

Gangsta Granny - 100% SHEET

PLOT	KEY CHARACTERS
<p>Set in Basildon, the book centres around Ben, an 11-year-old boy who visits his paternal grandmother's house every Friday whilst his parents go out dancing. Ben dislikes the weekly visits as he finds Granny, who has an obsession with cabbage products, boring. After Ben finds a large box of jewellery, Granny reveals herself to have been an international jewel thief known as the 'Black Cat' involved in many high-profile heists during her youth but she tells Ben that she was never able to raid the Crown Jewels, kept in the Tower of London. This prompts Ben, who has a passion for plumbing, to devise a plan to raid the Tower. Granny agrees to go along with Ben's plans.</p> <p>At the same time, Ben's parents Mike and Linda, who are dance fanatics and unaware of Ben's passion for plumbing, intend to enrol Ben into a ballroom dancing competition as a partner to Florence. Granny's local neighbours, Mr Parker and his son, watch over Ben's movements to and from Granny's house and suspect that the duo is up to no good.</p> <p>Granny suffers a fall and is found to have a terminal illness. Ben helps her escape from the hospital and the plan for the heist continues. On the day of the heist, he forgets the competition and, not having practised once with Florence, who condemns him to dance alone at the last minute, Ben embarrasses himself on the dance floor. Florence's mother, Kelly leads a mob against the family after Linda kisses the competition's host, Flavio Flavioli.</p> <p>Following the catastrophe, Ben returns to his grandmother's house to continue with the heist. After Mr Parker fails to thwart the heist by tipping off a policeman Ben and Granny are escorted by the police to the Tower. They gain access to the White Tower in which the Crown Jewels are kept through the</p>	<p>Ben - Ben is 11, an only child and a poor reader, whose ambition is to be a plumber. Every Friday he visits his Granny, while his parents go to watch ballroom dancing, and he hates those dull, smelly, cabbage-dominated evenings. Then he discovers that his Granny isn't quite what she seems, and life takes a dramatic turn for the better.</p> <p>Granny - Ben thinks his Granny is boring – “I hate spending time with her” he protests to his parents, “The TV doesn't work, all she wants to do is play Scrabble, and she stinks of cabbage.” She farts a lot and Ben hates that! But little does Ben know that his grandma has been an international jewel thief her entire life, and now needs his help to steal the crown jewels. From cabbage-induced flatulence to zooming down the motorway in her mobility scooter, only one thing is for certain with Ben's granny: expect the unexpected.</p> <p>Raj, the Newsagent – Lovable newsagent and fan-favourite Raj appears in (nearly) all of the David Walliams novels. Described as being “like the funny uncle you always wished you had” – but even better, he sells sweets – Raj is neither teacher nor parent, so he can give the young characters his honest advice along with a dubious bargain or two, such as discounts on half-eaten sweets. He often tries to sell the characters in the books things for ridiculous prices.</p> <p>Mum and Dad – Mum and Dad are like any parents. They're usually kind and caring but they are not really sure what their child is up to. Both parents adore dancing and one day hope that Ben, their son, will give up on his aim of being a plumber and instead become a world-class ballroom dancer. Mum and Dad don't have a clue about Granny and her hidden talent for thievery.</p>

complex's sewerage system and a diversion which unsettles the patrols of the Tower's Yeoman Warders. Once inside the White Tower, the duo is met by Queen Elizabeth II who pardons them with the message that young people should be more caring of the elderly. In front of the Queen, Granny reveals to Ben that the jewellery in her box is supposedly plastic and that she had made up her biography when she had realised how boring Ben thought she was.

Granny dies, and her jewellery box is donated to charity. Ben reads at his local newsagent's that a jewellery box worth millions had been anonymously left at a charity shop. Granny's legacy is remembered, all the way through to Christmas.

KEY QUOTES

“All you can do in this life is follow your dreams. Otherwise you're just wasting your time.”

This quote is by Granny, explaining why it's important to enjoy every minute of your life, not to be stuck doing boring things but out in the open, exploring the world and trying anything you fancy.

“Adults always ask kids how they are doing at school. The one subject kids absolutely hate talking about. You don't even want to talk about school when you are at school.”

THEMES

Judgement: Ben discovers that he shouldn't be so judgmental. At first, he thinks that his granny is just old and boring and he has no fun, but when he discovers a secret about her he realizes that she is really cool and fun to be around. Unfortunately for Ben, it takes him too long to realise and his time with her is cut short. Over the course of the story, you start to understand find out about Granny's jewels and she tells Ben her stories, you see that Granny has another side to her that Ben absolutely adores.

Confidence: Before the jewels incident the author describes Ben as a shy, dull kid but when the jewels come into play he has more enthusiasm, he starts to get a passion that someone is supporting with him (Granny)

WRITER'S INTENTION & CONTEXT

A hilarious and moving story of old age, adventure, stolen jewels and swimming the Thames, from David Walliams, number one bestseller and fastest growing children's author in the country.

“I absolutely love David Walliams's books. In a few more years they will become classics.” – Sue Townsend, author of Adrian Mole

Ben explaining to those reading exactly why him and his parents don't see eye-to-eye. As with most parents, their conversation about school usually only consists of boring questions that they probably already know the answer to.

“No buts, Ben. No. ‘N’ and ‘O’ spells ‘no’.”

This quote tells the reader that Ben regularly questions decisions made by adults as Granny is quite literally having to spell out her answer / decision.

“This went on for a few minutes, but to save paper and therefore the trees and therefore the forests and therefore the environment and therefore the world I have tried to keep it short.”

Ben explaining that he could give you every detail about anything that Granny has been said or done in the story helps him to show just how good his memory is for later on in the story.

“fact, if there was a fire in their house, and Mum could only save either a sparkly gold tap-shoe once worn by Flavio Flavioli (the shiny, tanned dancer and heartbreaker from Italy who appeared on every series of the hit TV show) or her only child, Ben thought she would probably go for the shoe.”

Ben thinks that his Mum and Dad prefer Flavio Flavioli and his belongings that their real son.

and because of that he starts asking question in all of his classes. Firstly, he talks about the crown jewels and ask his friends because it is something that he is wanting to do with his granny, then he researches plumbing for their heist and becomes more confident.

Family: The story is about a stereotypical family, they speak to each other but not that much. As with any family, they have their differences and struggle to understand each other at some points. However, this all changes when Ben discovers Granny's secret hobby, which gives Ben a new understanding of himself and those close to him.

Our hero Ben is bored beyond belief after he is made to stay at his grandma's house. She's the boringest grandma ever: all she wants to do is to play Scrabble, and eat cabbage soup. But there are two things Ben doesn't know about his grandma.

1) She was once an international jewel thief.

2) All her life, she has been plotting to steal the Crown Jewels, and now she needs Ben's help...

KEY TERMINOLOGY

Character

Writer

Setting

Narrative

Chapter

Predict

Inference

Interpretation

Analysis

“the last few miles of the Atlantic Ocean back to England with all of the jewellery hidden in her knickers. Granny”

This shows that Granny was willing to do whatever it took to escape with jewels, adding to her reputation as the prolific Black Cat.

“As she took each step a little bubble of wind puffed out of her saggy bottom. It sounded like a duck quacking. Either she didn’t realise or was extremely good at pretending she didn’t realise.”

Foreshadowing

Suspense

Mood

Atmosphere

Tone

Relationship

