Little Rebels Exploring Social Justice

Show Us Who You Are

by Elle McNicoll
Knights Of

On the surface, the Pomegranate Institute promises comfort to the recently bereaved, extending people's 'lives' through uncannily true-to-life holograms. But are they simply bringing back to 'life' or are they trading in digital cures and a morally dubious vision of human perfection? When they zoom in on Cora, who is neurodivergent, for their research programme, things take a sinister turn. Can Cora and best friend, Adrien, expose Pomegranate's ambitions in time? Can they quite literally save humanity?



Shortlisted for the 2022 Little Rebels Book Award

Social Justice Themes: Disability Rights; Ethics; Well-being; Equal Treatment

Things to talk about

- •Early in the novel the reader starts to understand that the principle character, Cora, is neurodivergent. How does the author indicate this?
- •Initially Cora believes that Pomegranate's work is valuable and she agrees to be interviewed. What do you think her reasons are?
- •When Mr Ramsey picks the students for the newspaper editorial team his choices are discriminatory. How do we know this?
- •Why do you think Adrien suggests the name 'The Spectrum' for their newspaper?
- •Ethics is an important theme of this novel. What do you understand by ethics and how does it apply to this book?

Activities

•What is 'normal' and who gets to decide is central to Show Us Who You Are. Can you think of things that are considered normal today but were not in the past?

Extended

•Alan Turing is mentioned a number of times in this novel. Do some historical research to discover more about him, his work (particularly the Turing Test) and why he is important.

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Resource written by @littlerebsprize