



2006

Tanglewreck

Laura Wadley

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Winterson, Jeanette. *Tanglewreck*. Bloomsbury, 2006. ISBN 1582349193. \$16.95. 416 p.

Reviewer: Laura Wadley

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Science fiction; Fantasy; Adventure;

Subject: Time--Juvenile fiction; Time travel--Juvenile fiction; Clocks and watches--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Strange things are happening in London: a school bus full of children is sucked off the road and into the eye of the Pharaoh's obelisk; a woolly mammoth is seen on the banks of the Thames. Time is seriously askew.

Silver Rivers lives with her cold and cranky Aunt Rokabye at the ancestral heap of Tanglewreck when she suddenly becomes a "person of interest" to Abel Blackwater, a frightening, ageless clockmaker, and Regalia Mason, also ageless and very scary--or maybe not. Silver is believed to know the whereabouts of the Timekeeper, a clock whose owner controls Time. She doesn't know where it is, but her enemies know that she will find it in spite of herself. Extraordinary adventures follow along the length and breadth of the time-space continuum, if it has recognizable dimension, which mostly it doesn't. Will Silver find the Timekeeper and save her friend Gabriel from the Black Hole? and the schoolchildren from the Deportation Station? and herself from even greater perils? Time will tell (ha ha).

Winterson, much-honored author of adult books, has turned her attention with marvelous effect to a time travel adventure for children, filled with science, religion, magic and a remarkable young girl around which events swirl. Plot-driven and character-driven, *Tanglewreck* should prove to be a book of lasting interest to both young people and adults.