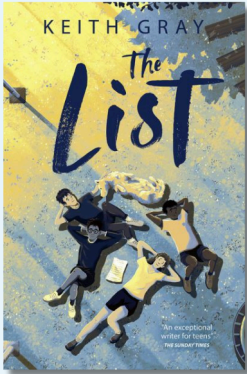


The List

Keith Gray

Illustrated by Tom Clohosy Cole

BOOK TALK CARDS



ABOUT THE BOOK

As summer draws to a close, Denny is faced with the prospect of moving away with his mother, who has secured a new job. However, he has no intentions of making his departure a silent one.



OUR THOUGHTS

"An emotional and compelling read which explores themes of friendship, loyalty, forgiveness and the power of memories."

KS3

THEMES:

- Friendship
- Moving house
- Emotions
- Families

TIME TO TALK

- 1 When Denny's mum tells him they are going to move, his friend Jake pretends it's not going to happen. Why is it easier for him to do this? Have you ever had a forthcoming situation that you are dreading? How did you deal with it?
- 2 What ethical dilemmas arise from Denny's actions. How do the consequences of his list impact him and those around him?
- 3 Denny's list of 5 things he must do before he leaves the village have deeply impacted him and left him with some happy and painful memories. How would you order these from most important to least? What 5 things would you write on your list if you had to move to another place?
- 4 On top of Denny's list was getting 'revenge on Mal.' Is it ever right to seek revenge? Has something happened to you where you have wanted to seek revenge? How do the themes of revenge, forgiveness and redemption play out in the novel?
- 5 How do we know that Mal doesn't have a very good relationship with his brother Harry? Why does he choose to hang around with Harry's friends?
- 6 Explore the friendship between Denny and Jake. How does their relationship change as they work through the list together? What challenges do they face?
- 7 Both Jake and Mal think that kidnapping Tabby's dog to get a kiss from her is extreme. Why is this kiss so important to Denny? Why didn't he just ask her outright for one?
- 8 How does Denny's character evolve throughout the story? What motivates his actions and how do they impact the people around him?

TAKE THE TEXT FURTHER WITH OUR TOP 5 TITLES TO CONTINUE THE THEME:

