

The 'C's – Yuhan, Year 6, WA

Hey there, it's me, the red centre of the Rubik's cube, what are you? Wow, cool! Now let me introduce myself a bit more.

My name is Red C, the most important part of the Rubik's Cube personally. Unfortunately I am not the only red one, there are eight other reds on the corners and edges. Also, I have a secret, a very special and common one but maybe.....I'll tell you. Me and my other centre friends HATE our siblings since whenever we're all on the same side, they squash us around like crazy so that's why we try our very hardest not to be solved. The more we are scrambled, the more we are happy. But everything started going downhill that fateful Saturday morning...

Our Rubik's Cube lives on Ruby Turner's desk, Ruby's Bedroom, No. 26 Algorithm Way. Despite having no siblings to play with, Ruby still has fun every day. For example, a daily habit of hers that absolutely delights us is to scramble up that cube. "Cool!" she would exclaim every time her little fingers spun it around wildly. That Saturday morning however was when Ruby rushed back into her room from the study where she had been rummaging around for quite a while, 'A Guide to Solving your First Cube' clutched in her hand. It was as if the world had ended.

"First step," Ruby muttered to herself, flicking through the pages stuffed with words, diagrams and algorithms. "Make a white cross? Okay?"

The minutes passed by in silence, the only sound coming from the turning of the cube. Incredibly, a small white cross had formed! White C could be seen having a mental breakdown, screaming while his 4 siblings squashed into him.

"What's happening?" Blue C mouthed to me, unable to see what was going on.

"She's starting to solve it!" I wailed, banging my tiny square fists onto myself. Blue C froze, probably not believing his ears.

Ten minutes later, not only was the whole white side completed (White C was crying) but most of other centres had been joined by one or two of their siblings. "Hey there, Red C." a squeaky voice said. I turned around, my wonderful daydream that Ruby had been unable to solve the cube faded away. A minuscule red square in my opinion was sitting right on top of me, grinning in a sort of naughty way. Fear flooded through me. "ARGH!"

Just when Ruby picked up the cube, ready to turn it so that another sibling of mine would soon be pushed into me, a voice called from downstairs, "Ruby, lunch is ready!" "Coming mum!" Ruby shouted back. She shut the Rubik's Cube guide book and climbed down the stairs.

"Whew," sighed Yellow C. "That monster was about to shove TWO of those crazy sisters of mine right into me! At least I don't have any siblings with me."

"Lucky you," I whined jealously, brandishing my fists at the red square who was attempting to stretch my skin.

"Somebody help me!" White C cried, his eight siblings squashing into him.

Green C, who had five other green squares stacked on top of him closed his eyes. He was the smartest out of us six centres. When he opened them again, he was smiling.

"C's!" he announced, "We mustn't allow that evil girl to solve us!"

"Yes!" we 'C's chanted back.

"We must also fight back!" Green C yelled, waving his hands in the air. "With the power of us 'C's!"

"YES!" we bellowed in unison. "WITH THE POWER OF US 'C'S!"

Using as much strength as possible, us 'C's managed to twist and turn the cube around so that the Rubik's Cube had been messed up again. It took us 20 minutes sharp!

"We did it!" White C squealed, jumping up and down.

"We did it together!" Orange C added, waving his arms around.

"I'm going back to my room," a voice suddenly piped up from downstairs. "I'm going to solve that cube that's been lying in my room for SIX YEARS!" The cheering stopped instantly. We looked around at each other, unable to believe what was happening. Blue C glanced at me in horror. "Wait what? She's not going to start again, is she?"

Five minutes later, Ruby had sat back down on her chair, the Rubik's Cube guide flipped to the page where she last had been. The Rubik's Cube that laid on the desk looked different. "Maybe she'll give up!" Green C whispered excitedly in my ear.

"Wait a second," Ruby muttered as she picked it up, turning it over to inspect all six sides. "It's messed up again! Now I have to start all over again..."

Blue C's jaw dropped. That answer was probably not what he expected. White C leaned over to face us. "Hey guys, our hopes are not lost yet. We scrambled it up real good! There's no chance that she'll solve it."

I wiped a bead of sweat off my forehead. "I hope so..."

To our very surprise, after a lot of turning and flicking through the book, as well as mumbling to herself, the white cross had formed again along with some corner pieces. White C was ordering Ruby to put the cube down at once but was being totally ignored.

"Hey there big buddy!" the red cube underneath me squeaked, "How's the weather doing up there?"

I frown. "Just because I'm the centre piece doesn't mean I'm tall! Stop making fun of me!" My other siblings giggled with laughter. Luckily, there were only three of them. I couldn't help imagining what it would like to be White C and have all eight siblings... Stop thinking about it at once a voice in my brain demanded firmly, it'll never happen! How wrong it was though.

After a long boring hour, it happened. Hands trembling slightly, Ruby gave the top of the cube one last clockwise turn and... done. The Rubik's Cube was solved. A whole minute of silence suddenly followed by the sound of a bomb exploding. It was Ruby. She jumped into the air, waving the cube around madly yelling at the same time "I DID IT, I DID IT, I DID IT!!!"

Us centres glanced at each other while our siblings pushed, shoved and jumped onto us. The day had come.

"OH come on!"