



Changing life stories

EURO 2017 Writing exercise 6

Was Lily right to do what she did?

Today's writing exercise links to chapter six of Dutch Diaries. You will need to read it to take part.

One of the most important things about writing is making your characters feel authentic. What they do and say needs to match their personality and their motivation. But sometimes you can read a story or watch a film and are left thinking *They would never have done that...* or *They shouldn't have done that.*

In *Dutch Diaries* Lily has the chance to allow her big rival, Anya, to be punished for her mean behaviour. But Lily chooses to cover for Anya, so that her rival is not banned from visiting the Anne Frank House and from seeing the England v Scotland game.

Did Lily make the right choice?

What would you have done if you were Lily?

Would you have written that scene if you were the writer – or would you have had Lily decide to do something different?

How do you think this will affect Lily and Anya's rivalry?

Do you think Tom Palmer made a mistake in what he chose to do with the story?

Tom Palmer would love it if you could talk about it and send him a few lines about what you think. And be honest. Please ask your teacher to email him via info@tompalmer.co.uk.

Thank you.

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