

Almost Grown

Afua Hirsch grew up in Wimbledon in the 1980s and 90s. In a book which documents that experience, she called Wimbledon the 'whitest suburb in London'. Afua writes that being a British person of colour meant - and means - being asked repeatedly 'Where are you from?'. She called her book *Brit(ish)* as a result.

Afua remembers the fancy clothes shops in Wimbledon Village were not always welcoming to a young black girl. And yet her friends said that they 'didn't see her as black', and neighbours claimed not to see race. This denial of difference left no space to acknowledge racial injustice, or to celebrate the joy she felt in her blackness.