

# YEAR 3/4 BOOK WARMER



Set in 2009 Britain, the story researches cryonic suspension and life in 1956 Britain.



## GENRE: SCIENCE FICTION NOVEL

...a genre of speculative fiction that contains imagined elements that don't exist in the real world. Science fiction spans a wide range of themes that often explore time travel, space travel, are set in the future, and deal with the consequences of technological and scientific advances.



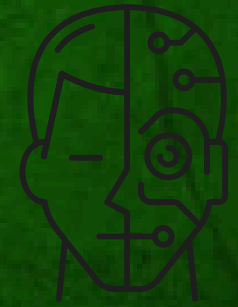
Freddy and Polly are used to helping their father with his experiments. So they don't mind being put into cryonic suspension - having their hearts frozen until their father wakes them up again. They know it will only be for an hour or two, so there's nothing to worry about . . .

## COURAGE

### WATCH THE BOOK TRAILER



## TIME TRAVEL



Indeed, two of the main characters are from the 1950s, frozen in time as early teenagers by their father's experimentation into cryonics. Woken in 2009 by their thirteen-year old great-nephew and -niece, they find fifty years' worth of changes hard to cope with, especially when the reverberations of the Cold War threaten to plunge them into the world of espionage and official secrets.

This is an exciting thriller with a nail-biting denouement, and a great deal of humour, largely created by the difference between the experience and expectations of mid-twentieth and early twenty-first century children.

## FRIENDSHIP



## KEY VOCABULARY

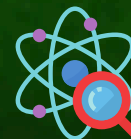
**Vault:** a large room or chamber used for storage, especially an underground one. A 'hidden' or 'underground' vault is used to keep something secret.

**Cryonic suspension:** the low-temperature freezing and storage of human remains, with the speculative hope that resurrection may be possible in the future

## DIVERSITY & INCLUSION



**BEN AND RACHEL CAN'T BELIEVE THEIR EYES WHEN THEY FIND A HIDDEN UNDERGROUND VAULT AT THE BOTTOM OF THEIR GARDEN. INSIDE ARE TWO FROZEN FIGURES, A BOY AND A GIRL, WHOSE SCIENTIST FATHER LEFT THEM THERE IN CRYONIC SUSPENSION OVER FIFTY YEARS AGO. THEN RACHEL ACCIDENTALLY PRESSES A BUTTON, AND SOMETHING INCREDIBLE HAPPENS . . .**



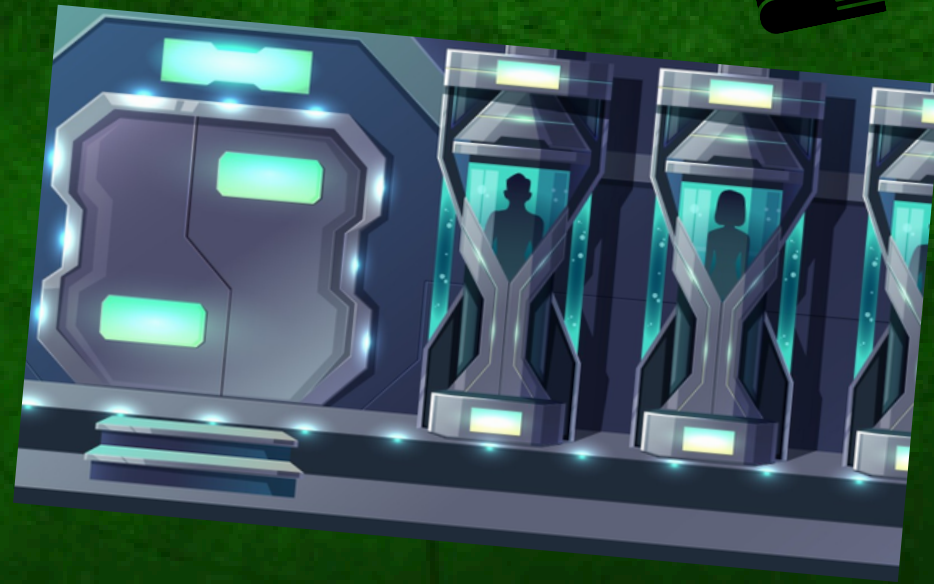
Meet The author...

# ALI SPARKES



Alison Sparkes is a British children's author. She is best known for her Shapeshifter book series.

Have you read any other books by this author?



# MAIN CHARACTERS

Ben and Rachel

Freddy and Polly

Modern day pre-teens  
Brother and sister  
11 and 13  
Live in Britain

1956 pre-teens  
Brother and sister  
Rachel and Ben's great aunt and uncle  
Live in Britain

## "Frozen in Time"

to describe something that appears unchanged or preserved exactly as it was at a particular moment, despite the passage of time.



## BOOK PREVIEW...



LONDON, TWO YEARS BEFORE

The man in the dark grey trench coat walked briskly along the Embankment, cursing the cold and his lack of gloves. It had been years since he'd been called out to a secret rendezvous—he was past this kind of thing. But the name rang a bell. Made him curious. Astonished, in fact.

The old boy was waiting under Westminster Bridge, as promised, his thick coat cut like a Russian's. He didn't try to shake hands, but nodded slowly, several times, when he saw his old, old colleague.

'By God, it is you, Dick. I can't believe you have the nerve—even after fifty years!'

Dick smiled. A miserable smile. 'I came to give you information. About Henry. I have to clear my conscience. It wasn't him ... it was me. I was your man—not Henry. He had no choice. That's all.'

The man in the dark grey trench coat shook his head. 'What do you want?'

'To be here again, in England, for the rest of my life ... It won't be long.'

'And Henry? And his children? What about them?'

'His children?' The old man looked shocked.

'You didn't take them?'

' ... Didn't you?'