

Another World

Elaine O'Reilly



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1.1 What's the book about?

Discuss the picture on the front of the book.

- 1 What is the building?
- 2 Where are the young people going?
- 3 What are they carrying?
- 4 What do their clothes tell us about them?
- 5 Which words in the box describe these people? Circle them.

young	tall	fat	happy	beautiful	
bored	old	thin	quiet	clean	
intelligent	ill	dirty	sad	short	stupid

- 6 What is strange about the people in the picture?

1.2 What happens first?

1 Look quickly at page 1.

- a Which word can you see six times?
- b Look at the word at the bottom of the page. Which of these sentences can you use it in? Write it in the sentence.
 - i I am so
 - ii is good for you.

2 Look at the picture on page 1. Circle the right word. What do you think?

- a These young people are in a ...

bus	train	car
-----	-------	-----

- b They are going to a ...

hospital	shop	school
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- c They are all ...

shouting	crying	singing
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- d This story is about people ...

today	in the past	in the future
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‘Happy is Good’

*Every student on the bus turned to the nearest person
and repeated: ‘Have a nice, nice day!’*

The School for Higher Studies in **Happiness** was about five kilometres outside Eden City. Every day, a bus took the students from the centre of town to the school. On the way, the students sang. There were a lot of students on the bus and the noise was wonderful.

*‘I’m H-A-P-P-Y,
I’m H-A-P-P-Y,
Every day, in every way,
I’m H-A-P-P-Y.’*

Student BZXY741 sat behind the driver. His singing was louder than the other students’. He sang well and he liked to sing.

*‘Happy is good
And sad is bad,
I’m H-A-P-P-Y.’*



happiness /'hæpɪnəs/ (n) Happiness is a happy feeling.



He really was very happy. He was the best student of the year, the winner for the Best Smile. Every student and every teacher at the school liked him. He looked out of the window at the white streets of Eden City, at the red and blue buildings, at the flowers and trees. The city was beautiful in the sunlight – not **real** sunlight, of course. There were no people on the streets. It was Work Time.

I'm happy when I work.

I'm happy when I play.

Tomorrow I'm going to be happier,

Happier than today.'

In Eden City, some people worked and some people studied. But workers weren't different from students. Everybody was happy.

The bus drove through the streets and into the gardens of the school. Flowers of every colour turned their heads and watched. The birds in the trees sang: *'Have a nice day!'* Every student on the bus turned to the nearest person and repeated: *'Have a nice, nice day!'* They always did this. It was School **Procedure**.

real /rɪəl/ (adj) Something is *real* when it is really there.

procedure /prə'si:dʒə/ (n) When you follow a *procedure*, you do everything in the right way.

BZXY741 turned to the girl on his left.

He thought, ‘She’s different. How is she different? Of course! Her eyes... it’s the colour of her eyes!’

They were grey eyes, not blue. But everybody in the school had blue eyes. Why did she have grey eyes? Grey wasn’t a good colour. He remembered Lesson 836: *Grey is a sad colour. The colour of cold days. The colour of dark skies. It is an old colour.*

‘Have a lovely day,’ said BZXY741.

She didn’t answer him. There was a question in her strange grey eyes. And BZXY741 didn’t understand, because in his world there were no questions. In the world of Eden City, there were only answers.



Elaine O'Reilly

British English

Original

The sun always shines in Eden City. Everybody is happy, young and beautiful. BZXY741 is a student in the city. One day he meets Eve. She is different from the other people, and she tells him about another world. But is it really a better place?

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