

Chapter 9 pp. 59 - 65 Meeting Oona

Read the first few lines a couple of times and then the whole page a couple of times. I hope you smile at the way Smith writes.

p. 60 Not before reading this book and looking up the name Briar did I realise that it is connected with the name 'Rose'. A briar, as you know from other reading, is also a word for a blackberry bush. Almost anything with thorns growing in an inhabited (by humans) area.

p. 61

I haven't yet found the song referred to here. It is not Bob Dylan or Tom Waits.

p. 62

rot - rubbish

Why doesn't Briar tell her story?

p. 63

elusive = *schlüpfrig, schwer fassbar*. (from the verb : elude)

I can imagine this scene (61 - 63) as being very comic as a film.

p. 64

On page 54 the term SUPERA BOUNDER is printed but I don't know if it is a play on something that I haven't understood.

What does Bri mean by 'Why do they want us to feel so temporary?' cf p. 42

skipping rate - she just means 'fast'

skip = *hüpfen* (really 1 foot jumps then hops, then the next foot jumps and then hops....)

to take care = *aufpassen*; usually 'caretaker' = *Hausmeister* but of course only by derivation

p. 65

dead end - the end of a cul de sac / Is Oona magical?

Chapter 10 pp. 66 - 68

'I didn't want Leif to be over' = ? / show off - *angeben*

p. 67

'render' comes up a lot after this. Look it up in your usual dictionary. It has so many meanings. For Bri, too.) Here I suggest it means 'make, change'. (*Sie machen uns völlig überflüssig/unantastbar/.....* for example)

immortal - somebody who never dies - god, witch....) Mortality = *Sterblichkeit*

'There's no them or us' - there is no difference between them (the people in power) and us

filched - stolen/borrowed

p. 68 Ali Smith is playing with us here, too, though she is probably writing technical sense at the same time.

Chapter 11 pp. 69 -

p. 69

wilting - *verwelkend* / stroll - walk without aim

p. 72

nothingly - Ali Smith has made up this word.

How do feel as readers at the end of this chapter?

How do we feel about the siblings - and about what they do with the buttercups etc.?