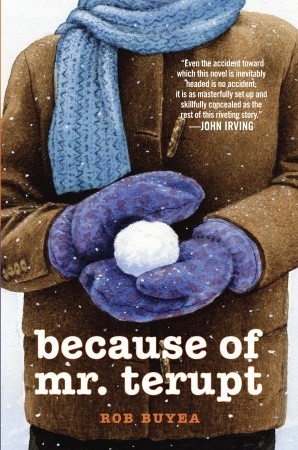
**[](http://www.goodreads.com/book/photo/7783920-because-of-mr-terupt)**

**Who’s Who??**

* **Jessica:** the new girl, smart and perceptive, who’s having a hard time fitting in
* **Alexia:** a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next
* **Peter:** the class prankster and troublemaker
* **Luke:** the brain
* **Danielle:** she never stands up for herself
* **Anna:** her home situation makes her an outcast
* **Jeffrey:** he hates school
* **Mr. Terupt:** their new teacher, who seems to know how to deal with them all

**SEPTEMBER**

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| **Jessica** | **-Just moved to Connecticut from California**  **-relates to Mr. T because he is new to the school too**  **-father is a play director in CA**  **-nervous about 1st day at new school** |
| **Alexia** | **-trouble maker with the girls, starts girl “girl wars”**  **-traitor to her friends**  **-tries to befriend Jessica**  **-liar: told Jessica that Danielle was calling her names, and told Jessica that she used to live in California too.** |
| **Peter** | **-trouble maker in bathroom (takes many trips)**  **-Mr. T catches on- no more trips for Peter** |
| **Luke** | **-smart**  **-creating strategies for dollar words**  **-1st person to make a dollar word in Mr. T’s class** |
| **Danielle** | **-she lives on a farm with her family**  **-she is a little heavy compared to other girls in her class**  **-has a hard time making friends**  **-self-conscious**  **-grandma prays for her** |
| **Anna** | **-quiet, shy, an observer**  **-best friend is her mom**  **-her mom doesn’t have a wedding ring**  **-Mr. T isn’t going to let her slide by this year, he is calling on her for answers** |
| **Jeffrey** | **-Jeffrey hates school**  **-potty mouth**  **-has opinions about his classmates** |

**OCTOBER**

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| **Jessica** | **-during recess Jessica saw Danielle sitting all alone went over to talk to her, realized she was crying because of how mean Alexia was**  **-was filled in by Danielle about Anna’s home life, and how Danielle’s family doesn’t agree with it**  **-her book, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, was knocked out of her arms by Alexia on the way in after recess- all because she was talking to Danielle** |
| **Alexia** | **-she knocked Jessica’s books out of her arms because she was talking to Danielle outside**  **-cornered Danielle in the bathroom and told her Jessica was talking bad about her (smells like a farm and compared her size to a cows)- made Danielle cry**  **-hugged Danielle and told her that “We’ll get her.”** |
| **Peter** | **-science partner with Lexie**  **-created a plant food concoction of pee, soda, used cat litter, and maple syrup (plant died in 2 days)**  **-loved Mr. T** |
| **Luke** | **-Jeffrey was his science partner**  **-created a concoction from his chemistry set and dad’s garage which caused lots of smoke in the classroom- fire alarm went off and they had to evacuate**  **-Mr. T took the blame for it when the fire marshal asked** |
| **Danielle** | **-mom and grandparents want her to stay away from Anna “bad influence”**  **-felt bad because she really liked Anna**  **-in the bathroom Lexie told her all the “mean things” Jessica was saying about her, and she said that Jessica killed her plant**  **-was confused about who was telling the truth**  **-relies on God to help her sort out the girl drama** |
| **Anna** | **-sensitive- she started to cry in science because she didn’t want to do experiments that would hurt her plant**  **-her mom had her when she was 16 (her mom had to move out, and now her dad and grandparents are not in her life)**  **-starting to become friends with Danielle**  **-doesn’t like Alexia** |
| **Jeffrey** | **-feels bad about not trying on Mr. T’s assignments; he will start to try harder**  **-Mr. T stood up to the fire marshal and refused to take down the kids posters from the hallway walls** |

**NOVEMBER**

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| **Jessica** | **-to go along with their current novel, *The Summer of the Swans*, Mr. T will have the students visit the school’s collaborative classroom**  **-Anna and Jeffrey are in her group**  **-noticed Jeffrey was in his element in the collaborative classroom** |
| **Alexia** | **-thinks all the boys like her**  **-enjoys the collaborative classroom because she doesn’t have to worry, all the kids like her** |
| **Peter** | **-while outside counting grass, Peter flung his clipboard like a Frisbee at Lexie’s “tushie”**  **-Mr. T told him to sit down** |
| **Luke** | **-introduced Mr. Terupt’s latest math gauntlet- counting the blades of grass on the soccer field**  **-using 10cm x 10 cm squares to sample the grass**  **-explained how Peter threw his cardboard square at Lexie’s “tushie” and the way Mr. Terupt reacted to it set the scene for what will happen later on** |
| **Danielle** | **-comfortable in the collaborative classroom until James has a meltdown**  **-she bonded with James over farm pictures**  **-notices Alexia is comfortable in the collaborative classroom, but then talks behind the students backs when they leave**  **-realizes her true friend is Jessic** |
| **Anna** | **-notices females teachers in the school who do not have a wedding ring on (for Mr. T)**  **-was nervous about the collaborative classroom at first, then felt more comfortable as the time went on**  **-noticed Jeffrey has a lot of knowledge about students with special needs (esp. autism)** |
| **Jeffrey** | **-has 2 parents that don’t talk to him**  **-during recess, he listened to Jessica tell her secret about how she didn’t want to leave California (her dad dumped her and her mom for another girl)**  **-feels comfortable in the collaborative classroom**  **-knows “Michael”** |

**DECEMBER**

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| **Jessica** | **-Danielle, Jeffrey, Anna, and Alexia are in her holiday group (Ramadan)**  **-Alexia took on the role of the “boss”, but put everyone down (said Danielle should be in charge of food, said Jessica was making others feel dumb)**  **-Mr. T caught Alexia being mean, took her into the hallway**  **-Mr. T told rest of group to stand up for each other and don’t let Alexia get away with things**  **-Mom said Jessica can go to Anna’s house**  **-her parent’s divorce papers came to their house, not sure dad will ever call again** |
| **Alexia** | **-Mr. T pulled her out into the hallway and called her out about being mean and a bully**  **-she cried real tears**  **-blames her home life for the way she acts in school (mom and dad always fought and never had time for her, mom eventually kicked dad out, mom told her to stand up for herself and never let anyway walk over her- be a leader)** |
| **Peter** | **-enjoys the collaborative classroom**  **-introduced Mr. T’s latest project- creating centers for the winter holidays (present them at holiday party)**  **-wants to invite students from the Collaborative Classroom** |
| **Luke** | **-Peter put glue on Luke’s sneakers. He got trapped in the bathroom when washing off the glue b/c Mr. T. was busy talking to Alexia in the hallway (she was crying)**  **-he almost fell in a puddle of water created by Peter and the water fountain**  **-Mrs. Williams fell in the puddle and landed on her back. Luke saw her underwear and wedgie.** |
| **Danielle** | **-had a fun time at the holiday center party**  **-she brought photographs of Middle Eastern farms for James, as well as cookie**  **-Jeffrey made a memory game for James to play** |
| **Anna** | **-invited Danielle and Jessica over to her house**  **-the girls are excited, but not sure if their parents will give them permission**  **-the “holiday” group is now just ignoring Alexia** |
| **Jeffrey** | **-confided in Jessica his secret**  **-his brother’s name was Michael, he had leukemia and Down syndrome**  **-parents only had Jeffrey to hopefully save Michael (giving him stem cells and bone marrow)**  **-it didn’t work, Michael died** |

**JANUARY**

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| **Jessica** | **-had a play date at Anna’s house**  **-went great, and the mom’s got along**  **-Anna’s mom’s name is Terri (works a library)**  **-Jessica’s dad called to ONLY confirm the mom received the divorce paper**  **-she has no snow pants because living in California, Luke said he can bring in his sister’s old snow pants for her**  **-realized she prejudged Luke** |
| **Alexia** |  |
| **Peter** | **-excited about having a free day and going out in the snow**  **-Mr. T got special permission from Mrs. Williams to go outside in the SNOW!!** |
| **Luke** | **-annoyed that he didn’t guess the correct estimate of links in the chain (Peter and Anna did)**  **-excited about going out in the snow for the free day**  **-lending Jessica his sister’s old snow pants** |
| **Danielle** | **-Too chicken to ask her family about going to Anna’s (but really wants to)**  **-Mr. T holds class meetings**  **-likes how everyone has a voice at the meetings**  **-class reward system (a chain created by earning links each day for great behavior)**  **-options for “Free Day” include having free indoor time followed by some fresh air outside**  **-Alexia is keeping quiet, no more girl wars** |
| **Anna** | **-Anna’s mom approves of Jessica and her mom (says they are true people)**  **-Anna’s mom is turning a new page- believes not all people are bad** |
| **Jeffrey** | **-repeats what Jessica said in his head “It’s not your fault”- only Michael has ever said that to him**  **-parents don’t talk to each other**  **-mom hasn’t been out of her pajamas since Michael’s funeral**  **-have had 2 Christmas’s since the death, Dad got a tree this year but they never celebrated Christmas** |

**FEBRUARY**

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| **Jessica** | **-Danielle, Anna, and Jessica got Peter fired up and knocked him off a mound of snow**  **-Alexia kicked snow in Peter’s face** |
| **Alexia** | **-kicks snow in Peter’s face** |
| **Peter** | **-very excited to play outside**  **-staying inside first to play games (Scattegories)**  **-last time he got to hang out with Mr. T**  **-kids were having a fight in the snow**  **-threw a snowball** |
| **Luke** | **-out to get Peter**  **-ganging up on Peter with Jeffrey outside in the snow** |
| **Danielle** | **-antagonizes Peter outside** |
| **Anna** | **-gangs up on Peter outside** |
| **Jeffrey** | **-wishes he had never gotten involved, nothing would have happened** |

**MARCH**

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| **Jessica** | **-Jessica’s mom got a call from the principal that Mr. T was in a coma**  **-felt paralyzed when she heard the news**  **-had a sub in her classroom, but no one was able to concentrate** |
| **Alexia** | **-rode her bike to the hospital**  **-cried a lot when she saw Mr. T in the hospital bed**  **-thinks she saw Peter leaving the hospital**  **-said Peter hasn’t talked since the accident**  **-still thinks Peter is to blame**  **-saw Danielle, Jessica, and Anna at the hospital- they all made up and are now friends again** |
| **Peter** | **-doctor said he visited Mr. Terupt and knows about Mr. T needing brain surgery** |
| **Luke** | **-visited Mr. T in the hospital (2 times)**  **-didn’t want to cry, but he did**  **-felt Mr. T let it go too far, and kind of brought it on himself**  **-found out Mr. T used to wrestle and had many concussions, therefore when he got hit with the snowball it caused major brain damage...needed to have brain surgery** |
| **Danielle** | **-finally asked her mom if she could go to the hospital with Anna and Jessica**  **-Grandma doesn’t think she should go with Anna**  **-Mom agrees she should go with her friends, not alone**  **-has a special drawing bond with Anna’s mom**  **-on their way to the hospital (Jessica brought a book, Anna had a plant, and Danielle had a sketch)** |
| **Anna** | **-wants to go the hospital to visit Mr. Terupt**  **-Danielle and Jessica are going to ask to go with her to the hospital**  **-Danielle finally came over her house (Charlie dropped her off)**  **-Anna’s mom seems to know Charlie, and his red Ford pickup truck**  **-Mom said she doesn’t blame Anna at all for the situation that happened many years ago** |
| **Jeffrey** | **-wishes the snowball hit him instead of Mr. T**  **-saw his brother in a coma, he died- now Mr. T is in a coma...will he die?** |

**APRIL**

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| **Jessica** | **-trying to figure out the reasons why the incident happened (helped to be friends with Alexia again, got Danielle to Anna’s house)**  **-Miss Kelsey said they are planning a surprise party for James because he is leaving the school to go back to his own town (a good thing)**  **-kids are still bummed because it was Mr. Terupt who had them help in the Collaborative Classroom** |
| **Alexia** | **-likes her new “nice” self-better**  **-likes her new friends now**  **-feels bad for Peter** |
| **Peter** |  |
| **Luke** | **-doesn’t want to know why Peter through the snowball**  **-Peter is walking around like a mummy not talking to anyone**  **-Peter doesn’t know about Mr. T’s previous concussions, making the snowball incident that much more serious**  **-class went to Collaborative Classroom for James’ party**  **-James told Peter it was not his fault, the accident**  **-Peter started to cry, then Luke told Peter it wasn’t his fault either (told about concussions, surgery, etc)**  **-Luke started to cry, then everyone hugged and started to cry** |
| **Danielle** | **-it is now springtime**  **-Danielle’s grandma is now praying for Mr. T because she realizes he made an important impact on the kids**  **-felt bad for Peter (b/c he still felt it was his fault) and bad for Anna (b/c of what she said to Anna about her mom and her family’s disapproval)**  **-talked to Charlie in the barn, he told her to not to try to change the family’s opinion of Anna’s mom (don’t start a family war), but he would like to see her again** |
| **Anna** | **-Charlie was over her mom’s house having coffee**  **-found out Danielle’s family disapproves of Anna’s mom situation**  **-feels like her mom is still ostracized for what happened 12 years ago**  **-Anna’s mom knows Danielle’s family disapproves of her situation**  **-Mom kicked dent in Charlie’s truck back in the day when he was being nasty to her**  **-Charlie now thinks for himself, and understands Anna’s mom** |
| **Jeffrey** | **-things happen for a reason**  **-the whole class is now talking to each other**  **-realized he doesn’t have to wait for his parents to talk to him, so he climbed into his mother’s bed and told her it wasn’t her fault**  **-his father said he might be the only one who could help the mother**  **-told his dad it wasn’t his fault, dad said it wasn’t his fault either (dad started choking up)**  **-every day after school he came home and rested next to his mother**  **-he *tried*, and Mr. Terupt taught him that** |

**MAY**

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| --- | --- |
| **Jessica** | **-most of the class, including principal and other teachers waited in the hospital for Mr. T’s surgery (an 8 hour procedure)**  **-noticed Mr. Terupt had no family waiting for him (not even any pictures on his desk)**  **-doctor came and spoke to knitting lady and informed her of bad news (everyone started to silently cry)** |
| **Alexia** | **-picks up the microphone and tells the class that she at first didn’t like Mr. Terupt for telling her that she was mean. Realizes he was right.**  **-she has since changed, and wants to show/tell Mr. Terupt** |
| **Peter** | **-broke his silence by recalling a memory of Mr. Terupt**  **-he said he was sorry for throwing the snowball and that it was all his fault** |
| **Luke** | **-the doctor told them Mr. Terupt made it through surgery**  **-he still remains in a coma, but is doing well**  **-they have to wait and see, and be positive**  **-everyone wonders why Jeffrey is so anxious** |
| **Danielle** | **-sitting in a circle similar to their classroom meetings**  **-Jeffrey brought the microphone, and everyone started to share stories of Mr. Terupt**  **-the doctor walked in** |
| **Anna** | **-in waiting room, Terri and Anna prayed with Danielle and her mother** |
| **Jeffrey** |  |

**JUNE**

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| --- | --- |
| **Jessica** | **-last day of school**  **-rather than partying, everyone feels like crying**  **-Mr. Terupt didn’t make it**  **-Mr. Terupt made it and is now at school**  **-Mr. T. gave everyone a hug, even Peter who was sitting in his chair**  **-Mr. T. taught them how to forgive** |
| **Alexia** | **-feels something is up, Mrs. Williams and Ms. Newberry are acting weird** |
| **Peter** | **-Mr. Terupt came back and Peter cried**  **-Mr. Terupt said it was OK, and that he forgave Peter** |
| **Luke** | **-found out their class will be looping next year, Mr. Terupt will be their teacher in 6th grade**  **-everyone thanks Mrs. Williams** |
| **Danielle** | **-during the accident she had put her hat and jacket under Mr. Terupt’s head so it wouldn’t get cold**  **-thankful about all the events that occurred because of Mr. Terupt (Alexia becoming nice again, Susan beginning to accept Terri and her situation)** |
| **Anna** | **-met her mom and Charlie in the lobby, when Danielle’s mom (Susan) walked in**  **-Anna’s mom asked Susan if she wanted to come over for tea/coffee and for some hang out time for the girls; Susan accepted the invitation** |
| **Jeffrey** | **-he was the one who went inside and got the nurse and Mrs. Williams after the accident, he also had someone call 911**  **-it is because of Mr. Terupt that he broke the silence with his parents (his mom is now out of her pajamas)** |