



[Home](#) > Orange Wendy

Orange Wendy

Books Reviewed:

[Orange Wendy](#) [1]

Issue:

[38](#) [2]

Reviewer:

[Terry Downie](#) [3]

~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

0

This was first published in 1974. I used to see it circulate the 4th year alongside **What About it Sharon?** and **Vicky Takes a Chance**. A good one for the book box with discussion, where readers could explore style and how texts echo texts, as well as the issues. It's autobiographical exorcism; orange is how Wendy felt in the good bits and what she hopes for the future. She's 15, fat, ugly and bright, asked out by a boy and involved in shop-lifting; there's death, betrayal and rejection. Wendy talks to us, edits her story, works through her feelings about this grey period. She writes so she 'knows it's real' in a conversational way with casual literary references ('you can always skip the bits you want to' - useful tip) and ends with poems that make her feel deeply - McGough, Prévert, Tennyson, Yevtuschenko... she makes them her own and hopes we'll share that understanding. Wish I'd asked those 4th years to respond to that.

Running Order:

1

Source URL (retrieved on Apr '21): <http://savfikn.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/38/childrens-books/reviews/orange-wendy>

Links:

[1] <http://savfikn.booksforkeeps.co.uk/childrens-books/orange-wendy>

[2] <http://savfikn.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/38>

[3] <http://savfikn.booksforkeeps.co.uk/member/terry-downie>