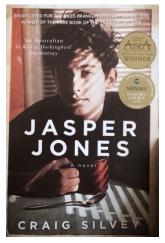


## **Jasper Jones**

By Craig Silvey



Late on a hot summer night in 1965, Charlie Bucktin, a precocious and bookish boy of thirteen, is startled by an urgent knock on the window of his sleep-out. His visitor is Jasper Jones, an outcast in the regional mining town of Corrigan.

Rebellious, mixed-race and solitary, Jasper is a distant figure of danger and intrigue for Charlie. So when Jasper begs for his help, Charlie eagerly steals into the night by his side, terribly afraid but desperate to impress. Jasper takes him to his secret glade in the bush, and it's here that Charlie bears witness to Jasper's horrible discovery.

## **Discussion Questions:**

1. Why does Charlie go with Jasper given that he only knows bad things about him?

2. In what ways do you think Charlie, a bookish teen, and Jasper, marginalised due to his indigenous heritage, must grow up in a way that some of the adult characters never have?

3. Explore some of the themes within the book such as assimilation with the White Australia Policy or the damage of secret or rumours to interactions between families.
4. Do you think any of the issues raised within the book can be applied to today's world?
5. What traits most describe the complexity of Charlie, Jeffrey and Jasper's parents?
Thank you to our volunteer Anam for choosing the title and creating this resource.