

Jenny Burks

Humanities Teacher



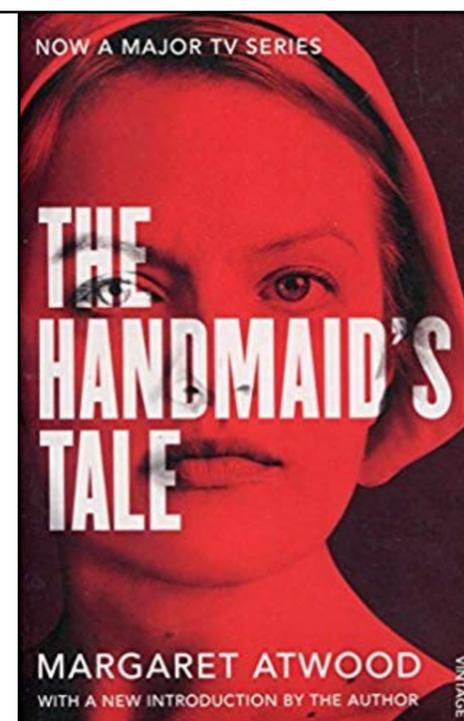
When do you do your reading?

I tend not to read for pleasure too much in term time but then read lots in the school holidays and when abroad. When I start a book it usually means I don't want to put it down so find it best to read when I have time to devote myself to the task. Also if I'm on holiday it is useful to be able to swap books and recommendations with friends and family.

What is your favourite book ?

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood .

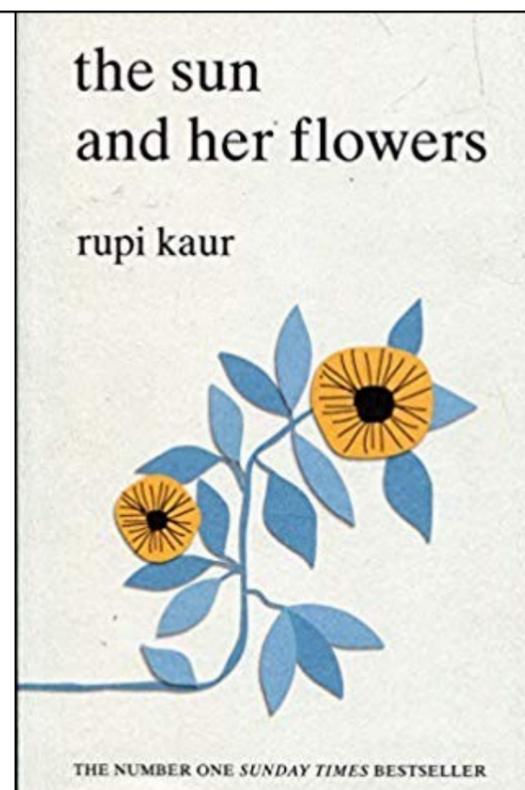
I read when the book when I was 17 as part of my English Literature A level and found it opened my eyes to the fragility of how we live today. The symbolism captured my imagination and I loved that a lot of the plot was left unanswered so you didn't know entirely what had happened and needed to fill in the gaps yourself. My teacher also pointed out the clever devices and ways in which patriarchy is shown in the book so really felt absorbed in it.



What are you currently reading?

The Sun and her Flowers by Rupi Kaur

A book of poetry is not normally something I would read but was on a book club list. I found it really easy to read and quickly whizzing through it because the style of it gripped in and made me kept wanting to turn to the next poem. They don't need to be interpreted and analysed much but the author's choice of language and the way in which they expressed themselves is beautifully done. Very glad to read something a bit different.



Any advice for young people re reading habits?

Don't feel reading is simply about reading novels or high brow materials. Quite often I enjoy reading gossip magazines and very frivolous romantic novels and there is still much to be enjoyed from them. Once you are sucked into a good plot, you'll want to carry on reading.