

B - Siobhan and Christopher

7. HOME

~~SIOBHAN. (Reads more from the book.) "Mother died 2 years ago. I came home from school one day and no one answered the door, so I went and found the secret key that we keep under a flowerpot outside the kitchen window. I let myself into the house and wiped my feet on the mat. I put the key in the bowl on the table. I took my coat off and hung it by the side of the fridge so it would be ready for school the next day and gave 3 pellets of rat food to Toby who is my pet rat. I made myself a raspberry milkshake and heated it up in the microwave. Then I went up to my bedroom and turned on my bedroom light and played 6 games of Tetris and got to level 38 which is my 4th best-ever score. An hour later Father came home from work."~~

~~ED. Christopher have you seen your mum?~~

~~CHRISTOPHER. No.~~

~~SIOBHAN. "He went downstairs and started making some phone calls. I did not hear what he said. Then he came up to my room and said he had to go out for a while and he wasn't sure how long he would be. He said that if I needed anything I should call him on his mobile phone."~~

~~He was away for 2 and a half hours. When he came back I went downstairs."~~

~~ED. I'm afraid you won't be seeing your mother for a while.~~

~~CHRISTOPHER. Why not?~~

~~ED. Your mother has had to go into hospital.~~

~~CHRISTOPHER. Can we visit her?~~

~~ED. No.~~

~~CHRISTOPHER. Why can't we?~~

~~ED. She needs rest. She needs to be on her own.~~

~~CHRISTOPHER. Is it a psychiatric hospital?~~

~~ED. No. It's an ordinary hospital. She has a problem ... a problem with her heart.~~

~~CHRISTOPHER. I'll make her a get-well card.~~

~~IF I make her a get-well card, will you take it in for her tomorrow?~~

8. SCHOOL

SIOBHAN. How are you today Christopher?

CHRISTOPHER. I'm very well thank you.

SIOBHAN. That's good.

CHRISTOPHER. In the bus on the way to school we passed 4 red cars in a row.

SIOBHAN. 4?

CHRISTOPHER. So today is a Good Day.

SIOBHAN. Great. I am glad.

CHRISTOPHER. I've decided I am going to try and find out who killed Wellington because a Good Day is a day for projects and planning things.

SIOBHAN. Who's Wellington?

CHRISTOPHER. Wellington is a dog that used to belong to my neighbour Mrs. Shears who is our friend, but he is dead now because somebody killed him by putting a garden fork through him. And I found him and then a policeman thought I'd killed him but I hadn't and then he tried to touch me so I hit him and then I had to go to the police station.

SIOBHAN. Gosh.

CHRISTOPHER. And I am going to find out who really killed Wellington and make it a project. Even though Father told me not to.

SIOBHAN. Did he?

CHRISTOPHER. Yes.

SIOBHAN. I see.

CHRISTOPHER. I don't always do what I'm told.

SIOBHAN. Why?

CHRISTOPHER. Because when people tell you what to do it is usually confusing and does not make sense. For example people often say "Be quiet" but they don't tell you how long to be quiet for.

SIOBHAN. No. Why did your father tell you not to try to find out who killed Wellington?

CHRISTOPHER. I don't know.

SIOBHAN. If your father's told you not to do something maybe you shouldn't do it.

CHRISTOPHER. Mmm.