

'China Lee' by Sue Limb is a fascinating, gripping story. When I first started reading the book I thought it was going to be very normal and boring. As I read further I discovered little hints to show it was going to get stranger and funnier by the page and that's when I started to enjoy the suspense of what's going to happen next.

The novel tells the story of a girl called China Lee who lives in a normal family environment, she has an older sister called Rose which she fight's with daily, and a dog called Staff she adores. The only drawback in her life was her sister's boyfriend 'Nick' whom she detests and sees right through his sickly sweet behavior towards her parents and sister. The highlight of china's life at the moment is her school project: 'to visit an old person and help them wash the dishes etc.'. She meets Mr. Jupiter a feeble worried old man and starts to go over regularly to look after him she first thinks he is an ordinary untidy man. But her opinion quickly changes when he shows her one of his machines which lets her hear what is happening at her own home, and he warns her to keep his machines a secret. The next time china visits him she brings her friend along with her, Grant, he gets along well with Mr. Jupiter who shows them another machine which tells them what is going to happen to them tonight. The words: DANGER, EXTREME DANGER FEAR AND TERROR flashed across the screen. And that very night they witnessed china's mum's electronics shop being robbed by 2 guys in baklava's when staff ran after them and was not found till the next day with the help of one of Mr. Jupiter's machines. (strangely enough at this point China started to think Mr. Jupiter was a god of some kind and questioned him and Grant about it) The next day staff acted very strangely with Nick, he was vicious and nasty, and it then clicked to china that Nick was involved in the robbery. She quickly went to Mr. Jupiter's and made sure her prediction was true with one of the machines. She then went home and told her parents who

told her sister whom none of them believed her, Rose then told her the truth about Nick's life, (his real parents abandoned him and his foster parents abandoned him) but this does not change China's opinion of him. The next day Nick hears about Mr. Jupiter's machines and robs the place. He then tries some of the machines with his robber partner, Div, when the electricity cuts out (because of Mr. Jupiter's beard gets stuck in his toaster) just in time before Div presses the earth destruct button which would have really destructed the earth. They later notice a machine which works on a battery and they decide to try it, it shows them their future in 10 years time and Nick is in prison. This experience makes Nick question himself, confess to Rose of his ill doings and take back Mr. Jupiter his machines. The next day Mr. Jupiter disappears and china finds his toaster, and keeps it, and Nick confesses to the police. And all ends well.

There are many exciting episodes in the book, but the one that appealed to me the most was when China heard her dad fighting with the dog over a piece of beef on one of Mr. Jupiter's machines. Because it made me laugh how he still used the meat after it had been in the dogs mouth and every1 ate it without noticing anything, except china who knew the truth and exclaimed that it was a little bit doggy tasting. And her dad looked very guilty and tried to change the subject.

One character in the story I found particularly queer was Mr. Jupiter, as he is a worrier and gets angry over bad things in the world, he is very clever as well and his inventions are a work of art and imagination. The way he looks makes him even more queer as he is thin and has a long white beard which is

very dirty and he expresses himself with it like when he is angry he ties it into knots.

He is also very wise but confused which is humorous as he mixes up his words and the sayings he knows. I can imagine meeting someone like that and telling them about this story and seeing the reaction that would be funny!!

I thought that this book was extremely enjoyable to read, I loved it and could never put it down, the suspense was enormous, and I recommend it to everyone as it is suitable for all ages. I found it funny touching and exciting and would like to read some more stories for this writer. It was a charming and unusual book I am sure I will read many times.