

Inky Regrets

based on an article by Imogen Edwards-Jones

- 1 About 25 years ago I went through my 'tattoo phase'. The swallow came first. I remember wandering through the streets of Bristol, while I was at university, trying to find a small, grubby parlour where a bloke with more tattoos than teeth scribbled something vaguely resembling a bird on my ankle. I am not even sure why I chose a swallow. I'm sure it had tremendous significance at the time. Or perhaps I thought it looked pretty. All I remember is that this, like drinking lots of cider and flunking my first-year exams, was an act of rebellion. And it was as achingly cool as it was painful.
- 2 Back then, in the late Eighties, only the really 'out there' had the guts to get a daisy on their foot, a dolphin on their heel or a fluoro butterfly on their hip that changed colour under the UV lighting at raves. At least, it did. Change colour, that is. For what no one tells you about tattoos is that no matter how beautiful they look when first done, they fade and shift over time. In the end they all turn into sailor blue smudges. 17, every forty-something who once fancied themselves a little daring, who did a spot of raving or holidayed in Ibiza in 1989, has a symbolic souvenir on their body. Half the country's middle management has a flower on their thigh or a musical note on their wrist. These days, tattoos are as common as Primark. Everyone is covered in doodles and motifs.
- 3 I once thought my tattoos were the height of artistic expression. If I'd only known how commonplace my 'revolutionary' fashion statement would turn out to be. So if you fancy inking the name of your lover up your forearm, my advice would be: don't. I promise you. You may not regret it in the morning but in 20 years' time, when these follies of youth have become ugly spots on your body, you will fervently wish you could turn back the clock.



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Tekst 6

- 1p 15 What becomes clear about the writer's first tattoo in paragraph 1?
A It was based on the design of an important underground artist.
B It was meant to express how she felt about rules and regulations.
C The bird that the tattooist inked was not the one she had picked out.
D The process of inking hurt considerably less than she had expected.
- 1p 16 'At least it did. Change colour, that is.' (paragraph 2)
What feeling does this remark express?
A disappointment
B disbelief
C pride
D relief
- 1p 17 Kies bij 17 in alinea 2 het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.
A As a result
B For example
C What's more
- 2p 18 'I once thought my tattoos were the height of artistic expression.'
(alinea 3)
Welke twee redenen noemt de schrijfster om nu spijt te hebben van haar tatoeages?

Bronvermelding

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