

“ MEET ME IN ISTANBUL”: EVERY SECRET HAS THE TRUTH

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I love detective stories because they keep me interested from the beginning to the end. So it is why I really liked *Meet Me in Istanbul* by Richard Chisholm. It was first published in 1979 and became a popular Macmillan reader for the English learner. The story begins when Tom Smith arrives in Istanbul to meet his fiancée Angela. He is excited as they are set to get married. But it is a new scene when he finds that Angela died in a car accident the week before. Tom cannot believe, as he saw her alive. He doesn't return home and decides to stay in Istanbul and find out. From this point on, the story turns into a fascinating detective adventure with mystery and danger and unexpected discoveries.

From the very beginning Richard Chisholm builds suspense. When I read, I was always hungry to know what was going to happen next. Each new chapter gave me another clue, but at the same time raised more questions. I could not get the book down; I wanted to get to the bottom of it with Tom. My attitude towards Tom Smith is very positive. He is brave, intent, loyal. He didn't believe Angela's death at first, but instead he's staying in Istanbul to find out what really happened. I think this decision was very brave because he was in a foreign country and had no one to help him. But Tom took some foolish risks in the past too. He might have brought the police in again and then asked the police for assistance instead of trying to solve it all by himself.

Angela is another interesting character. That is all the mystery she is; in the story she is mysterious so that readers are left wondering about her. Richard Chisholm created her so well. I cannot trust her until the end of the book, I think. That mystery is why the novel is so compelling.

I liked Inspector Yilmaz as well. He was calm, intelligent, patient with the case. He didn't make quick conclusions and he had to take a long time to process the evidence before he made decisions. And I think he could have trusted Tom a little

bit earlier even though Tom was trying to come to the truth and that's what makes him a good police officer.

I liked what this book ended with. I had to think over who could be trusted and what had really happened while reading it. Richard Chisholm keeps the mystery alive until the final chapters of the book, making the reader really think like a detective. I got so much enjoyment from trying to solve the case with Tom, and the surprise ending made it even more interesting in my eyes.

