

The List of Things that will not Change

.By Rebecca Stead

Reviewed by Sally



The List of Things That Will Not Change is a beautifully written, reassuring story that I think all kids will love, from the award-winning author Rebecca Stead.

The story is told through the voice of the main character Bea, a 10 year girl who is faced with the news that her parents are getting divorced. When she is told this news by her parents, they give her a special notebook, to alleviate any fears of the changes that are about to confront her. A notebook to write a list of things that will not change, and the top of the list is “mum and dad will always love me”.

Bea recounts the story and covers the events from her parents’ divorce when she was 8 years old to the present, her father’s wedding to his boyfriend Jesse. Bea lives with both her mum and her dad on different days of the week and enjoys having two rooms, a cat at mums and a dog at dads. Bea is excited about a wedding and the knowledge that she will now have stepsister the same age, just as she has always wanted.

Through the story Bea must face up to her fears and reveal a secret she has been keeping since last summer, learn about building relationships and discover the good and sad sides to families. The story evokes all your emotions, teaches you about being true to yourself, developing the resilience to grow and reassurance to face change. It covers the topical social issue of gay marriage in an excellent way.

I really enjoyed this story, and recommend it. Ages 8-13
Also available as an E book

You can find this book in the Children’s stories section, filed under – Stead, R.

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