

# Loose Change

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## After Reading Activities

### 1. Summary of Characters

#### 1. The Narrator

1. *What did you learn about the narrator's life?*

Write TRUE, FALSE or DON'T KNOW. Correct the false sentences.

- She's married.
- She's got a son and a daughter.
- She had a spare room at home.
- She works in a school.
- She likes museums.
- She was born in the Caribbean.
- Her grandmother was saved by the kindness of a stranger.

2. Draw her portrait or write her physical description.



3. Underline the words or phrases in the text which best describe her personality and explain why.

4. What do you know about her past? Write a paragraph about her.

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## 2. Laylor

1. What do you think she looks like?

*Here are five different pictures. Which one do you think is Laylor? Why?*



2. In one paragraph, write a short physical description of Laylor. In a second paragraph, use details and information from the story and describe her personality.

3. What do you know about Laylor's past?

*Complete the following paragraph with information from the text.*

She had lived happily in her family home in Tashkent until one day

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4.

It was then I began to notice things I had not seen before: dirt under each of her clipped fingernails, the collar of her blouse crumpled and unironed, a tiny cut on the cheek, a fringe that looked to have been cut with blunt nail-clippers.

*What does this description suggest about Laylor's life at the time of the narrative?*

### 3. Laylor's Brother

Answer the following questions with information from the text.

- How old is Laylor's brother?
- What was he wearing when he met the narrator?
- What is curious about his physical description?
- What was he probably asking Laylor for?
- What did he want to know?

## 2. Summary of Events

Do **one** of the following activities

1 Roleplay: One student is Laylor and another one is the Londoner. Act out the first part of the story (the scene in the toilet).

2. Change the end of the story. What would have happened if the Londoner had invited Laylor to her house? Write a new final paragraph.

3. "A week later...." You're Laylor. Write a letter to your aunt, who helped you escape from Uzbekistan, telling her about meeting a Londoner in the National Portrait Gallery.

4. Write Laylor's thoughts, as a diary entry, about how she felt when the narrator did not return to the table and she found herself alone again.