

CONTROL ALTER DELETE · BY K.L. KETTLE

OPENING EXTRACT – THE CHAPTER "THE WRAP"

Reading Resource · From *Control Alter Delete* by K.L. Kettle · KS3–KS4

- 1 The world that existed before was broken.
- 2 Francis Knox fixed it.
- 3 Our new world, World 2.0, was warm, bright and peaceful.
- 4 She built it for us in the Alternet and we filled it with our lives, with everything we wanted, whenever we wanted: living as princesses, superheroes or even machines.
- 5 Anything was possible, and no one was alone, not even me.
- 6 It was magic.
- 7 *It only cost us our dreams.*
- 8 All safe. World saved!
- 9 In my world, Mum and I never argued.
- 10 There was always food in the cabinets.
- 11 Mum would tell me she loved me every day.
- 12 If I had a problem, she'd solve it.
- 13 It was perfect.
- 14 One big, joyous, immersive distraction.
- 15 Why worry about the future or past when the present was so amazing?
- 16 Who cared about the real world when you had your own utopia to fight for?
- 17 Mum called it 'the wrap', once.
- 18 We all lived in perfect bubbles, close but never touching.
- 19 Our apartment was small, but space didn't matter with the universe available at a swipe.
- 20 During dinner, Mum and I watched the wall stream, each picking a programme.
- 21 We sat quietly afterwards, watching rain patter on a grey lake under dappled sunlight until I was tired.
- 22 Still, I couldn't sleep.
- 23 Swiping open the settings on my Alter heads-up display, pearly app bubbles appeared and floated past my eyeline.
- 24 The slim Surf band on my wrist tickled with a friendly buzz.
- 25 Lying down, I batted the apps away, searching for the one that gave me my life, my world: *After I'm Gone*.
- 26 'I love you, Mum,' I said.
- 27 A fairy tale – my perfect mum, my perfect family. Almost.

Extract from **Control Alter Delete** by K.L. Kettle (Little Tiger, 2026). Reproduced for classroom use. · klkettle.com

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THE WORLD OF THE BOOK & FIRST QUESTIONS

Reading Resource · to accompany the opening extract · KS3–KS4

◆ THE WORLD OF THE BOOK

World 2.0

The immersive digital world Francis Knox built for everyone to live inside.

The Alter / Alternet

The network you log into to enter World 2.0 and its games.

Francis Knox

The tech genius who built it, said to have uploaded her mind into the Alter.

Kbux

The currency you earn and spend across the Alter.

◆ FIRST QUESTIONS

- Find the one short line that tells you the cost of this perfect world.
- What does the writer let you enjoy before she lets you worry?
- What does "close but never touching" suggest about life in World 2.0?

How to use this extract. The opening of *The Wrap* sells you a perfect world before it names the price — ideal for teaching how a writer builds desire, then doubt (AO2). Read it aloud, then work the three questions as a starter, or pair it with the KS3–KS4 lessons and the Creative Writing Challenge. More free resources and author visits at klkettle.com.