



The Girl With The Dragon Heart

Author: Stephanie Burgis

Published by Bloomsbury

ISBN: 9781408880777

Synopsis:

Once upon a time, in a beautiful city famous for chocolate and protected by dragons, there was a girl so fearless that she dared to try and tell the greatest story of all- the truth.

Silke has always been good at spinning the truth and storytelling. So good that just years after arriving as a penniless orphan, she has found her way up to working for the most splendid chocolate makers in the city (oh, and becoming best friends with a dragon). Now her gift for weaving words has caught the eye of the royal family, who want to use her as a spy when the mysterious and dangerous Fairy royal family announce they will visit the city. But Silke has her own dark, secret reasons for not trusting Fairies -

Can Silke find out the truth about the Fairies while keeping her own secrets hidden'

Author / Illustrator Bio:

Stephanie Burgis grew up in East Lansing, Michigan, but now lives in Wales with her husband and two sons, surrounded by mountains, castles and coffee shops. She is the author of four MG fantasy adventures, including *The Dragon with a Chocolate Heart* (Bloomsbury 2017) and the *Kat, Incorrigible* trilogy (published in the UK as *The Unladylike Adventures of Kat Stephenson*). She has also published two historical fantasy novels for adults, *Masks and Shadows* and *Congress of Secrets* (Pyr Books 2016) and nearly forty short stories for adults and teens in various magazines and anthologies. Her first book, *A Most Improper Magick* (a.k.a. *Kat, Incorrigible* in the US), won the 2011 Waverton Good Read Children's Award for the Best Début Children's Novel by a British Author.



Note for teachers, librarians and bookclubs: If your class or bookclub has read one of my books, I'm always happy to do a fifteen-minute Q&A Skype visit for free. Just [contact me](#) to set it up!

Curriculum Links

The Arts Drama Year 5 [ACADRM036](#)

English Year 5 [ACELY1707](#)

Themes:

Friendship

Family

Loyalty

The Arts - Drama



Silke is a storyteller. She can charm anyone with her stories.

Get each person in class to think of a story. It can be re-telling of a favourite fairy tale or a family anecdote that has been told over and over again.

Students can write their stories out, but the purpose of this activity is to tell the story, using voice to create character, mood and atmosphere.

After the stories are written, give the students time to learn them, and practise at home and in small groups before presenting to the class.

Make students aware that they don't have to learn the story word for word, they just need to be able to tell it in some version to the class.

English

Chocolate plays an important role in this book.

There are all sorts of interesting facts about chocolate.

Here's an example : **30 Facts About Chocolate.**

<https://www.factslides.com/s-Chocolate>

Use this link as inspiration and have students (in groups) collate their own weird and wonderful facts about chocolate - the weirder the better.

Have each group create their own presentation using graphics and effects.

Like the slide show in the link, make sure students add a link to their sources (if online source used), or book information, if using books.

If you liked this book you might like to read the first book featuring Adventurine and Silke

