

TotalGirl
The
Style
Files

Six 'Totally Stylin'
Stories in One

Amanda Nicholls
& Rebecca Lim


ALLEN & UNWIN
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Assignments already

‘Do you guys see which class you’re in?’ Prunella asked as soon as the girls got to school and were studying the class lists tacked to the noticeboard.

‘Here I am, with Ms Jones,’ Melody said.

‘Oh, me too!’ Prunella squealed, clapping her hands together.

‘Drat!’ Abby said. ‘I’m in the other Year

Six class—what a way to start the school year.’

‘Never mind, sis, I’m right there with you,’ said Zooey unenthusiastically.

Riiiiing.

‘All right, 6J and 6P, that’s the bell. Let’s not start the year by being tardy,’ said Mr Daniels, the principal.

After assembly, Prunella and Melody shuffled inside with the rest of their class. ‘Choose your seats, Year Six,’ said Ms Jones. ‘I know this is your first day of school and you’re all terribly excited, but I have a very important assignment for you all.’

There was a collective groan and Ms Jones continued, ‘I do think you will enjoy this assignment, because it involves

reading a lot of magazines.’

‘This sounds like a piece of cake,’
Prunella whispered to Melody as they sat
down.

The one thing the girls loved as much
as fashion was reading their fave mags
together.

Ms Jones turned to write on the
whiteboard. *Media*.

‘This term we’re going to be studying
the media, from magazines right through
to broadcast, which means radio and
television journalism. Your homework for
tonight is to go home and read at least
three magazines from different genres.
Can anyone tell me what the word “genre”
means? John?’

Johnno was talking to his friend, Shane,

and he flushed a bright red before saying,
'Is it a French word, Ms Jones? I thought
this was English ...'

The whole class giggled in unison.

'Very funny, John. It's good to see that
you were *sort* of listening – and no, that's
not what "genre" means,' Ms Jones said.
'Anyone else know the *real* answer?'

The Year Sixes sat in silence and
peered around the room to see if anyone
knew the answer. No one did.

'The word "genre" means classification,
so what I want you to do is to read three
magazines aimed at different audiences.'

Ms Jones turned to write some genres
on the whiteboard:

Gardening

Sport

Health

Food

Fashion

Melody's eyes lit up and she shot an excited glance at Prunella.

‘I want you to write down who you think would read each magazine – or in other words, who is the magazine's target audience. After that, the real fun begins,’ said Ms Jones. ‘In two weeks' time, I want each of you to have planned out and created a magazine of your own. You will need to make copies to distribute to the class, and do a presentation.’

‘Yesss,’ everyone exclaimed, before

beginning whispered conversations about their magazine ideas.

Melody was super excited. She had always dreamed of working for a magazine one day, and she couldn't wait to create her own.

‘Well, of course I'll be doing a surfing magazine, but aimed at girls like me,’ Prunella whispered. ‘It will have all the best surfing tips, great surf beaches to catch the best waves at, how to care for your board ...’

‘Okay, people, that's enough chatter – remember, you have two weeks to make your magazine. I'm looking forward to seeing the results.’

Melody was already imagining what her magazine would look like, and what

she could call it. Her passion was for all things fashion – so her magazine would be the ultimate girl’s fashion magazine.