

Believe in Me by Susan Lewis

4 stars.

Love and tolerance can be a super power.

Leanne and her daughter, Abby, have had a terrible year and been forced to move back to Leanne's childhood home. Also living at Ash Morley is her mother, Wilkie, and Klaudia and her children, a Polish woman and good friend of all the women.

Set just after the Brexit vote, tensions are high with attacks on immigrants and the uncertainty of what will happen post referendum.

Daniel is the son of a convicted child murderer, being pushed from pillar to post by Social Services. Leanne and her family foster Daniel and soon realise that his father's conviction is very unstable and perhaps he didn't do it.

A book of social conscience, fighting spirit and good old-fashioned family values.

This book is a little out of my comfort zone. I am not usually enamoured with the hippy dippy kind of "give hugs" stories, but although this book is all those things it is a very good read. I was impressed with the way the subjects of post-Brexit violence reacted and the closed mindedness of people in a small village.

The book was a little too clean and fanciful as the problems and concerns were solved very neatly and tied with a bow. Leanne is too soft with her troubled, teenage daughter and I don't think anyone would put up with the way Abby treats her. It is all a little too sweet for me, but the subject was handled with great dignity.

Not my kind of book but still a good story and worth a read.

Shesat

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.