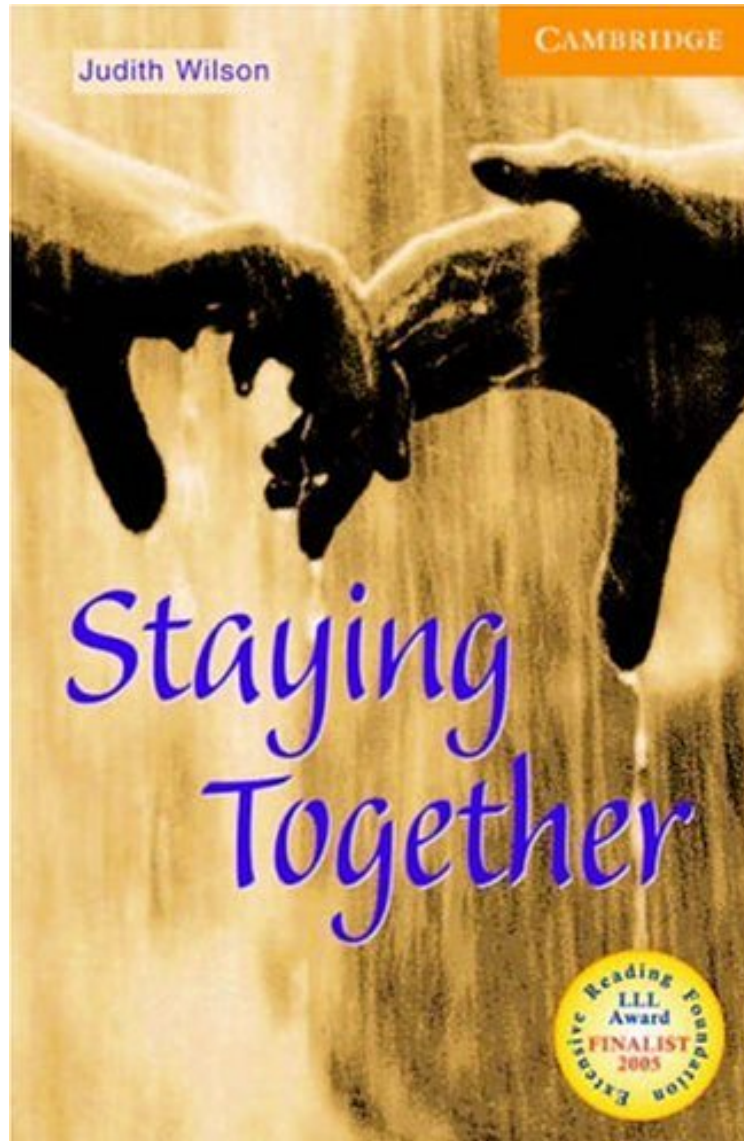


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Staying Together Level 4 (Cambridge English Readers)

Von Wilson

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Von Wilson : Staying Together Level 4 (Cambridge English Readers) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Staying Together Level 4 (Cambridge English Readers):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Neverending quest for the place to feel at homeVon Ein KundeI ordered Judith Wilson's "Staying Together" to improve my English skills, but at that point of time I didn't know that this book - rated as Level 4 by the Cambridge University Press - was way too easy for me. Nevertheless, I really enjoyed reading it; I finished this impressingly,

touchingly, but mainly superficially written novel within a day. It's up to the reader to read between the lines in order to get the full understanding of the whole situation since Wilson herself doesn't go into details concerning feelings too much. Since the story is quite short (80 pages) and the plot progresses rather fast, it's self-evident that some writing element is neglected - and here it is the deeper, more intensive insights to the world of feelings of the main character(s). Anyway, remembering that it is supposed to be a novel for English learners, I have to point out its brilliance at introducing the mostly young adult reader to the world of cultural differences and the personal changes young people undergo while trying to explore their own identities by going on their quest for the place to feel at home in the world. Indeed, the plot takes place in Japan, in England, in Zambia as well as in Egypt. Therefore, the reader himself is sent on a quest with the novel's characters and is absolutely forced to follow them. The only thing irritating me was the sudden cut in time and place after the first part of the book: part two comes up with a new place (Egypt), new people that until the end seem to have nothing to do with the people the reader got used to in the first part, and a completely new plot. Furthermore, the second part takes place about 50 years later. On the one hand, I know that this cut was Wilson's absolute intention and that it makes sense after all, but on the other hand it comes too early in the story. At the point of the cut, the reader has just got used to the main character's (Ikuko) situation and I would have loved to stay with her and follow her for a little more. Because of that little irritation only four but bright stars! This novel is warmly recommended!

Kurzbeschreibung Modern, original fiction for learners of English. Ikuko goes to England to study English, promising her boyfriend Hiroshi she will return to Japan to marry him. However, in Birmingham Ikuko discovers a whole new world and falls in love with another overseas student. Ikuko's journey across the world not only teaches her about different ways of life but also becomes a voyage of self-discovery. Pressestimmen 'What distinguishes the series from all the others is the zest and freshness of the text. Where the emphasis in other series is on plain and straightforward language, Cambridge English Reading texts typically use very modern expressions and the dialogue is faster moving. This has an impact on the quality of the audio cassettes, which make for very enjoyable listening.' David R. Hill, Survey : Readers, ELT Journal 'It was only a matter of time before a major ELT publisher set out to challenge the market dominance of Penguin Classics in the area of readers ... CUP have hit back admirably. With something for everyone in your classes, this series is well worth investing in. In fact, it's going to be a difficult act to follow by other publishers.' IATEFL Issues 'The series breaks new ground in two respects. The first is the light and informal style of writing. It is notoriously difficult to write fluent prose using restricted lexis and syntax. Part of the secret is to use word and grammar lists flexibly; but it requires flair and a good ear to produce prose and dialogue that read so well and give such a genuine flavour of modern idiom.' English Teaching Professional 'These were a very good read: exciting fast-moving stories at all levels, and a good mixture of subjects. Most touched on up-to-date themes, such as corruption, refugees, psychology, hunger, feminism, or ecology without being prosy, or moralising.' BaNina Vivanco, SATEFL Newsletter Vol 19 No 3 'This is a well presented, authentic looking series of readers that students should enjoy. They are graded into five levels, and the accompanying cassette will be useful, especially for pronunciation - audio versions are very popular with students.' Josephine Caruana, Network News, Issue 34
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