



# The Girls in the Velvet Frame

Books Reviewed:

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Reviewer:

[Adrian Jackson](#) [3]

~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

0

This is a lovingly careful story, yet less story than vividly created sections from part of a family's life. The story, set in the early part of the century, is the attempt by the Bernstein family, mother and live daughters, to trace Isaac who left them and Jerusalem for New York. Within this frame we have the lives of the family as individuals, the tight community of their large house, friends and relations, Adele Geras has a special gift for making this Jewish life something to savour, a past caught in the emotional detail of human lives. It has the feeling of something delicate, textures, light, warmth and feelings, of the past itself. In the characters of the daughters, caught at their separate points of growth, and in the vivacious Aunt Mimi, we feel the continuities of relationship, of love and friendship, of love and friendship, of youth and age. I'm not sure how easy teenagers will find it. If they've enjoyed her other novels (like *Voyage*) or are taken by the carefully created cover they will pick it up at least. It would be good to see such books becoming part of GCSE work - in talk as much as writing.

Running Order:

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