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The Unvisibles

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Oliver Gasper and Nicky Chew are neighbors. They both are in Year 7 at Honnington House Secondary, a school for boys in England. That is where their similarities end. Oliver's family owns an antique shop. His mother and father are struggling to make ends meet and keep their business alive; his older sister is self-absorbed and moody. On the other hand, Nicky lives in an orderly house with his prim and proper mother, Sally.

One evening, Oliver is paging through a magazine article about an ancient Indian invisibility trick. The idea of becoming invisible intrigues him, and he repeats the mysterious incantation given in the article. His invisible escapades begin!

At first he finds being invisible exciting and exhilarating. But when his magazine disappears and he can't remember how to become visible again, he employs the unenthusiastic aid of his neighbor Nicky in his quest to return to normal. The two become fast friends as they help one another in an "invisible" adventure.

The book jacket by Tony Ross is reminiscent of Quentin Blake's illustrations. Similarly, Whybrow's writing screams of Roald Dahl's style. The quick British wit, occasional potty jokes, and unique and memorable characters make this semi-mystical story the Matilda for a whole new generation.