**A Game For Girls**

It had started with giggling and whispering in the first term; Naomi, Evie and Catherine talking behind their hands whenever Jodie walked into the changing rooms. To start with, she had ignored it. ‘It’s not a big deal’ she had told herself ‘they’ll get bored and pick on someone else soon’.

But it hadn’t stopped. Next they were saying ‘dyke’ and ‘lezzer’ behind their hands or saying it and pretending to cough. Naomi had made a point of saying ‘lez be friends’ to Catherine and then fell around laughing.

It always seemed to be worse in PE, in the changing rooms before hockey or netball or football....When they started talking about her as if she wasn’t there, it finally got to her.

‘I’d hate to be in the changing rooms with a LESBIAN in here, wouldn’t you?’ Asked Evie, ‘Urgh, too right!’ said Catherine.

It seemed like all the other girls were laughing too, at least none of them said anything.

Finally, Jodie gave up; she just wished her friends were in this class with her. Now she just took herself into the toilet cubicles to get changed before every lesson. Sometimes that even felt less lonely than being in the changing room with these girls laughing and whispering.