

## Task for *Grace Beside Me*

### Double-entry journal – additional scaffolding

In the text	My connections
<i>I never enjoyed playing with dolls as a child so I wasn't into Barbie, and Ken of course is a total wanker. (p. 5).</i>	<b>Prompt questions:</b> We often pigeonhole people in terms of their gender – ‘macho guy’ vs ‘sensitive guy’, or ‘girly girl’ vs ‘tomboy’ – what do you think you are seen as? How were you seen as a child? Do you think you are seen as the ‘ideal’ kind of male or female?
<i>Many people reckon Laurel Dale is one of those towns, neither here nor there. Blink and you miss it. (p. 7).</i>	<b>Prompt questions:</b> Have you experienced living in a small country town? A city? How do they compare?
<i>...some kids might know of Muhammad Ali but fewer recognise Lionel Rose. Me, I know heaps about both of them, especially Lionel Rose. He was a great Koorie boxer, real deadly. (p. 17)</i>	<b>Prompt question:</b> Have you ever had the experience where your cultural knowledge is different to the majority of others around you, and people don't understand the cultural references you make?
<i>I've been in trouble for so many things it's hard to remember them all. The most well-known include: cutting all the flowers off Nan's rose bushes, all of them; having a go at moving Pop's car and running into the back fence; age nine my cousin taught me how to hypnotise a chook and Nan's chickens didn't lay for two weeks. Age eleven I got into Nan's jewellery box and accidentally broke an earring Pop gave her when they were married. I tried to make hot chocolate in the electric kettle. And at age thirteen while Nan and Pop were visiting next door my cousin and I thought it would be a good idea to have a couple of glasses of Nan's sweet sherry. (p. 18)</i>	<b>Prompt questions:</b> What have you been in trouble for? What things are sacrilege in your family?
<i>Dad always sends gifts in the mail and rings every Wednesday at 7:30 pm. He expects me to speak proper and go places he didn't. I love Dad but I know I just wasn't meant to live with him. Being a girl and all, I guess life could be challenging with just the two of us, that's why Nan and Pop look after me. (p. 42)</i>	<b>Prompt questions:</b> Have you experienced living away from a parent? Have you felt that a parent or caregiver has expected a lot from you, or wanted more for you than what they themselves had achieved?
<i>'Sorry Day' chapter – Mr Sidebottom teaching the class about the stolen generation; Catherine Turnbull –'old money' – "Well my family and I believe all of this nonsense with the so-called Stolen Generation is a waste of time and money. Surely Mr Rudd has better things to do, like looking after the people on the land." (p. 71)</i>	<b>Prompt questions:</b> Have you had similar discussions in class? When have you felt offended or reacted to another student's viewpoint (not necessarily just about the Stolen Generations)?
<i>So in our house on ANZAC Day we all get up around four in the morning, for the big day ahead...We go to dawn service first. We always</i>	<b>Prompt questions:</b> Is ANZAC Day big in your family? Do you have a certain ritual or tradition?

<p><i>have a little cry, all of us, then to the RSL for brekkie. After that we watch Pop and the Lower Bago Pipe Band march up the street playing away. Pop and Nan catch up with friends and yarn on for hours. We stay for lunch at the RSL and finally in the afternoon, after playing two-up, we mosey on home with a purse full of winnings. (p. 129)</i></p>	
<p><i>It has been a week and I have moped around the house long enough. It is time to ask Pop and Nan to drive me out to Lola's Forest, a reserve just out of town. The forest is healing, a great place to visit when you need a quiet moment. (p. 188)</i></p>	<p><b>Prompt questions:</b> What do you do when you are dealing with hurt/anger/confusion/sadness? Do you have a special place to go, a certain ritual? In what ways do you think the outdoors is a good place to deal with issues and clear your head?</p>