



## A Funeral for an Owl JANE DAVIS

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*Under the guise of child protection, teacher/pupil relationships, including supportive friendships, have become taboo. So what sort of boy would convince two promising young teachers to risk their careers by breaching their professional code of conduct?*

Brought up in Wiltshire, Ayisha Emmanuelle has always believed that the best way to avoid trouble is by walking away from it. However, this isn't an option when she is the first teacher on the scene after her colleague Jim Stevens is stabbed, intervening in a playground fight. In the aftermath, 14-year old Shamayal Thomas discloses to Ayisha that he and Jim are friends. Her first duty is to report suspicion of an inappropriate relationship, but imagining the headlines when someone who has been labeled a hero is found to be morally unfit, she hesitates, thereby implicating herself.

All that she can do is wait to see if her decision is justified.

And waiting is something Ayisha has never been very good at.

### Praise for A Funeral for an Owl

*'The dialogue sparkles. This is mature and assured writing.'* Writers' Workshop

*'Davis is a phenomenal writer'* Compulsion Reads

*'Jane Davis is an extraordinary writer, whose deft blend of polished prose and imaginative intelligence makes you feel in the safest of hands. I bought A Funeral for an Owl as a birthday present for my mum. There is no greater compliment.'* JJ Marsh, Triskele Books

*'Jane has a way of writing that sucks you in to the book, feeling for the characters involved.'* Karen Begg

*'Davis really does bring characters to life, mothers, fathers, friends, teachers are all perfectly described along with their actions and reactions to events.'* Cleo Bannister

*'Here is a confident and individual voice, writing fluently and interestingly. In A Funeral for an Owl she tells an original and moving story about something important - yet here too there is nothing artificial or contrived. The book is beautifully produced, with a cover that haunts the mind.'* Tanya Aydon