



Daz 4 Zoe

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It is the year 2051 and Britain is a divided country, deliberately divided by economic and education strategies. Half the population shelters in fortified suburbs (Newtown); the other half resentfully smoulders in sealed-off ghettos. This is the story of privileged Zoe and Daz, the semi-literate ghetto dweller, whose brother was executed for raiding with the underground resistance movement. When Zoe and her friends go slumming one day, she meets Daz - and it's Romeo and Juliet all over again. But their impossible relationship has far-reaching consequences ...

Daz 4 Zoe Details

Date : Published June 29th 1995 by Puffin (first published 1990)

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Author : Robert Swindells

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From Reader Review Daz 4 Zoe for online ebook

Tomasz S. says

A dystopian society separated in two groups, a poor one called chippies and a rich one called subbies. Extreme prejudices reinforce the hostility between these two groups. The contact between these two societies is strictly forbidden, walls and fences separate these two groups. The book tells the story about two young persons, Daz and Zoe who fall in love with each other. Daz is a rebellious young chippy who has a lack in education because of his social situation. Zoe is a young subby, she is smart and curious about the life of the chippies. The story is written in two perspectives. One perspective is written by Daz in his own slang language, the other perspective is written by Zoe.

In my opinion the book shows life in a dystopian society in an interesting way. Also, the love story is well told.

On the other side there is a simple ending of the book.

All in all, half of the book is written in a difficult slang of Daz which makes it difficult to read, that's why I don't recommend it for inexperienced readers.

Eugen says

The book is about a forbidden love story with two teenagers and a dystopian society.

This book is outstanding, it exceeds all what I read before.

Robert Swindells is a master in his time he changed my view of the world.

I love this book!

Natalie TBGWP says

** Not a proper review, This is from my Blast from the past - Book of the month section from my website. This is May 2013 book of the month and my reasons why.**

The reason I chose this book for blast from the past-book of the month is because without it I wouldn't have taken a bigger interest in reading as I got older.

In secondary school I was a bit on the naughty side. My head of year was an English teacher and I spent a lot of time with her in isolation for my behavior. Banned from a school trip at 14 I was given this book to read as punishment. I absolutely loved it. I read at home very rarely and when I did it was the usual children's books by Roald Dahl, etc.. This book opened my eyes to diversity in writing and dual narration.

A year later after reading this book, it was introduced to me again it was my module reading assignment for my GCSE. My teacher was thrilled with my questions and need for more and told me I should go visit my local library. I was already a member of my local library but on her request went and found a world of wonder and excitement! I was amazed.

Without this book I probably wouldn't be here now writing this. It may be teenage fiction but it's hands down the best book I own.

Center Of says

"daz4zoe" is a distopian lovestory which was written by robert swindels in 1990.
the book is about two young persons who live in seperated societies.
on the one hand there is daz a bad educated boy who lives in very bad living conditions and on the other hand there is a beautiful, decent and rich girl named zoe who lives in the suburbs.
one day both meet each other by chance and fall in love.
they do everything to stay together but because of the relationship between this two societies it's almost impossible.

it's very intresting to imagine such a relationship and trouble between two different worlds.
especially the idea of seperatet distopian areas and the language of daz are great!
this lovestory or rather the fellings of daz an zoe are just so cute that i could feel into in their situations.
i can guarantee, this book makes you tremble and cry!
omg i love this book!

John Doe says

An O.K book but not the best book iv'e read in my life.
:)

Simon Stevens says

As a new-to-the-trade English teacher I've very quickly become immersed in teenage literature and find Swindells to be one of the most compelling authors. After reading Stone Cold with a Year 9 class I was extremely impressed and felt compelled to conduct some further investigation.

Daz 4 Zoe had been described to me as a modern day Romeo and Juliet. There are obvious comparisons, nevertheless I feel the association is unhelpful. Swindells sets his love story in a dystopian vision of 2050 Britain, where Zoe's Subbies enjoy the luxuries of health, hygiene, education, employment etc, while Daz's Chippies scrap and scrape to maintain a pitiful existence. A rather farsical 'falling in love' between the eponymous characters, leads to Zoe's realisation that Chippies are not so different to Subbies and her breaking out of her luxury prison to be with Daz. However, there is no fairy tale ending for Zoe.

The book was very easy to read and enjoyable. I particularly liked the political dimensions and can certainly see how I could structure activities with my pupils to activate deeper thinking abilities.

If you've never read Swindells before, I would recommend Stone Cold over this, but maybe not for younger readers (12 and below).

Liliya says

Rawhampton vs. Silverdale

In his novel Robert Swindells created a separated society in England. Half of the population, called Chippies, live in dirty and poor areas and the other social group, Subbies, in rich and wealthy suburbs. They have not got any contact with each other. One day the young chippy boy Daz meets the subby girl Zoe and they fall in love. After this "surprise meeting", their lives change forever. Swindells chooses a science fiction topic with a modern love story of Romeo and Juliet. After I have read the title, I was surprised to read a different story, than I expected. I was surprised to read a story like this. The novel uses a typical love story to entertain the readers and put the plot into the background. It looks like Swindells wants to show the social conflicts and problems of the political system, Daz and Zoe are only the means. He uses a simple and clean language, this makes the story much more interesting. Another point is the language of Daz. Not everyone knows which parts of his language is right and which one is wrong. That is a negative aspect of this novel. In contrast to my first expectations the novel was much more interesting and educational for teenagers at my age. Who wants to read a different kind of love story, with a possible future view of our society should read this book!

Helen says

Apparently I read a lot of Robert Swindells books between the ages of 12 and 18.

I was driven to seek out every book of his our local library carried after reading the bleak but very good Brother in the Land. This one was not so good.

Tracey says

A firm three and a half. A reread from my school days.

This is a very clever book which, when written, was ahead of its time. I love the phonetic spelling of Daz's language, and the well designed and immersive setting. I just have a natural reluctance to the insta-love of the story: yes Zoe is young and stubborn, but surely she wouldn't give up her entire life for - as she quite rightly points out - a boy of whom she doesn't know the second name! Still, it's a quick and interesting read which I would recommend, particularly from a literary perspective.

Maik says

Separation in the society can be a dystopian world in the future and is the topic of the book Daz 4 Zoe written by Robert Swindells. The book is about the problematic relationship of the two teenagers Daz and Zoe. Daz is a guy from the city called Rawhampton, which is the area where the poor "chippies" live. Zoe is a fourteen years old girl who lives in a suburb named Silverdale. This place is gated with fences and protected by guards, because only rich people live there and the poor are not allowed to get in. The teenagers meet each other in a club in Rawhampton where Zoe and her friends from Silverdale are going to have fun. The book has an interesting kind of style, because it is written in two different first person perspectives, which are

changing. The parts of Daz are written in phonetic spelling and shows that he isn't well educated. All in all I think Daz 4 Zoe is a very good book with an interesting story. The characters are nice and the problem of separation society is a modern topic. I would recommend the book for everyone who likes love stories or the topic of a dystopian world.

Ayline says

The novel Daz 4 Zoe by Robert Swindells is about a girl called Zoe and a boy called Daz who live in different societies which are split in rich and poor. The two kids fall in love together but because they are not allowed to have contact there is a big problem in living together and meeting each other.

My expectations before reading it and only knowing the title were very low because the title has no interesting signal words which make the reader curious. But when I read it my opinion changed sometimes..

This novel is a typical love story where two people fight for freedom which is connected to their love to each other. They risk their life what shows that love is strong.

However the important topics are the dystopian and utopian societies which show the direct differences between the gap between rich and poor.

In my opinion this topic is very special because there is actually in our real society a big problem between rich and poor and the integration of both. The author criticizes the society and connects it with a love story between Daz and Zoe because he integrates the conflict of rich and poor.

On the one hand this story is in some parts very cheeky because the protagonists Daz and Zoe tell about their emotional feelings and mental pain and on the other hand it is a society critical story which let the reader remember problems between rich and poor and go on in thinking about.

This novel can be an interesting story for people who love romantic like in the novel Romeo and Juliet by Shakespeare but also for people who like science fiction and novels which have critical contents in case of society.

Banana-Agent says

When I first heard about the book Daz 4 Zoe written by Robert Swindells I expected that it would be a futuristic lecture about a boy caring about a girl named Zoe.

The book "Daz4Zoe" deals with two different people who love each other, the problem is that both live in two different living conditions.

Zoe lives in Silverdale, a wealthy suburb, and Daz lives in bad area named Rawhampton. Thus, Swindells calls Zoe a "Subbie" and Daz a "Chippie". The whole community is segregated with fences and mental barriers/mind control/brainwashing.

At first Zoe meets Daz in a pub in Rawhampton which is a totally forbidden place for subbies to hang out at, and both don't have feelings for each other but in the following it evolves to real relationship. Later in the story Zoe runs away from home to live with Daz in Rawhampton! But this fails because the police is looking for Zoe...

The book is a typical romantic dystopian love story about two young-adults. The book shows some prejudices about the society. The book is written from two perspectives, one is Daz slang language and the other is Zoe's view. When you first read the book it thought "what the heck, why does Daz talk so strange" its

always comfortable to read the parts of Zoe because she writes like normal kids. The different types of writing-style should underline the both social and educational background. When you read the book more and more you get used to Daz's language. Instead of his strange language use I really liked the book but it was quite simply written.

The book represents a possible future of our modern society and kind of shows us our society today! All in all I would recommend the book for school but the students have to be quite good at English because if they read the parts of Daz they could adopt the style of grammar which could affect their English tests.

Ip Man says

the novel was quite good because it is really interesting to see how other people, like Robert Swindells, think about the future in our "society". Everybody asks themselves how the future of our society could be and how it develops. the novel shows us a possible future society.

It is about England who is divided into two societies ("subbies" -> are the people who live in the better part of England; "chippies" -> are the people who live in the bad part of England) and it is strictly forbidden for the "populations" to get in contact. One day a "subby-girl" (zoe) and her friends get in trouble in the chippie-area and a "chippy-boy", called daz, protects them although the chippies are against the subbies. so daz and zoe fall in love although it's forbidden and in the following they'll fight against the government. it is a modern romeo julia love story in a "dystopian world".

the narration perspective is quite good. the story is told from two different views so you can better understand the protagonists's emotions. but daz spelling in the novel is hard to read / to understand. the novel is good.

Mr_S says

A dystopian social structure, Romeo and Juliet love story - the cover's announcement sounds both promising and interesting. However, the novel turns out to be more ordinary than expected.

Basically it is a downsized Romeo and Juliet story placed in a society that leaves too many questions concerning for example the genesis and conflicts of such a dystopian society. The two worlds are strictly separated, yet permeable. An intriguing ambivalence which could lead to much more tension than Swindells is able to create. The author sticks to the typical (almost stereotypical) problems of two teenagers in two different living conditions. The dystopian world remains the fact that separates and that's it. The interesting aspects of such a dystopian society is not thoroughly narrated as it is for example in other literature from this genre.

This way the novel simply touches two aspects: "teenage love" and "dystopia". Both aspects remain superficial and predictable.

My recommendation for the cover: Simple Teenage Love Story in an "Almost-Dystopia"

Crocodile master says

The idea of the book was pretty cliché but the plot was interesting anyway. The main characters were

completely stupid but i guess they were 'in love'. Both Zoe and Daz were selfish and immature. I'd like to read an extension of this book as see how their 'love' lasted 10, maybe 20 years down the line. I guess an outstanding thing about this book was that it actually made me laugh which was surprising.
