



## ??????-??????

*Jacqueline Wilson , ???????-?????? (Translator)*

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## ??????-?????? Details

Date : Published 2010 by ??????? ?? - ?????? (first published 1992)

ISBN :

Author : Jacqueline Wilson , ?????????? ?????????? (Translator)

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**(Translator)**

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## From Reader Review ??????-?????? for online ebook

### **Esther says**

‘The Suitcase Kid’ by Jacqueline Wilson is a book you can enjoy as an adult or as a child! When I was a child I enjoyed reading various books by Jacqueline Wilson such as ‘The Story of Tracy Beaker’ and ‘Bad Girls’, and as an adult I have come to appreciate how she captures issues such as divorce, death and fostering through emotional dialogue and gripping characters.

‘The Suitcase Kid’ is about a 10 year old girl called Andrea who has to come to terms with her parent’s recent divorce. She alternates her time between her Mum and Bill (her Mum’s new partner) and his three kids and her Dad and Carrie (his new wife) and her twin daughters. She experiences a rollercoaster of emotions during the story, which affects her performance in school and her friendships. After the hope of her parents getting back together frizzles out, she finally accepts they have parted ways and becomes more positive after realising that she has a bigger family and more people who care about her.

The book is great for children to understand about family issues and is written in such a way that we can easily identify with the main character and what she is going through regardless of the age of the reader.

This book would be ideal for upper KS1 – KS2 and would suit being in the class book shelf or for a PSHE activity, where each child in the class can write about their family, to help children identify that all families are different (good for inclusion, touching upon everyone having a family regardless if the child lives with Grandparents, Mum or in a Care Home, and that there is no ‘perfect’ family, but important to realise that our families love us and care for us). Children can also draw a picture of their family/bring photographs in for all to see.

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### **??HEROny?? says**

I love Jacqueline Wilson's writing so much! read it in one sitting and loved the main character. highly recommended for all but especially for kids dealing with their parents' divorce

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### **Ella says**

I've literally read this book about a 1000000 times. It's great how she writes it and the humorous situations are something we could all relate to. Some people may think this has sensitive subjects for young readers who are going through difficult times but i think differently, it kind of helps them get through it.

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### **Rachael\_rebecca says**

This book follows Andy whose parents have divorced and who is now being forced to move between both their homes and come to terms with her parents gaining new partners and step families. I first read this book

in Primary School, the same year my Mum and Dad separated, and being in a class with only 2 other children with separated parents, it was both a comfort and a relief to read something that was so mainstream that involved something so personal to me, and that was written in such a delicate and tactful way. Wilson, as always is hugely insightful concerning the way children feel in these circumstances. For children in the latter years of Key Stage 2 who perhaps have gone through similar situations this book will be of great interest, however even for children without first hand experience of divorce and separation it addresses universal feelings of feeling lost and uncertainty which all children have felt at one time or another.

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### **Grace says**

Also LOVE this book, it's a subject I would not normally relate too or be drawn to in a novel, yet somehow everything that happens to Andy hits me right in the gut. I love the realistic way she writes about Andy's feelings to her knew sister, her distrust of the professionals sent to help her, and her quirk of her sylvanian friend is very relatable for me (as a child I had an obsession with those, and for a while started carrying a sylvanian family otter around in my pocket trying to be like andy )

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### **Hennaar..x says**

It Is A Great Story With A Fascinatinn Story Line The Book Is Very Interestinn Becausee Of The Way Is Is Set And It Is Told Like It Is Based On A Real Story. It Is Aboutt A Girl Whos Mum And Dad Have Split Up And She Is Given The Choice To Live With Either Her Mum Or Dad And Choses Both So Each Week She Stays At Her Mums House And The Next Week She Stays With Her Dad ...But It Doesn't Turn Out All As Planned.

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### **Laura says**

Andrea, known as Andy's parents are going through a bitter divorce. Her dad wants her to live with him and her mum wants her to live with her. Both her parents have new parents and Andy finds herself going backwards and forwards between her two parents.

Throughout the book, Andy wishes that her parents would get back together and move back into their little house called Mulberry Cottage. She is extremely nostalgic about a place where she was so happy as a child. Andy loses focus at school, getting poorer results, and loses touch with her previous best friend. As she becomes more and more isolated, she draws support from her spotted Sylvanian Families rabbit, Radish, often playing imaginary games with her.

One day she finds a secret garden with mulberries growing in it, and she begins to go there after school. She accidentally drops Radish down a tree and can't get her out. Andy runs away in the middle of the night to find Radish, but her parents soon find her. She makes new friends with the people that live at the mulberry house. By the end of the book, Andy has befriended her step-siblings and accepted that her parents are not getting back together.

This story will be very reminiscent of many children's home lives, and although may be aimed more at the female audience, is accessible for many children. It tells the emotional plight of a young girl adapting to her

new life, but has a happy ending, which may be comforting to many children. Issues from the story could be discussed across the curriculum, for example in English, PSHE, Art and P4C.

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### **Clare says**

The Suitcase Kid is a story about a girl named Andy, aged 11; her parents are separating but both Mum and Dad want Andy to live with them when all Andy wants is to live back in mulberry cottage with the whole family including Radish, Andy's toy Sylvanian rabbit. Andy decides to live one week in house A with mum and Bill's 3 children and one week in house B with Dad, Carrie and her twins.

Andy has been thrown into new homes, step-parents, step-brothers and sisters, her school work is suffering, she can't listen in lessons, loses books, is getting ill and worn out and having to live out of a suitcase.

Andy finds a "New mulberry cottage" on her way home from school where she regularly plays with radish at the mulberry tree at the back of the garden. Andy is forced to run away from her mum's house because she has lost radish at the mulberry tree. To Andy's surprise she is welcomed at the "new mulberry house" by Mr and Mrs Peters, Andy's now "adopted grandparents" and residence of the "new mulberry cottage". Andy still lives between home A and B, but now has home C where she can play all she wants, every day!

The story touches on some very serious and true scenarios including divorce, new families, new homes, moving away from friends, the affects parent separation can have on school life, "change over days", parents arguing, counselling sessions and running away.

The book doesn't hide away from the hurt and pain separation can cause and what I like about the book is that it doesn't paint a fluffy picture that everything will be fine. It is very honest and direct. Many children will read the book and may relate and that in itself can be very comforting. Had the book and have been an unrealistic interpretation of separation in that its easy, it wouldn't have had such meaning and honesty.

There is a clever use of the alphabet for the chapters. Andy uses A,B,C to describe her living situation and I feel the alphabet is reflective on the journey children and families will go through during times like these.

I would have liked a more detailed reflection on how Andy feels now looking back over the changes. In the last page of the last chapter Andy speaks about how she has now found her house C, something of a middle ground type house; but she doesn't reflect on her emotions or her journey and being a book with so much to relate to, a reflection would have been a really nice summery to the story.

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### **Joey Woolfardis says**

Read as part of The Infinite Variety Reading Challenge, based on the BBC's Big Read Poll of 2003.

Nope.

### **Kerry says**

Well, I read it, so I guess I can put it my "read" shelves.

This is actually a major first. It's my first "book to read before I let my child read it" book. Marcus picked it up at the library and when I asked it turned out it was because he liked the name. I didn't take much notice at the library, but when he picked it to read tonight I thought I better take a look.

This isn't a book for a six year old boy and I won't be giving it to him to read. But it's a good book for an older girl dealing with parents who have separated or divorced, or indeed any girl who wants to try to understand this issue.

As an adult reader of fiction, I wanted a more significant ending. Andy is unhappy when her parents split and wants them back together. As both have new partners this isn't going to happen. By the end of the book, Andy has found her way to acceptance of the situation more than anything. Which is probably a very realistic result and totally appropriate for children reading this who might be in a similar situation.

As a parent in a stable relationship, I thought the parents' behaviour was terrible - both were more caught up in arguing with each other and focusing on their new partners than taking time to understand how Andy was coping. I'd have liked to give them both a good shaking or a sharp slap up the head.

However, sadly I realise that this may well be a realistic situation and this is a better book for a child reading for sticking with a much less than perfect situation. I'm also grateful that I haven't had to deal with such things myself, either when I was a child or now that I'm in a solid and happy marriage.

Marcus won't be reading this, but I'm actually rather glad I did and it certainly gave me a new perspective. I can see why Jacqueline Wilson is well thought of as an author for children. When Marcus gets a bit older, I hope I remember her as someone for him to try. I just really, really glad he doesn't need this one.

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### **Stephanie says**

This is a story of a 10 year old girl named Andy. Throughout the book we are made aware of Andy's struggle to cope, after her parents have split up. She has moved from her family home "Mulberry Cottage", to having to live one week with her mum, and one week with her dad, as she is undecided as to who she wants to live with.

Being 10 years old Andy hopes that her family can once again all be happy, and live together in "Mulberry Cottage". However it is no longer just mum and dad anymore. Both parents have now fell in love again. If her parents being separated is unsettling enough, she now has step siblings to contend with and what she calls a "baboon" stepfather. Due to these settings she has difficulty calling anywhere home, and often confides in her little Sylvanian rabbit Raddish, who goes everywhere with her.

This is a great book to read to KS2 as it touches on many aspects of family life, in the 21st Century. As the story is in Andy's words, she is expressing her own thoughts and feelings, which many young children, especially girls, will be able to relate to.

This book allows children to see that not every family are part of a typical nuclear family, mum, dad and children. Instead many often live with just one parent or a step parent. Jacqueline Wilson is a great author, whose books touch on real life situations, that occur in today's society. Many children can relate to this book. This book offers some comfort for children from broken homes, to let them know that they are not alone. Those who haven't experienced divorce can learn from this book and also understand how lives of their peers may differ from theirs.

This is a great book to encourage class discussion, and to help children write reflectively.

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### **Sharon says**

'The suitcase kid' tells the story of 10 year old Andrea. Andy, as she is known shares her experiences of divorce and broken families. Andy's parents share custody of her when they split up and start their new families. Andy is torn from Mum's house one week and then Dad's the next. Not only does Andy have to come to terms with her parents split; the only child now has five siblings and nowhere to call home. Jacqueline Wilson uses the 10 year old narrator to spill. Her inner most thoughts and fears to her young audience in a language they can relate to. Andy slowly overcomes her feeling of not belonging and finds friends at Mum's, Dad's and her old house, Mulberry Cottage where she finds a warm embrace from the new residents. 'The suitcase kid' was the one book, as a child, that I clung to. I read it over and over again. This book is a fabulous read for older children around KS2 age. This book can help children from broken families to understand that they are not alone and other children also experience the same struggle. Children who have not experienced divorce can also learn from this book. They can develop a greater understanding of life of their peers; this awareness can reduce school bullying. This book can be used as a long term group read in a KS2 class at story time. Chapters are short so one chapter can be read aloud to the class each story time. The book could also be used as inspiration for a writing task about family or to motivate a short story writing exercise. Jacqueline Wilson effectively teaches children about the ups and downs of life and teaches useful morals that children can carry into adulthood and all around the world.

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### **Ross Oates says**

The Suitcase Kid by Jacqueline Wilson is a story about a 10 year old child called Andy and her struggle in coping with her parents' divorce. Andy is desperate to return to her old life and family home where she was once happy. Unable to decide which parent to live with permanently, Andy moves between her mother and father's house each week. The story shows the physical and mental strain this has on Andy as she copes with her parents arguing as well as having new step siblings thrust upon her. I really enjoyed reading this book as it deals with real life situations that many children face. I feel it would be very appropriate to read to a class or could be used in circle time. I believe this book would be suitable for KS2 children however it could be read to younger children.

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### **Siobhan says**

Wilson is great at making realistic characters that you can quickly come to term with, giving realistic reactions to events.

Her books are great at getting children to really think about actions and their consequences, really opening

the eyes of children to the world. Some of her books are sensitive reads yet they are all great at sending life messages to children.

I feel as though Wilson books are a must in the lives of young children, a way of opening their eyes to the real world in the right way.

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### **Jenny says**

The suitcase kid is a book about a ten year old girl named Andy who is struggling to cope with her parent's divorce. She is forced to leave Mulberry cottage her family home and decide which parent to live with permanently. Andy decides to choose both. 1 week she goes to her mother, and the next week she goes to her father. This book cleverly outlines the Andy's emotions, fears and neglect as a result of her new family situation. Andy feels as if she is living out of a suitcase. Finding a new mulberry tree and making friends with Graham helps her cope in this situation. I was really impressed how this book was laid out with each chapter using a letter of the alphabet to introduce the next topic or character. This book deals with real life situations that man children can either relate to or have had to deal with. This is a very engaging and realistic book and I would wholly recommend it to children in upper key stage 2.

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### **Hollie Westmore says**

Jacqueline Wilson- The suitcase Kid

As a young teenager I had the whole Jacqueline Wilson book series! The suitcase Kid was my favourite by far!

What spoke to me throughout reading this story again, was that it is written through the eyes of a child going through the realities of having two homes, when their parents separate and divorce from each other. I felt if I was a child reading this and was going through this in real life this would have been very comforting for me to know that I wasn't the only one in this situation and wasn't the only one feeling like I don't have my own home any more. Reading the Suitcase Kid you really feel empathy for the character and they way Jacqueline Wilson presents this story you really feel that you are reading a diary of a young child in an upsetting time of their life.

I would suggest that this story and the other Jacqueline Wilson stories would be appropriate for children who are in the years of five onwards. I would also like to add that I think this story would attract a female audience due to the main character being a girl and the events in the story for instance finding a new best friend would appeal more to girls in my opinion.

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### **Vicenta says**

I remember the time when I was young, living with Mom and Dad and my little sister. It wasn't a vivid memory, and then I could only recall many years of living with Aunt and Uncle in a country. At that time, my parents didn't live together anymore.

That's probably why I could relate to Andrea so much. We don't exactly encounter similar problems; relocating between parent's houses, dealing with evil siblings, seeing mom and dad fighting or wishing my old family back. But I get what Andrea was going through in the book.

Stay Strong, little girl.

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### **Laura says**

This is definitely in my top five favourite Jacqueline Wilson books. As a child, I read it over and over again, I just couldn't get enough of it.

Andy is coping with the divorce of her parents and having to adjust to having two new mis-matched families. Stepbrothers, stepsisters and not all of them nice! As an only child, Andy is pushed pillar to post by mum and dad as they struggle to work out a suitable visitation arrangement.

This book spoke to me on a personal level as my own parents divorced when I was nine. I empathised with Andy and how she felt part of neither family, she just wanted her old family back and her old home.

A sad story, but touching nonetheless and unfortunately, still very relevant to many children today.

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### **Fariha says**

I read this book as a child in year 5 and a few times since then. I remember my whole class fell in love with this book. One thing I liked about it was that it allows children, who may have parents who no longer live together, to identify with the main character Andrea. It could be used by those children as a sort of coping strategy should they have a hard time dealing with such things at home, after all things seem to work out for Andrea in the end. It's a great story about how Andrea deals with her parents divorce and having to live between two new families while seeking solace from her pet toy rabbit Radish.

The reader is left wanting to read more at the end of each chapter to see whether it's possible that Andrea will get the happy ending for her parents to get back together and live in Mulberry Cottage again. Andrea is a great character, despite her stubborn nature, she's strong and brave which gives the reader something to admire.

I would say this book is pretty addictive and can be read by a whole range of children from the ages of 8-13 years. It's a book you tend to remember even as you get older and one you can easily reflect back on. This book can be read to the class so children can listen and discuss the plot with one another or it can be read independently. It may inspire children to be more creative in story-writing by reflecting back on real-life, for instance, children may think to mention a real-life 'conflict' in their stories and then imagine how the conflict was or could be dealt with or 'resolved', thus creating their own story.

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**Maddie (Heart Full Of Books) says**

I connected on a spiritual level to how Andy loves her little rabbit toy, Radish. Loved the ending so much, even though throughout there's not much hope for Andy finding comfort and happiness.

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