

# The Terrorist

By Caroline B. Cooney

## Characters:

William "Billy" Wardlaw Williams - Eleven-year-old bomb victim. Sixth grader at LIA.

Laura Williams - Billy's sister. Sixteen years old. Junior in high school.

Chris - Billy's school friend. Rode underground to school together. Sent back to Denver on next plane after Billy's death.

Georgie - Billy's school friend. Rode underground to school together.

Eddie (Erdam Yafi) - Liked Laura

Jehran - Arab. Plotted Billy's death.

Consuela - AKA "Con." Laura's best friend at LIA. Con's father worked in the American Embassy. Originally from New Jersey.

Michael, Kyrene, Andrew, Mohammad, Bethany, Jimmy Hopkins, Tiffany & Samira - Laura's schoolmates.

Thomas Williams - Billy and Laura's father

Nicole Williams - Billy and Laura's mother.

Mr. Hollober - Current events teacher (Canadian).

Mr. Evans - Policeman from Scotland Yard who was Laura's bodyguard.

Mr. Frankel - Headmaster of LIA

Leila & Avram - From LIA. Practicing violin/cello duet for Christmas concert.

Setting - London, England. From Massachusetts and moved back at end.

## Questions:

1. What school did Billy and Laura attend? (London International Academy)
2. What was Thomas Williams doing at the time of his son's murder? (Getting visas for Christmas trip at the Russian Embassy)
3. How many hours after Billy's death did it take them to locate Mr. Williams? (Six)
4. When Billy passed a note under the bathroom door which said, "Have pity on me, I am starving." What was he trying to get Laura to share? (A Twinkie)
5. How did Mrs. Williams describe Jehran? (The little girl we ran into at the Museum of London. She reminded me of Billy.)
6. What story did Jehran concoct to convince Laura she needed Billy's passport? (Her brother had chosen a husband for her, a 54-year-old general and she would be the third wife. That way, Jehran's brother would be guaranteed a safe return home.)
7. How did Jehran try to persuade Laura to give her Billy's passport? (Laura could give meaning to Billy's

death by using the passport for a good cause.)

8. What was Jehran's & Laura's alibi? (London Walk Club trip to Edinburgh)
9. Who followed Laura to the travel agency? (Jimmy)
10. How did Jimmy get a copy of Laura's itinerary? (He bribed the owner of the travel agency with two 10-pound notes.)
11. What was Samira's explanation as to why Jehran was at an international school? (To get to know the enemy and give information to her family.)
12. How did Mohammad's father describe Jehran's family? (A family that you will not be involved with.)
13. What made Laura suspicious of Jehran at the airport? (Her scorn at refusing to be American, i.e., eat hamburgers)
14. Why did Laura back out after getting through all the clearances? (Her parents would be scared to death)
15. Why did Mr. Evans show up at the airport? (Con called him after she, Jimmy and Mohammad put the pieces together)
16. How did Laura realize that Jehran planned Billy's murder? (Jehran told Laura that she couldn't back out after all the weeks of planning)
17. Was Jehran shocked and horrified at being accused of murder? (No)
18. Did Jehran end up in jail for Billy's murder? (No proof; therefore never charged)
19. What was Billy's favorite baseball team? (Red Sox)
20. What did Jehran have in her carry-on? (Money - \$10,000)
21. How long did Laura have to wait for Jehran to show up at the airport? (Half hour)
22. How much money did Jehran claim to have moved from her Swiss bank account to New York in Billy's name? (\$1 million)
23. What airports did Laura arrange the flight between? (from Heathrow to Kennedy)