

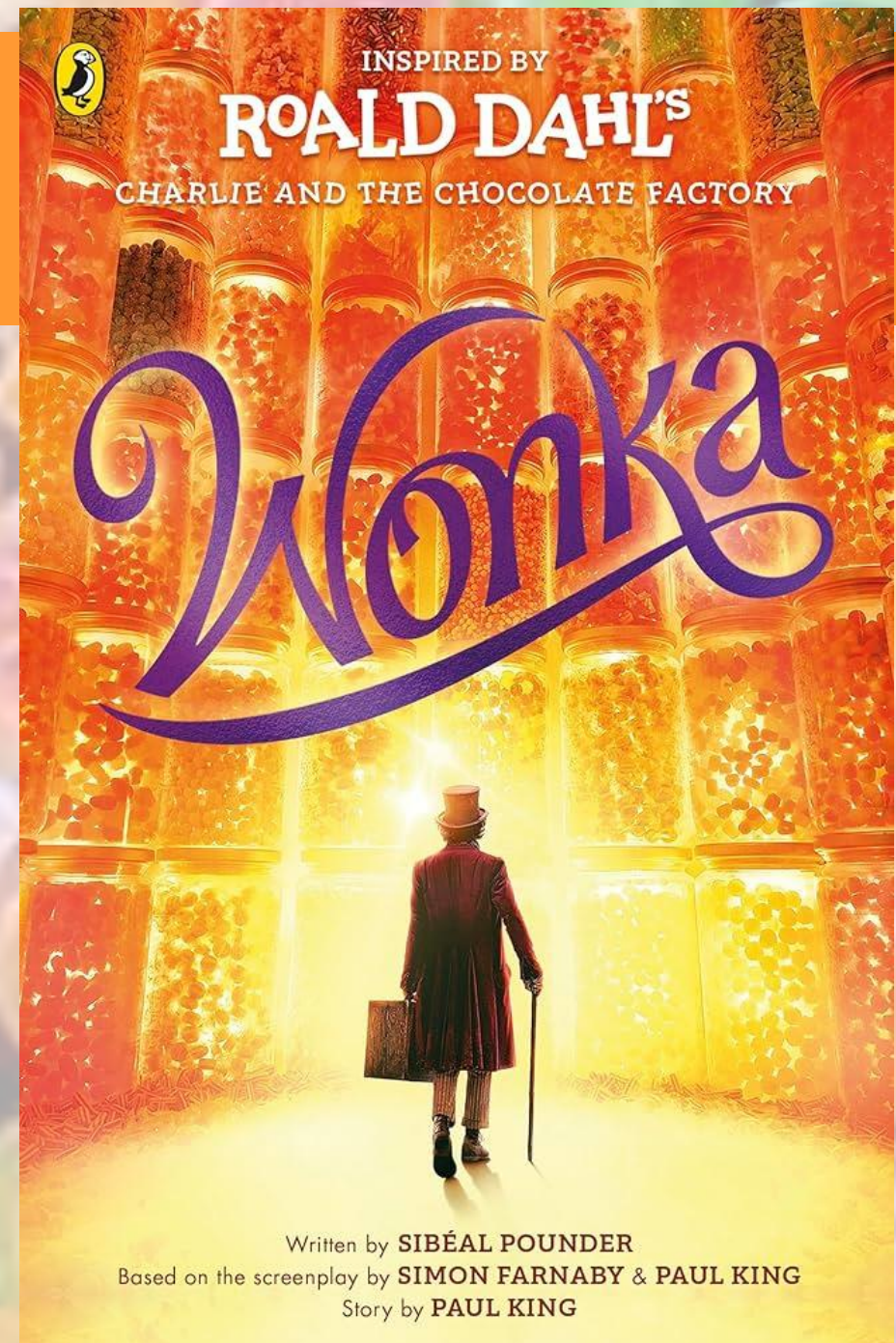
SEPTEMBER 2024: BOOK OF THE MONTH IS...

Before his great 'chocolate factory', Willy Wonka was an aspiring young chocolatier who arrives in a new town to sell his sensational sweet creations. However, three local chocolate shop owners - Slugworth, Fickelgruber, and Prodnose, (also known as 'the Chocolate Cartel') all discover that Willy's chocolates are actually better than their candy-creations and see him as a threat to their business.

Using the Chief of Police to keep Willy from selling his candy, Willy and several other people are tricked into the employment of launderette owners Scrubbit and Bleacher. Whilst there, Willy joins forces with orphan Noodle and her friends to continue making and selling chocolate – but can 'the Chocolate Cartel' and their army of chocolate obsessed monks put a stop to Wonka's dreams?

'ROALD DAHL DAY' – 13TH SEPTEMBER:

Roald Dahl Story Day is celebrated every year on his birthday, September 13th, and people all over the world coming together to celebrate the magic he brought to, and continues to bring, children everywhere. The first 'day' was in 2006, to celebrate what would have been his 90th birthday.



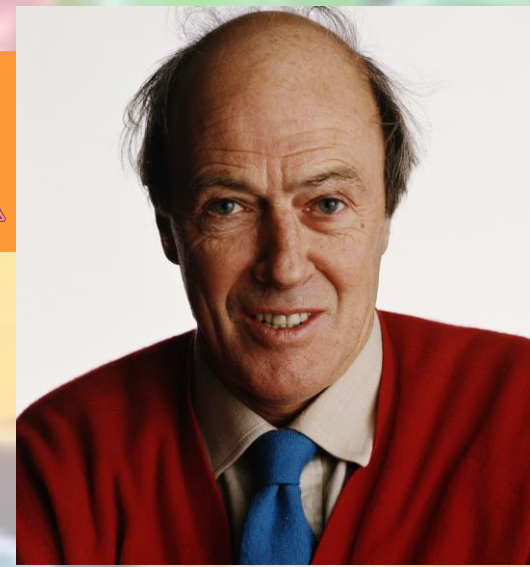
ABOUT THE AUTHORS: SIBÉAL POUNDER

- Before becoming a full-time author, Sibéal worked as a writer and researcher for the *Financial Times*
- As well as adapting the film 'Wonka' into a book, Sibéal is also the author of the Witch Wars and Bad Mermaids series.

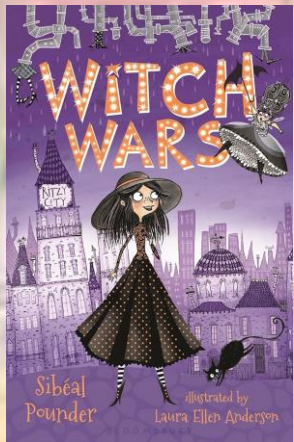


ROALD DAHL

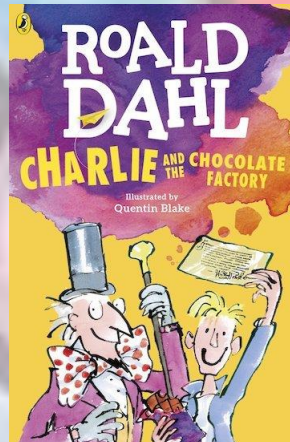
- Roald was born on the 13th September 1916, in Cardiff, Wales.
- He passed away on 23rd November 1990, aged 74. He wrote approximate 50 books for children – selling over 300 million copies worldwide.



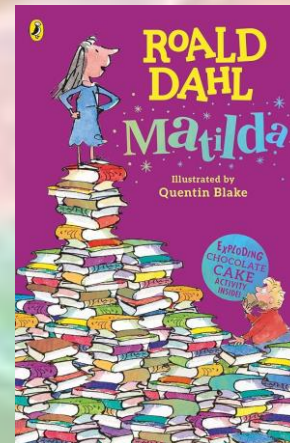
If you liked 'WONKA' you will also like these...



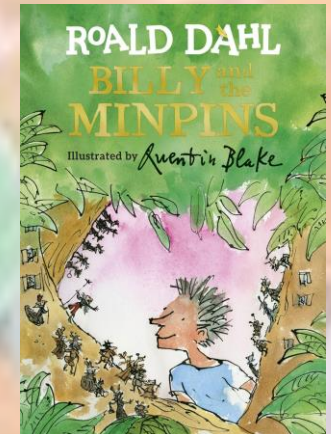
Sibéal's popular book series.



Wonka's story continues.



Dahl's second most popular book.



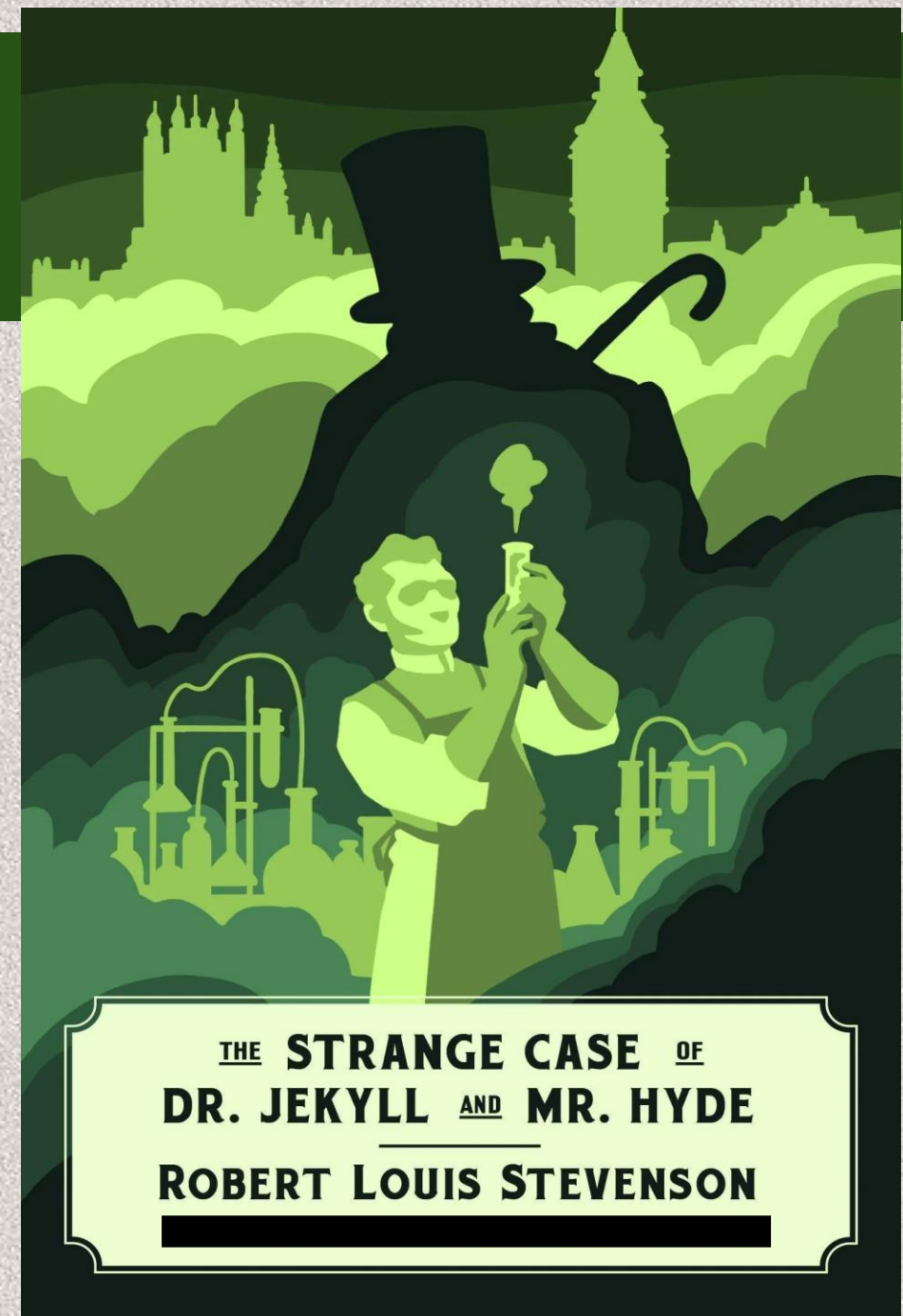
Roald Dahl's last book.

October 2024

Book of the Month is...

- 'The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde' by Robert Louis Stevenson was published in 1886.
- Robert's dark psychological fantasy gave birth to the idea of split personality.
- The story of a respectable Doctor Jekyll's strange association with Edward Hyde, the hunt for a killer in London and Hyde's own identity.
- A chilling exploration of humanity's ability to commit evil.
- The novel is seen as one of the most iconic texts of **Gothic literature**.*
- Stevenson wrote his novel after experiencing a nightmare, describing the story as 'a fine bogey (man) tale'.

(* **Gothic Literature** is a style of writing that features dark, supernatural elements. It can also include romantic elements such as nature and strong emotion. Example: 'Frankenstein').

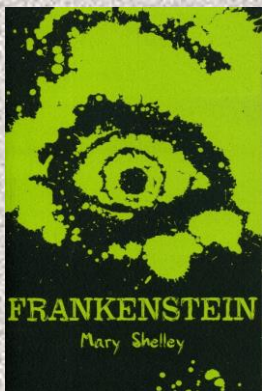


About the author... **ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON**

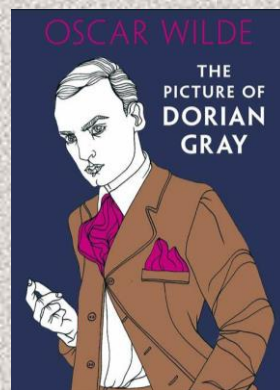


- **Robert Louis Stevenson** (13 November 1850 – 3 December 1894); was a Scottish novelist, essayist, poet and travel writer.
- As well as writing 'Jekyll & Hyde', he also wrote the famous pirate story, 'Treasure Island'.
- After graduating in Law, Robert chose to become a writer.
- He travelled a lot, but eventually settled on the island of Samoa, where Stevenson died from a heart attack at the age of 44.

If you enjoy **'JEKYLL & HYDE'** you may also **enjoy...**



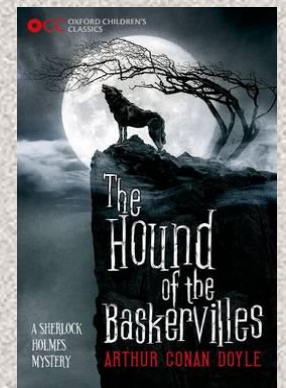
A Gothic tale of bringing the dead back to life.



A Gothic tale about the dangers of sin.



The original vampire Gothic tale.



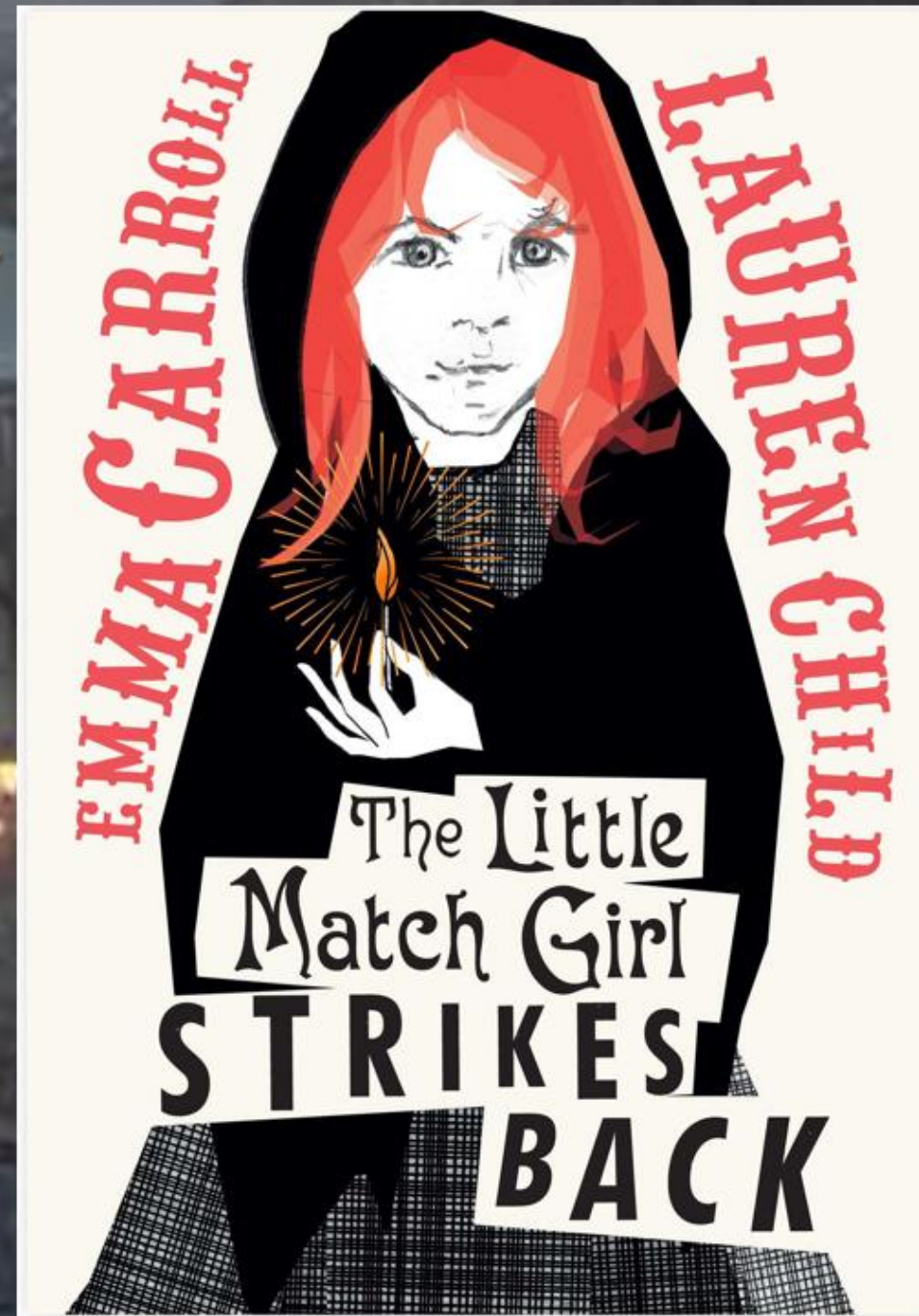
A classic Gothic murder mystery for Sherlock Holmes.

NOVEMBER 2024: BOOK OF THE MONTH IS...

Birdie works hard to feed her family, selling matches on the streets of Victorian London. When she is abruptly left with only three matches, the magical and envisioning strike of each one sees her tumble into visions of an illuminous future. Now, Birdie can change her own fortune with the magical aid of the matches. With this power, Birdie leads the factory workers out on strike whilst also achieving the remarkable through their unity and courage.

This striking tale, inspired by a Hans Christian Anderson story and based on actual history, is described to be 'inspiring', 'ferociously devastating' and 'very powerful'.

THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL STRIKES BACK WAS
LONGLISTED FOR THE YOTO CARNEGIES MEDAL FOR
WRITING 2024. THE YOTO CARNEGIES CELEBRATE
OUTSTANDING READING EXPERIENCES IN BOOKS FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.



ABOUT THE AUTHORS:



Emma Carroll:

- A previous English teacher, Emma Carroll is the multi- award-winning author of many best- selling historical stories.
- Her books are often magical, and mostly led by a cast of impressive female characters.



Lauren Child:

- Lauren Child is an award- winning artist and writer. She has a unique ability to view the world through the eyes of a child and is one of the most influential and innovative creators of her generation.
- She is the creator of Charlie & Lola!

IF YOU LIKED '*THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL STRIKES BACK*,' YOU WILL ALSO LIKE THESE...



'In Darkling Wood' by Emma Carroll



'Dream, Annie, Dream' by Waka T. Brown



'We Own the Sky' by Robert Philbrick



'Fagin's Girl' by Karen McCombe

December 2024

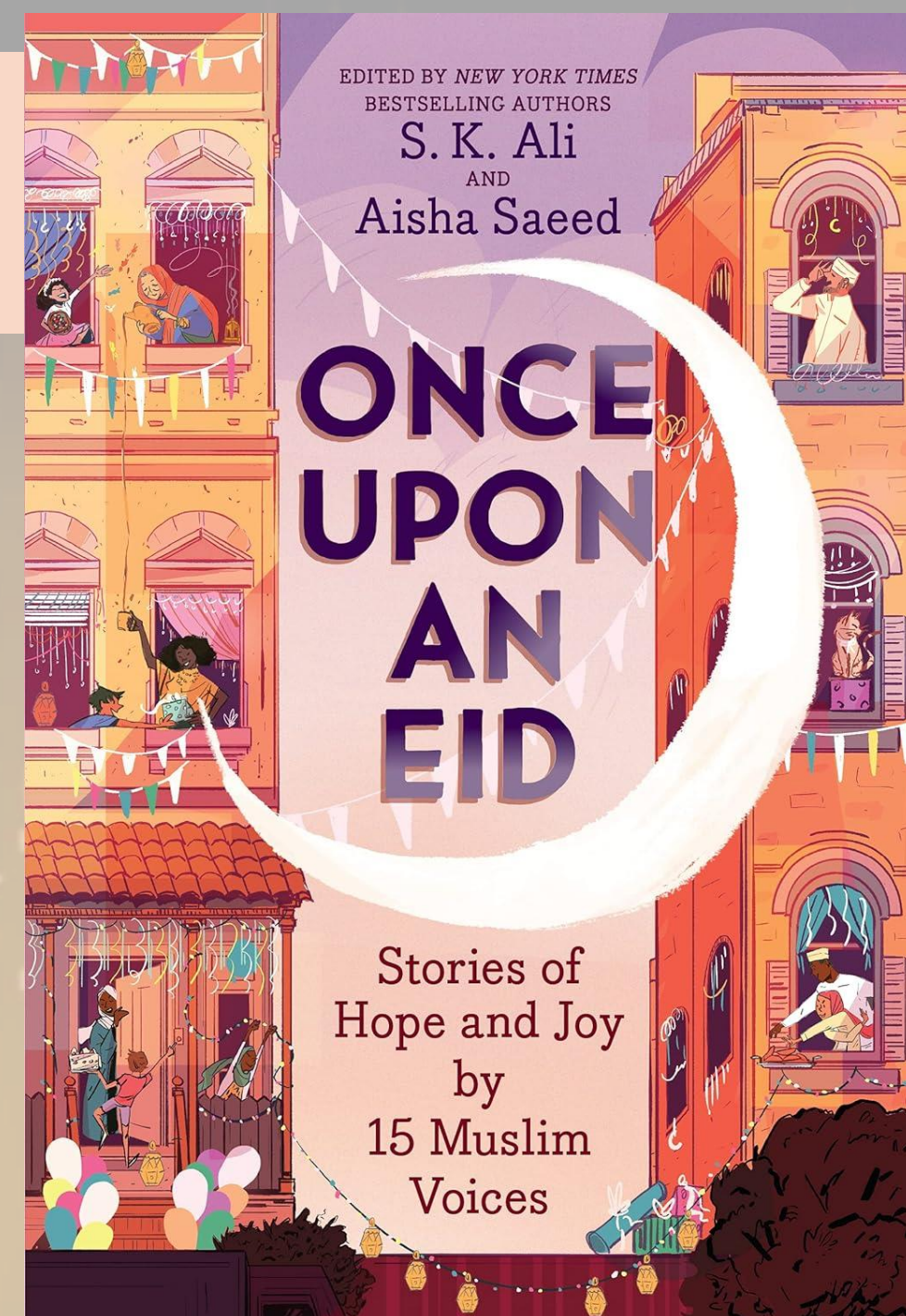
Book of The Month

‘Once Upon an Eid’ – is a collection of short stories that showcases the most brilliant Muslim voice writings today.

It focuses around the most joyous holiday of the year for Muslims around the world: EID.

What is Eid?

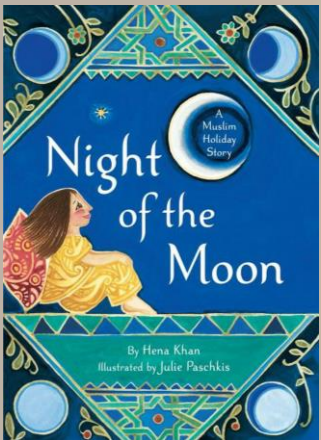
- There are two Eids that Muslims celebrate: Eid-al-Fitr and Eid-al-Adha.
- Eid-al-Fitr (festival of breaking the fast), marks the end of Ramadan. It is a time to spend with family and friends; sharing meals and exchanging gifts.
- Eid-al-Adha (feast of sacrifice), marks the end of pilgrimage in Mecca.
- Muslims celebrate by sacrificing an animal (goat, lamb, or cow), and a portion is given to those in need.



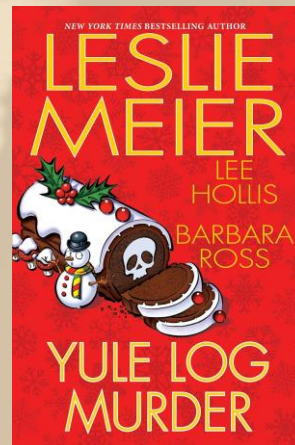
About the authors: S.K.Ali and Aisha Saeed

- Aisha Saeed is an award-winning and New York Times bestselling author of children books.
- Her novel 'Amal Unbound' received multiple starred reviews and was a 'Global Read Aloud' book in 2018.
- S. K. Ali, is also a New York Times bestselling and award-winning author of several books ('Saints and Misfits' and 'Love from A to Z'), both books were named as top 'Young Adult' titles of the year.
- Both authors have a degree in Creative Writing and their anthology; 'Once Upon an Eid' received multiple starred reviews and rewards.

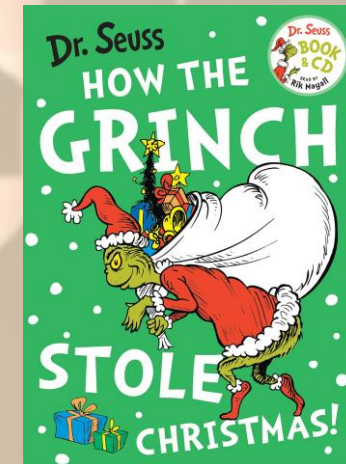
If you enjoyed this book, here are some recommended different holiday stories....



'Night of the Moon' by Hena Khan



'Yule Log Murder' by Leslie Meier

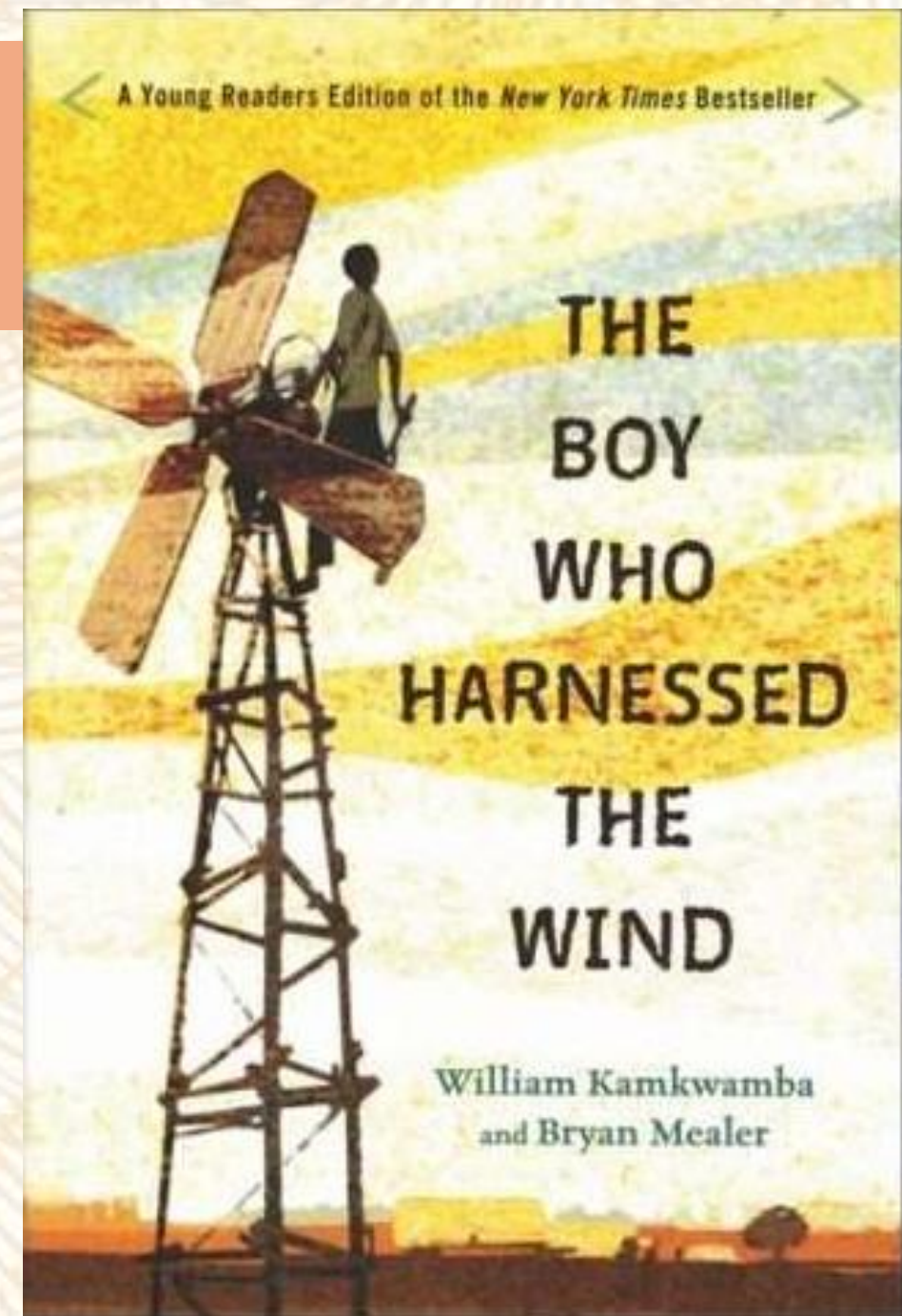


'How the Grinch Stole Christmas' by Dr. Seuss

JANUARY 2025: BOOK OF THE MONTH IS...

This inspiring book tells the story of William Kamkwamba, a young boy from Malawi who teaches himself how to build a windmill from scrap materials, in order to bring electricity to his village. Against all odds, he overcame poverty and a lack of resources to create a sustainable solution that changed the lives of his community.

Overall, '*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*' is an inspiring book for the new year because it illustrates the strength of the human spirit, the power of creativity, and the impact of education in transforming lives. It encourages readers to pursue their dreams and shows that even the most difficult circumstances can be overcome with ingenuity and perseverance.

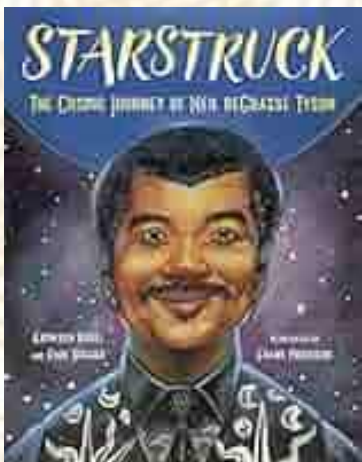


About the author... William Kamkwamba

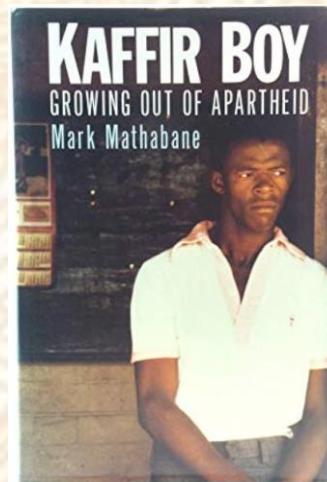


- **William Kamkwamba** (born August 5, 1987, in Kasungu, Malawi – South Africa), is an inventor, engineer, and author.
- As well as writing, he has used his scientific knowledge and engineering skills to bring water and electricity to local areas and his community.
- In 2008 Kamkwamba co-founded the Moving Windmills Project. The organization teaches people in the area to how to drill their own wells and installs solar panels at schools and community centers.
- His book, 'The Boy who Harnessed the Wind', was published in 2009 and was made into a Netflix film in 2019.

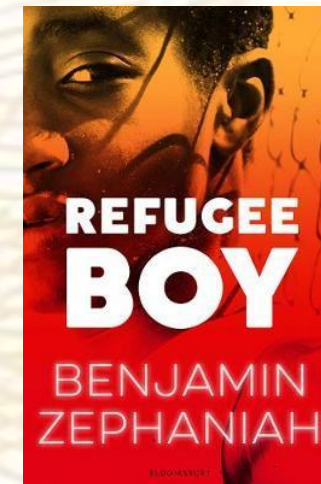
If you liked 'THE BOY WHO HARNESSSED THE WIND' you may also enjoy...



The cosmic journey
of Scientist Neil
deGrasse Tyson



Growing up in
Apartheid Africa.



A story of
change and
courage.

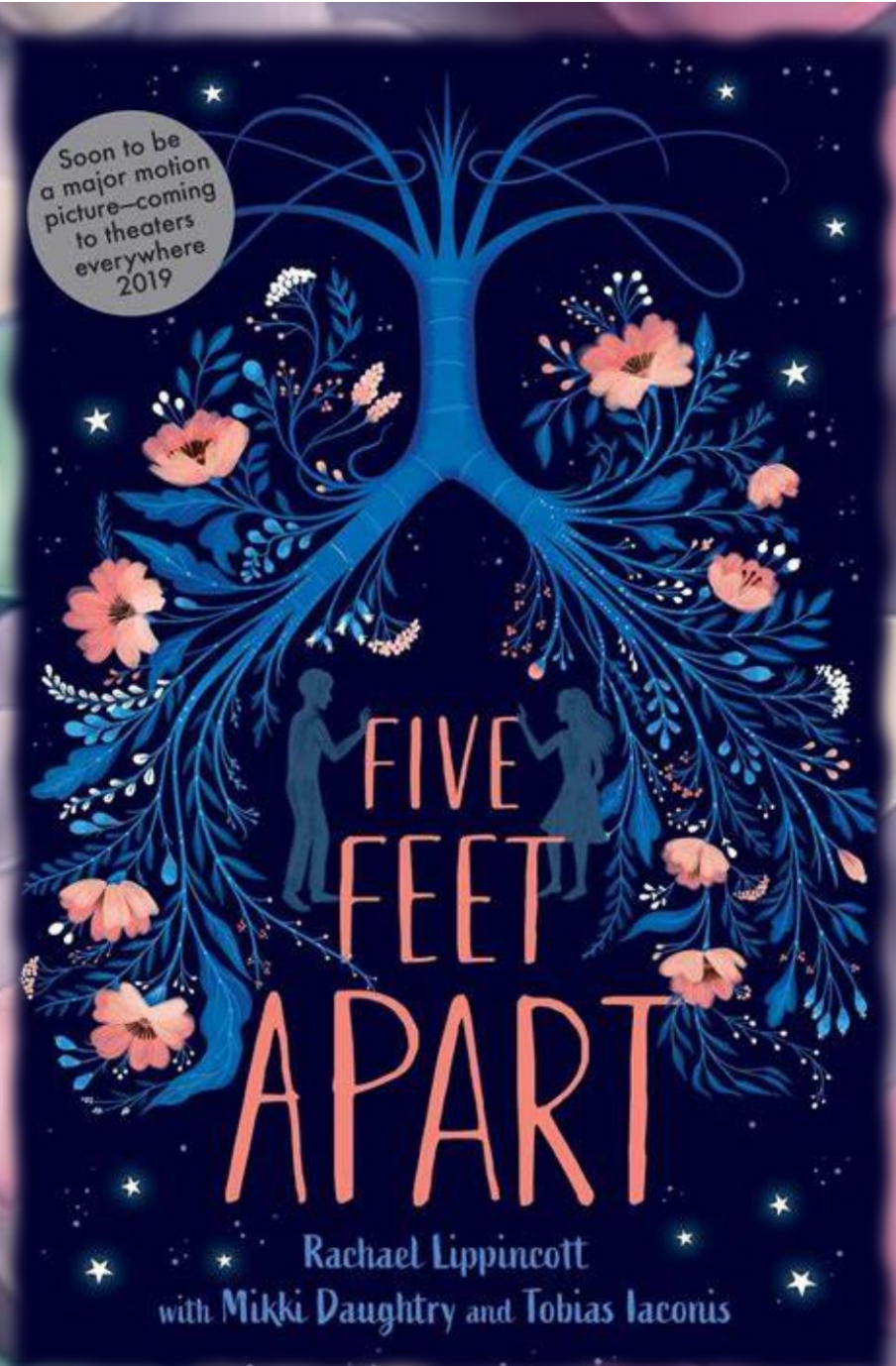
February 2025 Book of the Month is...

CAN YOU LOVE SOMEONE YOU CAN NEVER TOUCH?

Stella Grant likes to be in control – even though her ‘out-of-control’ lungs have sent her in and out of the hospital most of her life. What Stella needs to control most is her distance from anyone or anything that might pass along an infection and jeopardize the possibility of a lung transplant. Six feet apart. No exceptions. The only thing **Will Newman** wants to be in control of is getting out of hospital. In a week, he will turn eighteen, and then he’ll be able to discharge himself and finally go and see the world. Will’s exactly what Stella needs to stay away from. But now six feet doesn’t feel like safety. It feels like punishment. Would five feet apart really be so dangerous if it stops their hearts from breaking too?



The title of the book relates to a real issue for people living with Cystic Fibrosis. The two young people in this book both have CF, but they must remain separated although they love each other. Both as a film and a book, ‘Five Feet Apart’ has spread awareness of this condition.



About the authors...



Author: Rachael
Lippincott



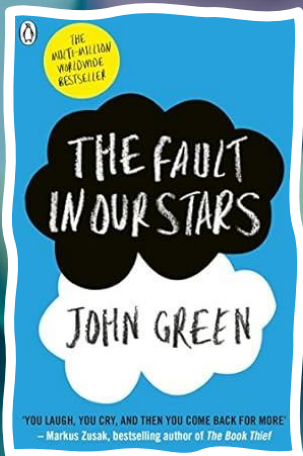
Screenwriters: Mikki Daughtry &
Tobias Iaconis

- * Rachael Lippincott is the #1 New York Times bestselling co-author of *Five Feet Apart*. She holds a BA in English writing from the University of Pittsburgh.
- * Originally from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, she currently resides in Pittsburgh with her wife and their dog, Hank.

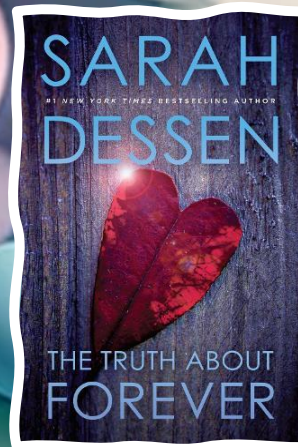
- * Mikki Daughtry and Tobias Iaconis are screen writing partners. Rachael novelized their script for *Five Feet Apart* which began its success as a book and then as a film in 2019.
- * In November 2017, Daughtry and Iaconis were included in *The Young and Hungry List* 2017 (a list of Hollywood's top 100 new writers).

If you liked '*Five Feet Apart*' you might also enjoy...

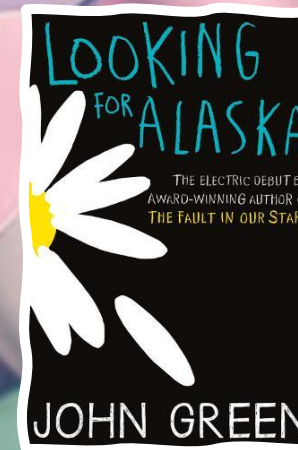
"This book is for the thousands of individuals around the world with cystic fibrosis. I hope with all my heart that it will raise awareness for CF and will help each and everyone of you feel heard". (Rachel Lippincott)



*'The Fault in
Our Stars'*
by John Green



*'The Truth
about Forever'*
by Sarah Dessen



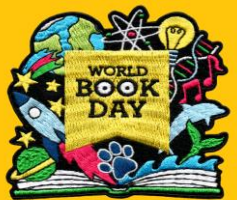
*'Looking For
Alaska'*
by John Green

MARCH 2025:

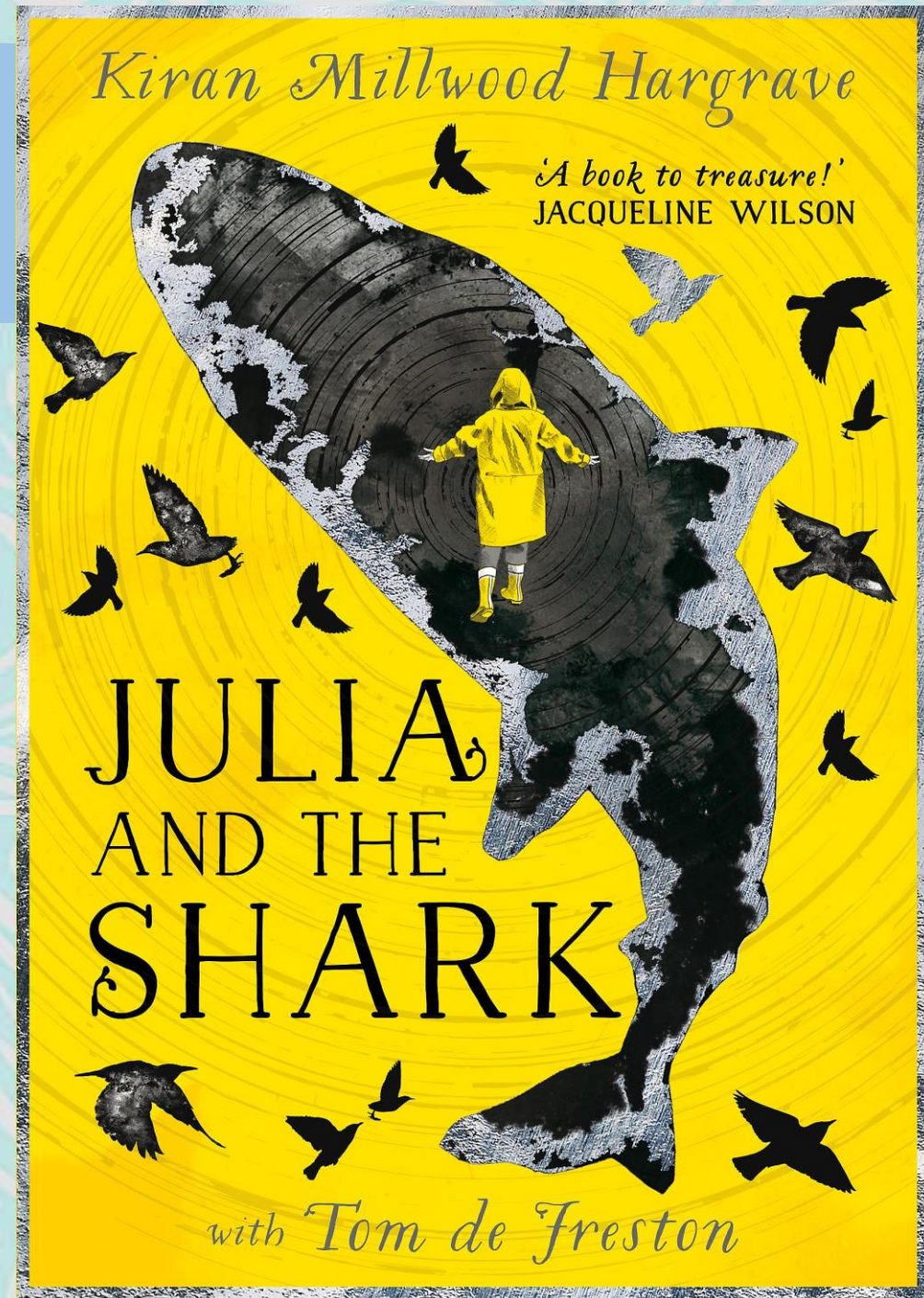
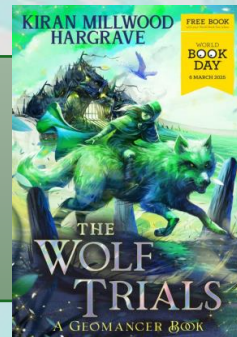
BOOK OF THE MONTH IS...

Ten-year-old Julia has followed her mum and dad to live on the remote island of Unst (off the coast of Scotland) for the summer. Her dad is there to repair a local lighthouse, and her mother is on a scientific mission to find the elusive Greenland shark. But when her mother's obsession threatens them all, Julia finds herself on an adventure with dark depths and a lighthouse full of hope...

'Julie and the Shark' is the 2023 Carnegie award nominated book by award-winning author Kiran Millwood Hargrave, and is illustrated by her husband, Tom de Freston. Hargrave is also one of this years' World Book Day 2025 authors.



World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March 2025. Your WBD vouchers will be available from form tutors and can be used to choose from a collection of books from local stores, such as 'The Wolf Trials' – which is also by Kiran Millwood Hargrave.



ABOUT THE AUTHORS: Kiran Millwood Hargrave

- As well as winning the Waterstones Children's Book Prize in 2017 for her first novel, she is also a poet and playwright who was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2023.



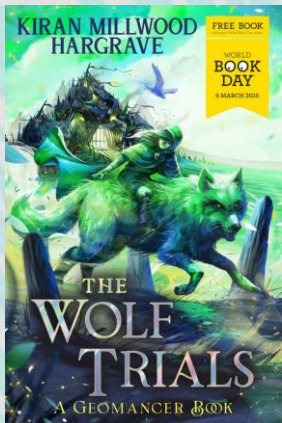
(Illustrator) Tom de Freston

- Graduated from Cambridge as a multimedia artist, combining painting, film, writing and performance in his work.

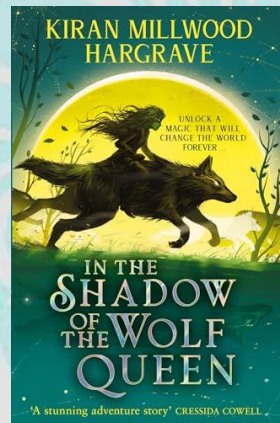


- *'Days before (Covid) lockdown there was a fire in my studio that destroyed twelve years' worth of work. From the burnt-out husk I rescued burnt frames, bags of ash, fragments of destroyed artworks. Much of the artwork for Julia and the Shark was made using these materials, as an act of mourning, transformation and repair. It reflects the central message of the book, that even in the deepest darkness there is always the light of hope.'* - Tom de Freston (illustrator – 'Julia and the Shark').

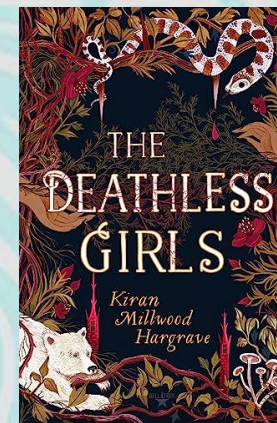
If you liked 'JULIA & THE SHARK' you may also like these...



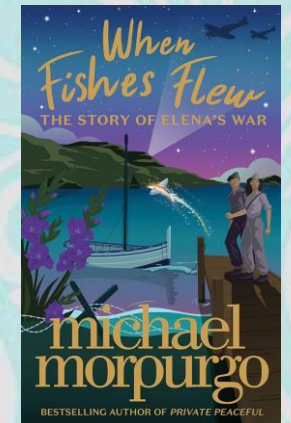
The free WBD book this year – also by the author.



Continuing Hargrave's World Book Day tale.



Hargrave's re-interpretation of 'Dracula'.



Another sea-based tale from the author of 'Warhorse'.

APRIL 2025

THE BOOK OF THE MONTH IS...

What the book is about:

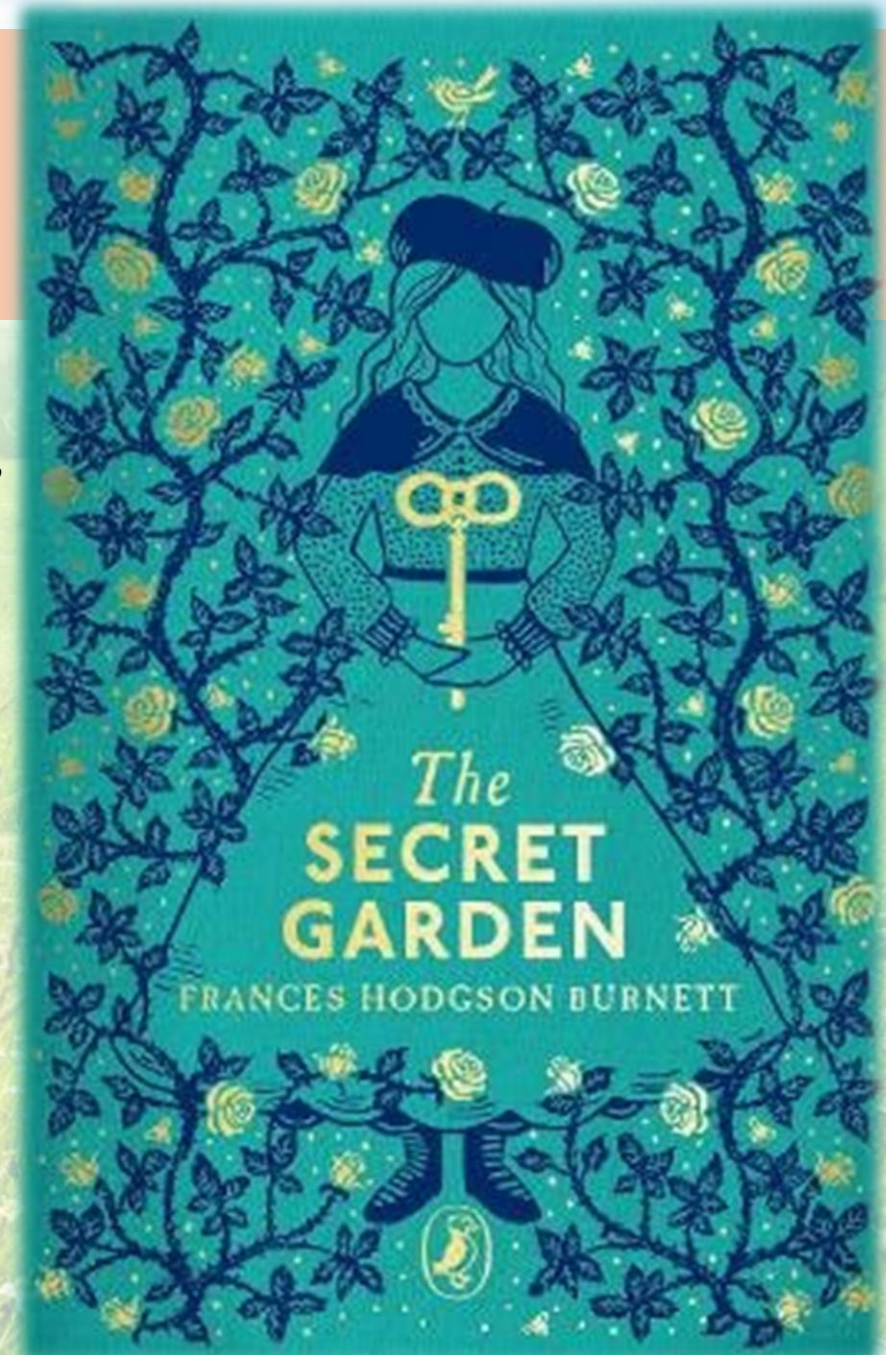
This classic children's novel tells the story of a young orphan girl, Mary Lennox, who is sent to live with her uncle in England after her parents die in India.

She discovers a hidden garden on her uncle's estate and through her interactions with friends and nature, Mary learns to see life in a better and happier way.

A book choice for the start of Spring:

Spring is one of the four seasons that make up a year (Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter). Many flowers bloom at this time of the year with roses, dandelions, cherries and magnolias.

There are many festivals that are celebrated around the world, for example, Easter is widely celebrated, and children take part in Easter egg hunts. India celebrates Holi to mark the coming of spring with bright colours, music and dance festivals.

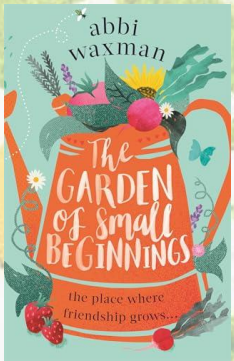


About the Author: Frances Hodgson Burnett:

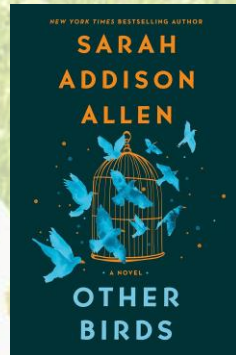


- **Frances Hodgson Burnett** (24th November 1849 – 29th October 1924, Cheetham, Manchester, England) was a British-American novelist and playwright.
- Frances wrote to escape poverty after the death of her father and her family at the age of 19.
- In early 1880s, Burnett travelled to England where she bought a house, and so, '*The Secret Garden*' was written.
- '*The Secret Garden*' was published in 1911 and has been made into several stage productions and film adaptations and is seen as one of the greatest books ever written.

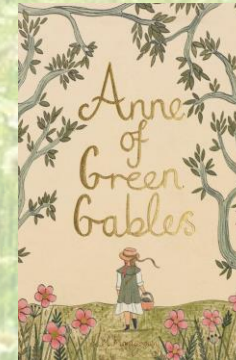
If you like '*The Secret Garden*', you also may enjoy:



'The Garden of Small Beginnings' by Abbi Waxman.



'The Other Birds' by Sarah Addison Allen.



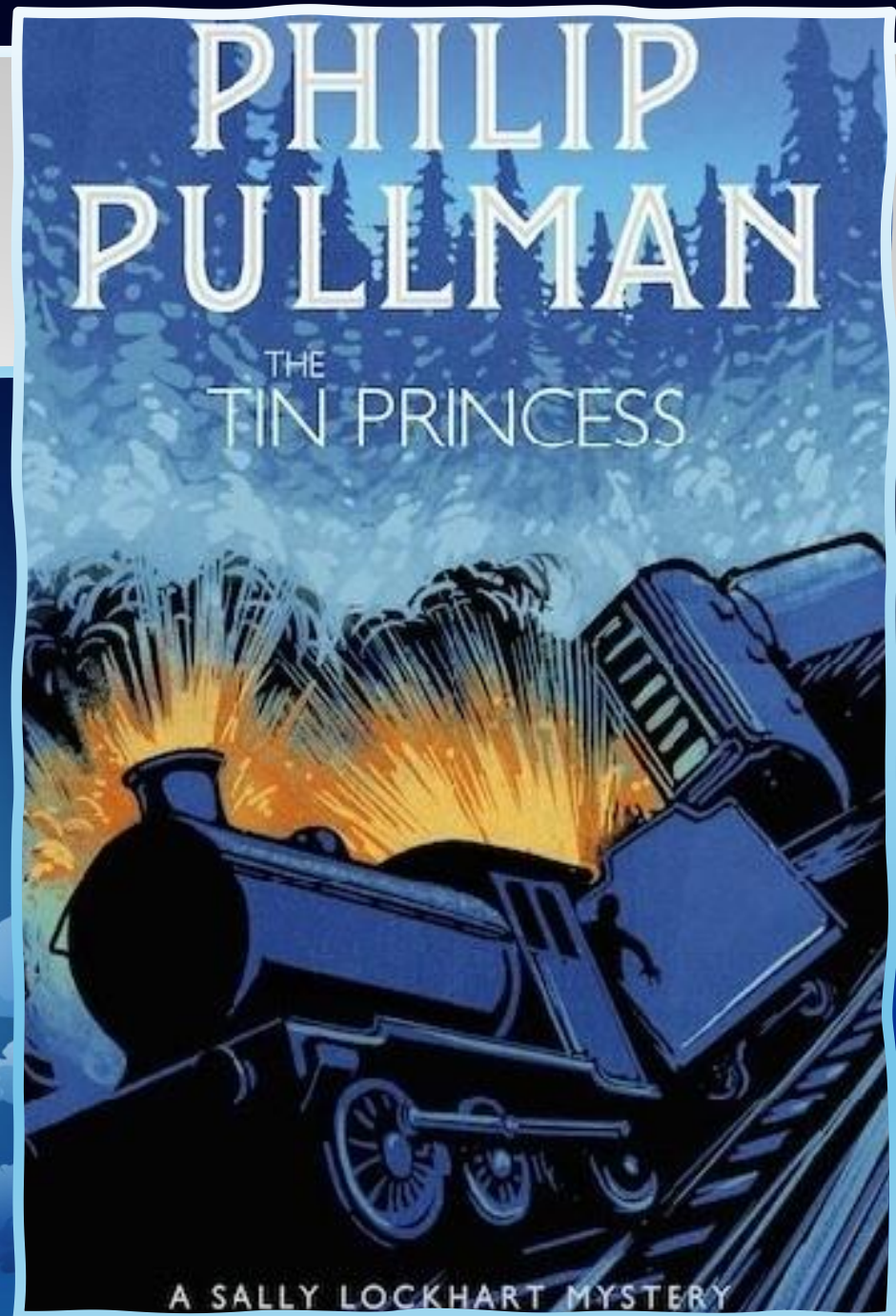
'Anne of Garden Gables' by L.M. Montgomery.

MAY 2025:

BOOK OF THE MONTH IS...

Jim Taylor, Sally Lockhart's oldest friend, is engaged as bodyguard to a princess - but the Crown Princess Adelaide of Razkavia is not what you would expect! She's the slum-girl Jim has been searching for ever since she vanished ten years ago. Now her life is in mortal danger, and together they must battle against unknown enemies in a country where no one can be trusted.

'The Tin Princess' by Philip Pullman is the final book in Philip Pullman's classic Sally Lockhart series. This book has a plot that keeps you guessing right until the very end. The Sally Lockhart series is a classic binge series and is perfect for young adults and teenagers who love mystery and adventure.

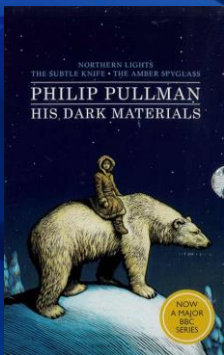


ABOUT THE AUTHOR: PHILIP PULLMAN

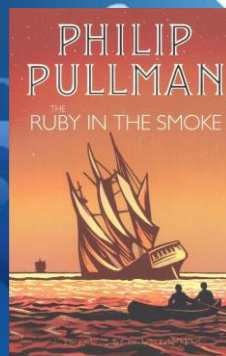
- Sir Philip Nicholas Outram Pullman was born on 19th October 1946.
- He is an English writer and is best known for his fantasy trilogy, '*His Dark Materials*', which has been adapted for both film and television.
- Pullman supported the '*Let Books Be Books*' campaign to stop children's books being labelled as "*for girls*" or "*for boys*" as well as leading a campaign against the introduction of age bands on book covers.
- He has won many awards, such as the Annual Carnegie Medal, the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize and was also awarded a CBE in 2004.



IF YOU LIKE 'THE TIN PRINCESS', YOU MAY ALSO ENJOY:



'His Dark Materials'
by Philip Pullman



'The Ruby in the Smoke' by Philip Pullman



'An Enola Holmes Mystery: The Case of the Missing Marquess' by Nancy Springer

JUNE 2025

THE BOOK OF THE MONTH IS...

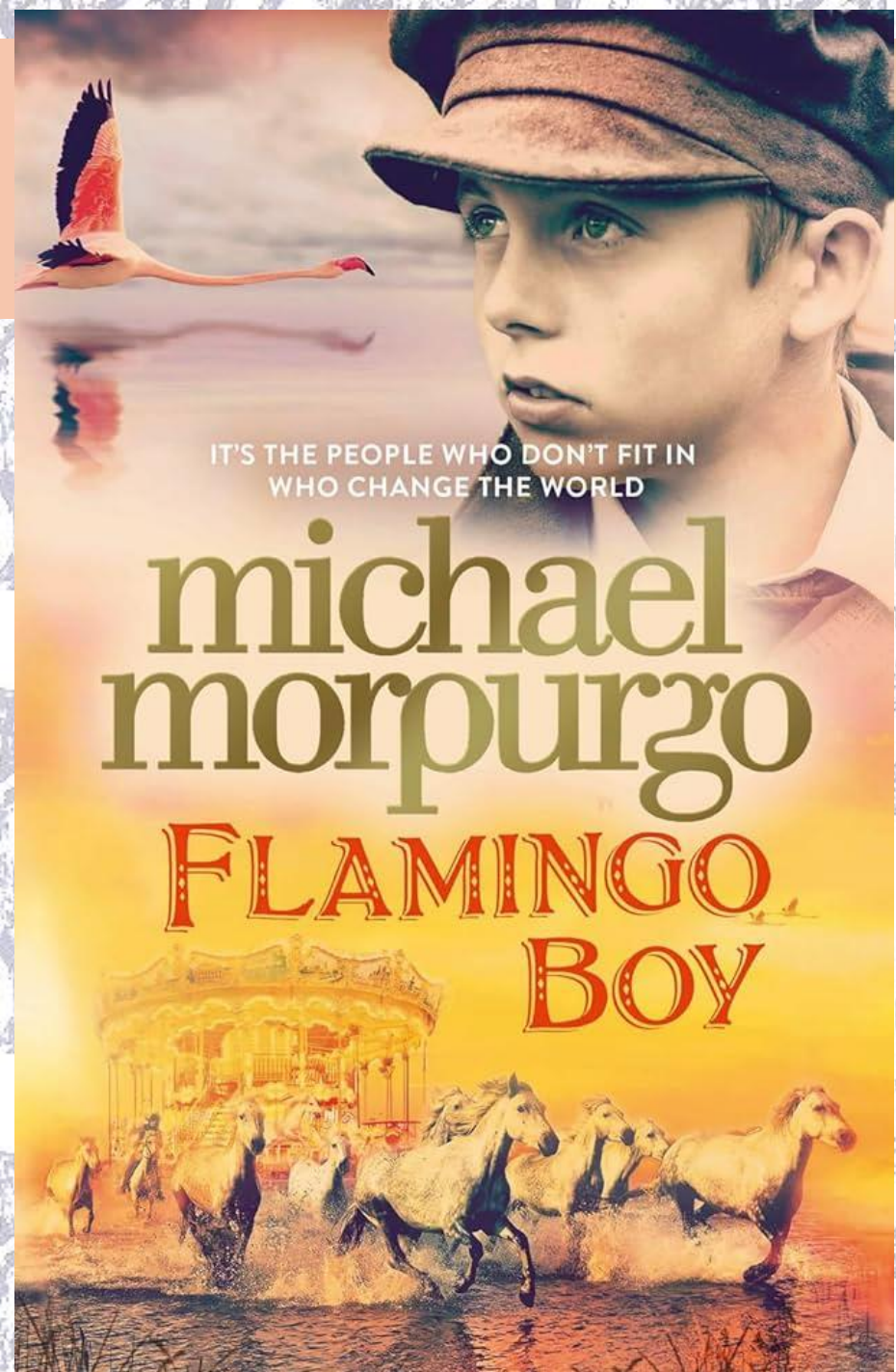
What the book is about:

Flamingo Boy is set during World War II, in Camargue in southern France. It tells the story of an autistic boy named Lorenzo, who is growing up on a farm in that region when the Germans invade the country and occupy France. The story begins in contemporary France though, where a teen-aged boy named Vincent, is being rehabilitated in the home of a Camargue woman, who enjoys telling the youngster stories about the war. She goes into detail how there were flamingos who fled the region, and Lorenzo, an autistic teenager, who gave her comfort and refuge when the Nazis invaded the town.

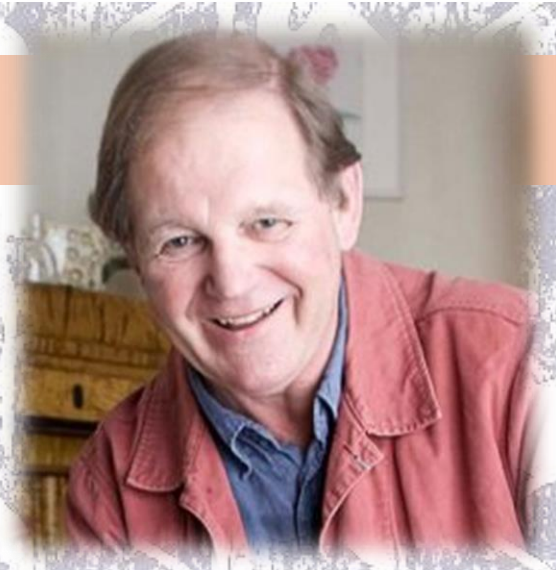
The book '*Flamingo Boy*' is also known as '*The Day the World Stopped Turning*'. It is a British children's novel written by Michael Morpurgo – who also wrote '*War Horse*'. The author was inspired to write this book, in part, by his own grandson, who is autistic.

What is autism?

Autism describes the way some people communicate and experience the world around them. There are various characteristics and forms of behavior linked with being autistic. No two autistic people are the same.

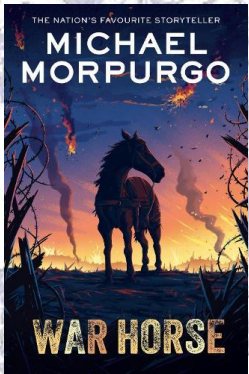


About the Author: Michael Morpurgo

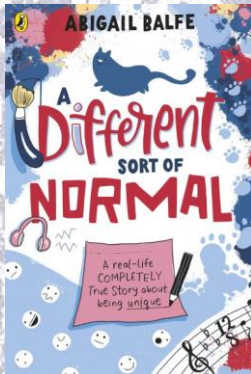


- Sir Michael Morpurgo (born: 5 October 1943) is an English book author, poet, playwright who is known best for children's novels such as War Horse (1982).
- His work is noted for its "magical storytelling", for recurring themes such as the triumph of an outsider or survival, for characters' relationships with nature.
- His early childhood was during the Second World War, during which he was a child evacuee. Before becoming a successful writer, he was originally a schoolteacher, before being inspired to become a writer.
- He is the President of [BookTrust](#), a children's reading charity that supports World Book Day.

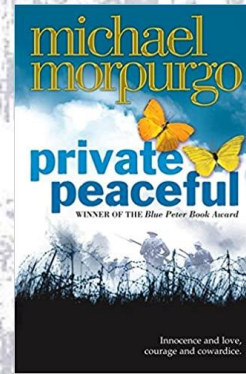
If you like "Flamíngo Boy", you also may enjoy:



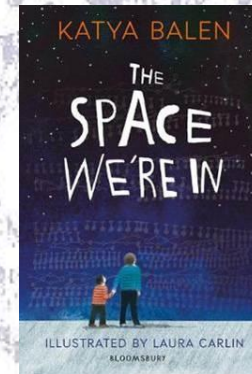
'War Horse'
by Michael
Morpurgo



'A Different
Sort Of
Normal' by
Abigail Balfe



'Private
Peaceful' by
Michael
Morpurgo



'The Space
We're In' by
Katya Balen.

July 2025

The Book of The Month is....

What the book is about:

Mr. Bennet, owner of the Longbourn estate in Hertfordshire, has five daughters. However, his property can only be passed to a male heir. His family will become poor upon his death and so one of the daughters must marry a 'well-respected gentleman' in order to support the family.

Jane Austen's book is a classic romantic novel set in 19th century England. The story revolves around the protagonist, Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy, who both explore the troubles of love, class and social expectations during this time.

'Pride and Prejudice' is one of the 'most-loved books' among literary scholars and English literature, with many theatre and film adaptations taught in schools and universities today.



PENGUIN  CLASSICS

JANE AUSTEN

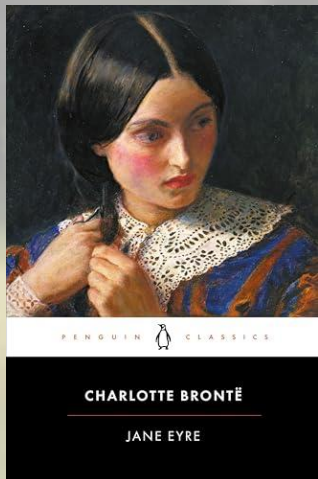
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

About the Author: JANE AUSTEN

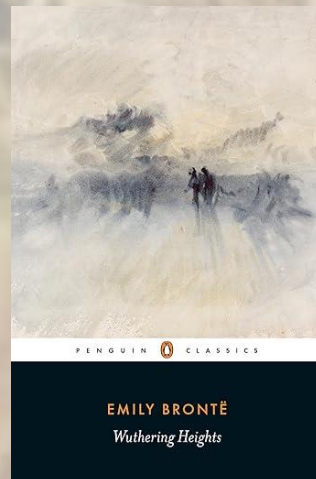


- Jane Austen (16th December 1775 – 18th July 1817, Steventon, Hampshire) was an English novelist of the Regency era (1811-1820).
- During this period of her life, Jane would attend church, socialise with friends and neighbours and read novels. She would dance with neighbours and friends.
- At the age of eleven, Jane wrote poems and stories to amuse herself and her family. 'Sense and Sensibility' (1811) was Jane's first novel and became a huge success.
- Austen wrote 'Pride and Prejudice' when staying in Kent with her brother in 1796. The novel has sold over 20 millions copies and Jane is considered as the 'Queen of Romance' for her literary works.

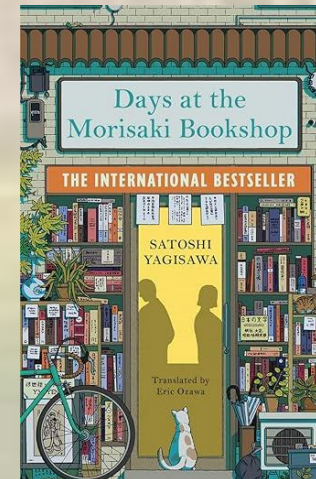
If you like *'Pride and Prejudice'* you may enjoy:



**'Jane Eyre' by
Charlotte Brontë**



**'Wuthering Heights'
by Emily Brontë**



**'Days at the Morisaki
Bookshop' by Satoshi
Yagisawa**