



CHAPTER 2

NOT ALONE

Trinity

I love being in the library after school. It's quiet, but there's always a gentle buzz of activity. Students wander about getting the books they need, writing notes, doing research or tapping away on the computers. I never feel like I'm alone in the library.

I'm working on my history report that's due in two days. History is not my favourite topic. But I still prefer staying in the library working to going home and being on my own.

I know that Mum will probably still be at work. She doesn't usually get back until about 8 or

9pm. She has a huge workload. She's a lawyer. She often brings work home, even though it's late when she gets back.

Dad will probably be at home, but even if he is I'll still feel like I'm on my own. Dad is an accountant. A year ago, he left the firm he worked for to set up his own business. He's always shut away in the front room he uses as an office. I know he hates me interrupting him.

No talking is allowed in the library. But I often break the rules and try to find someone to whisper to when I get bored of my work. Today I can't see anyone. The only other person here who's in my year group is Aliyah. I notice her looking over at me and I smile and wave. She gives me a quick wave back and puts her head down to carry on working. She doesn't look like she wants to talk, so I don't go over.

I wonder what it must be like to have a life like hers. Sometimes I see her walking past my house with her little brothers and her mum. They're