans.

Q: What do you do in your spare time?



A: I go to the theatre and I like cooking.

Q: What's your favourite song?

A: Wear Sunscreen.

Q: What's your favourite food?

A: Dim Sum.

Q: What did you get for Christmas?

A: DVD- Secret life of pets and a vase.

Q: Do you like your job?

A: I love my job because every day is different, I always laugh and it's a challenge.

Q: Which countries have you been to?

A: Thailand, China, Vietnam, France, America, Greece, Tunisia, Spain.

Which QE girl are you?

A quiz by Sienna Siu 9MNA

Obviously QE Girls are multifaceted, complex and unique, but while we are pondering our individuality there's always time for a quick quiz. Grab your pens & let's go!

The Questions

Question 1: What would your ideal outfit be?

- a) Denim jacket, crop top, ripped jeans and adidas trainers.
- b) T-shirt, shorts and trainers.
- c) Jacket, shirt, trousers and converse trainers
- d) T-shirt with a joke, skirt and pumps.
- e) Checked shirt, beanie, boots and a hoodie

Question 2: Which object would you choose to take with you?

- a) Mobile phone
- b) Fitbit
- c) A watch
- d) Makeup
- e) Headphones and music

Question 3: What would you do at the weekend?

- a) Go to a party
- b) Go out for a jog
- c) Stay inside and read.



- d) Shop
- e) Read stuff online.

Question 4: What do you want to be when you grow older?

- a). Lawyer/Actress/Engineer
- b). Athlete/Businesswoman
- c). Scientist/Doctor/Teacher
- d). Vet/Fashion designer/Make up artist/Singer/Accountant
- e). Going to decide when I get there.

Question 5: Favourite book

- a) Noughts and Crosses
- b). The Hunger Games
- c). All the Harry Potter books
- d) Girl Online
- e) Can't decide. Love them all!

The Results

If you're mostly A then you're the cool type:

Styling it out and setting new trends and crazes . You work hard and play hard. You are fun, creative, clever and caring.

If you're mostly B then you're the sporty type:

Outside is where you want to be. Competitive. Very popular. You have a sharp brain and you're open and friendly. Successful.

If you're mostly C then you're the smart type:

Putting the chic into geek. You've a dry sense of humour. Sensible and funny - the kind of girl everyone loves. Stylish and kind.

If you're mostly D then you're the girly type:

Fascinated with makeup and what you wear. You're caring & funny & clever. You take pride in everything you do. A delight.

If you're mostly E then you're the creative type:

You don't worry about how you look because you're super stylish just the way you are. Intelligent and individual. Relaxed and fun.

PERSPECTIVES

Politics & current affairs through the eyes of QE Girls



By Khouria Bruce-Acolatse and Katherine Robins 9GNI

On the 21st January 2017, hundreds of thousands of women took to the streets of Washington DC (as well as many other countries around the world) to celebrate and advocate for women's rights after President Trump's Inauguration. What effect did it have?

The march began online as a Facebook invite created by Teresa Shook. She invited 40 of her friends to a march on

Washington as she was dissatisfied with the American election results. She posted this message;

"On January 21, 2017 we will unite in Washington, DC for the Women's March on Washington. We stand together in solidarity with our partners and children for the protection of our rights, our safety, our health, and our families -- recognising that our vibrant and diverse communities are the strength of our country."

She soon found out she wasn't the only one - within a few days thousands of people were interested in joining. So why wasn't Teresa Shook satisfied

with the election results? What prompted her and others to take action?

We believe it's because during Trump's campaign, his disgusting attitude towards women shone through in the form of several lewd comments. He said;

"If Hillary Clinton can't satisfy her husband what makes her think she can satisfy America?"

and

"Ariana Huffington is unattractive, both inside and out. I fully understand why her former husband left her for a man - he made a good decision."

These comments angered many people as they wouldn't have expected a future president to make such sexist and misogynistic remarks. The Women's March gave people the chance to voice their anger.

More than 500,000 people attended the march in Washington DC - the turnout was thought to be bigger than Trump's inauguration. 20 other countries had marches of their own with 4.8 million people attending globally. Despite the name, the march didn't only advocate for issues concerning women. People (women predominately but also men and children) marched for LGBTQ+ rights, racial equality, freedom of religion and many other causes that Trump had previously slandered.

Elizabeth Warren, a member of the United States senate, said at a protest,

“We believe that sexism, racism, homophobia, and bigotry have no place in this country. Black lives matter. Diversity make our country stronger. We believe that equal means equal.”

In our opinion President Trump is heartless and only cares for the rich men of America (evidence for this is his laws against protecting transgender people, allowing Dakota Access Pipe Line to go through, having his Vice President fund conversion therapy against LGBTQ+ people, and of course, the Muslim ban).

Our view on the Women's March is that although it was a good idea which brought together millions of women, it can't, on

it's own, be enough to bring down the President. It takes hard evidence and criticism to impeach.

In the longer term though, the huge turnout of January's Women's March combined with it's peaceful nature may have influenced others to protest about the new American President. The protests included London's Resist march in early February 2017; LGBTQ+ dance parties outside Trump's house; airport protests in America; anti-racism protest in Telford and Shropshire. In the USA Rosie O'Donnell, a woman who Trump criticised many times, is leading a protest movement.

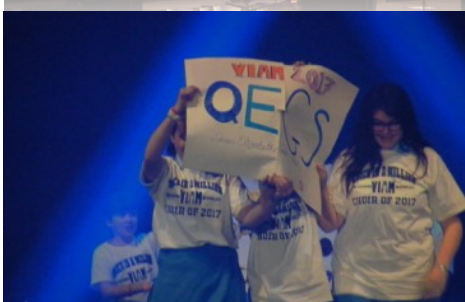
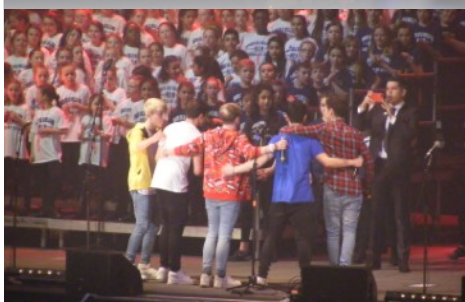
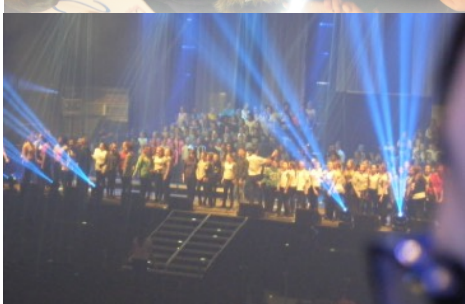
We think January's Women's March has already had a massive inspirational effect and there are now more and more protests going on to resist, what we believe to be, Trump's inhuman, almost fascist ideologies.



The Real Madrid

MFL trip to Spain





Thirteen in a Million

By Sienna Siu 9MNA and
Abigail Hudson 9LPS

Lights, cameras and action at Wembley SSE Arena on the 8th of March. Preparations had all come down to this moment as we sang live with more than 6,000 children for a very special cause. VIAM, Voice in a million, is a charity event about people in Foster Care. Music blared as we sang popular songs like Fight Song and Little Me. We had never seen so many lights in one room at once. The stadium was gigantic, which made us feel tiny in comparison.

“I think it was amazing!” Jessica Kahari 7AEA

The rehearsal went smoothly and our pitch was perfect. However we did have to learn some embarrassing dance moves which will never see the daylight again. We will take the memory of Mr Verma’s dancing to our grave. Embarrassment aside, we had the pleasure of holding the QEGS banner when the parade started. It’s a weird feeling having about 6,000 pairs of eyes on you.

“Awesome and really fun.” Isobel Nethercoat. 9MNA

There were special guest stars like Reggie and Bollie who got us off our seats and cheering. Not forgetting Roadtrip which sent us into a frenzy of autographs, t-shirt signing and the odd hundred selfies.

“I enjoyed the singing and dancing, I really loved the dance moves.” Mr Verma.

Although we were part of a crowd of more than 6,000, they certainly heard our voices. If this event runs next year, we’re definitely going to audition again.



Finding Violet Park

By Jenny Valentine

Book Review by Ella Harrison

When fifteen year old, Lucas Swain walks into a cab office at 5am one morning, he doesn't yet know that his life will change. There he meets Violet Park, in all her mystery and elegance and longing, who draws him in immediately, and is in desperate need of a saviour. The twist is that she is dead. Lucas feels a bond begin to grow with the abandoned urn on the shelf, and with the lady inside who he knows needs his help. But it's only when more secrets are uncovered, that he discovers the connection between the ashes, and his broken family back at home.

Finding Violet Park is an enthralling book, of interesting concepts I have never encountered before. The idea of a teenage boy bonding with the dead spirit of an old woman is beguiling and somehow Jenny Valentine manages to ensure there is a light air about the book and it is not at all dark or disturbing. The perspective of the main character makes the crazy concept seem a lot more normal and this makes the whole book even more captivatingly absurd. I love the silhouette of Violet throughout the story, as she does not actually feature anywhere in the book, but her image is built up through descriptions and voice tapes and witnesses of her life which Lucas collects, and her spirit seems to haunt him.

Finding Violet Park, is a brilliant and perplexing book. Although the ending is slightly anticlimactic, the plot is clever and it is definitely worth reading. I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys a light, quick read with an absorbing storyline.



THANK YOU

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