

# People in the story

**Helen:** a twelve-year-old girl

**Mum:** Helen’s mother

**Dad:** Helen’s father

**Auntie Carol:** Helen’s aunt

**Joe:** a bad man

**Frank:** another bad man

## BEFORE YOU READ

1 Look at the pictures in Chapter 1 and *People in the story*.  
What do you think? Answer the questions.

1 What does Helen’s dad drive?

.....

2 Is the baby Helen?

.....

## LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Before you read* on page 4.

## ACTIVITIES

- 2 Complete the sentences about Chapter 1 with the names in the box.

Helen (x3)

Mum (x2)

Dad

Mum and Dad

- 1 It's Helen's birthday.
- 2 ..... is twelve today.
- 3 Helen doesn't understand what her ..... says.
- 4 ..... is shouting.
- 5 ..... gives Helen a baby blanket.
- 6 ..... love Helen.
- 7 ..... is wrong.

- 3 Who do the underlined words refer to in these lines from the text?

- 1 They're happy people. (page 5) Mum and Dad.
- 2 But they aren't smiling today. (page 5) .....
- 3 He smiles. (page 7) .....
- 4 I look at them. (page 8) .....
- 5 'I think it comes from ... them.' (page 8) .....
- 6 'Please don't be sad,' she says. (page 9) .....

**4** Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 This is an interesting story about Helen / Helen's mum and dad.
- 2 Helen hears a noise in her head / ears.
- 3 Helen / Dad reads about the baby.
- 4 Helen's dad finds a baby in / behind the taxi.
- 5 Helen's mum and dad know / don't know about her birth parents.
- 6 Dad looks / doesn't look happy when Helen asks about her birth parents.
- 7 The baby blanket is from Helen's birth parents / adoptive parents.

**5** Match the questions with the answers.

- 1 Why is today an interesting day for Helen? ☒ 6
  - 2 Who isn't smiling? ☐
  - 3 What is Helen doing in the taxi? ☐
  - 4 Why is Helen's dad sad? ☐
  - 5 What does Helen's dad give her? ☐
- a She's crying.  
~~b~~ It's her twelfth birthday.  
c A baby blanket.  
d Helen's mum and dad.  
e He doesn't know about her birth parents.

## LOOKING FORWARD

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**6** Tick (✓) what you think happens in Chapter 2.

- 1 Helen finds her birth parents. ☐
- 2 Helen doesn't find her birth parents. ☐

## LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Looking forward* on page 11.

## ACTIVITIES

- 2 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 Helen looks at the blanket a lot / very little.
- 2 Helen is tall / short.
- 3 Helen likes / doesn't like going out all the time.
- 4 Helen's mum and dad like thinking / doing things.
- 5 Helen thinks her mum and dad understand / don't understand her.
- 6 The taxi office is behind / below the flat.
- 7 Helen's room is cold / hot.
- 8 Helen's hands feel cold / hot.

- 3 Put the sentences in order.

- 1 Helen closes her eyes. ☐
- 2 Helen is a bed. ☐
- 3 Helen hears a voice in her head. ☐
- 4 Helen's head and hands feel hot. ☐
- 5 Helen gets into bed. ☐
- 6 Auntie Carol is working in the office. ☒
- 7 Helen's hands are yellow. ☐
- 8 Helen doesn't want to talk to Auntie Carol. ☐

**4** Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Helen isn't dark. ☒
- 2 Helen's mum and dad work in a taxi office. ☐
- 3 Auntie Carol drives a taxi. ☐
- 4 People call for a taxi and Helen's mum and dad answer the phone. ☐
- 5 Helen likes Auntie Carol. ☐
- 6 Helen's room is cold. ☐
- 7 Helen hears a voice in her head and knows who is talking to her. ☐
- 8 Helen doesn't know how she becomes a bed. ☐

**5** Answer the questions.

- 1 What does Helen like doing?

.....

- 2 Why doesn't Helen want to talk to Auntie Carol?

.....

- 3 Why isn't Helen cold in her room?

.....

- 4 What is very strange?

.....

## LOOKING FORWARD



**6** Tick (✓) what you think happens in the next two chapters.

- 1 The bed changes back into Helen. ☐
- 2 Helen knows who is talking to her. ☐
- 3 Helen becomes things. ☐

## LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Looking forward* on page 19.

## ACTIVITIES

- 2 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 Auntie Carol looks at the bed and *sees* / doesn't see Helen.
- 2 Helen tells Auntie Carol that she *is* / *isn't* OK.
- 3 Helen becomes a book and *a boy* / *her dad* reads her.
- 4 Helen becomes a chair and her *mum* / *dad* sits on her.
- 5 Helen is waiting for her *mum* / *dad* in the taxi office.
- 6 Helen *calls* / *doesn't call* the police.
- 7 Helen *becomes* / *doesn't become* the money.
- 8 The short man looks at the money. He *knows* / *doesn't know* that Helen is the money.
- 9 Helen *becomes* / *doesn't become* the car.

- 3 Answer the questions.

In Chapters 3 and 4, who ...

- 1 goes into Helen's room? Auntie Carol
- 2 looks at the baby blanket for a long time? .....
- 3 takes a bag to work? .....
- 4 isn't well? .....
- 5 waits in the taxi office? .....
- 6 is angry? .....
- 7 drives a car? .....
- 8 opens the money box and looks at all the money? .....

**4** Put the sentences in order.

- 1 Helen is a chair. ☐
- 2 Helen doesn't call the police. ☐
- 3 Helen is angry. ☐
- 4 Helen is alone in the taxi office. ☐
- 5 Auntie Carol doesn't see Helen in her room. ☐
- 6 Helen and the men get in the car. ☐
- 7 Helen is a book. ☐
- 8 Helen's mum doesn't know Helen is the bag. ☐

**5** Answer the questions.

- 1 Where does Helen's mum take her?  
.....
- 2 What does Helen want to do at the start of Chapter 4?  
.....
- 3 What things does Helen become in Chapters 3 and 4?  
.....

## LOOKING FORWARD

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**6** Tick (✓) what you think happens in the final chapters.

- 1 Helen drives to the police station. ☐
- 2 Helen doesn't hear the voice in her head again. ☐
- 3 Helen helps people. ☐

## LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Looking forward* on page 31.

## ACTIVITIES

- 2 Put the sentences in order.

- 1 Joe can't open the car window. ☐
- 2 Helen takes the gun from Joe's hand. ☐
- 3 Helen stops being the car. ☐
- 4 Helen tells her mum and dad everything. ☐
- 5 Helen and the men stop at the police station. ☒
- 6 Helen's mum and dad bring a film from the taxi office. ☐
- 7 Helen becomes Frank. ☐
- 8 The car alarm makes a big noise. ☐

- 3 Match the questions with the answers.

- 1 Who is in the car? ☒
  - 2 Where does Helen stop? ☐
  - 3 Why does a policeman come out of the police station? ☐
  - 4 Who hits Helen? ☐
  - 5 Who is happy? ☐
- a He hears the car alarm.  
b Joe.  
c Helen.  
~~d~~ Helen, Joe and Frank.  
e The police station.



4 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Joe drives the car. ☒
- 2 Joe can't stop the noise. ☐
- 3 Joe opens the door for the policeman. ☐
- 4 Helen takes the gun from Joe's hand. ☐
- 5 Helen phones her mum and dad. ☐
- 6 The policeman takes the men away. ☐
- 7 Helen wants to help people. ☐
- 8 Helen's mum and dad kiss her. ☐

5 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 The car stops at the police station / taxi office.
- 2 Joe hits *Helen* / the policeman with a gun.
- 3 The policeman looks for the money in the car / taxi office.
- 4 Helen's *adoptive parents* / birth parents hold her in their arms.
- 5 Helen is going to help *an old woman* / a man.

6 Answer the questions.

- 1 Who does Helen become?  
.....
- 2 What does the policeman see on the film?  
.....
- 3 Where does Helen tell her mum and dad everything?  
.....