

Name: Miss Dhinsa 4S

Title: Skellig

Author: David Almond

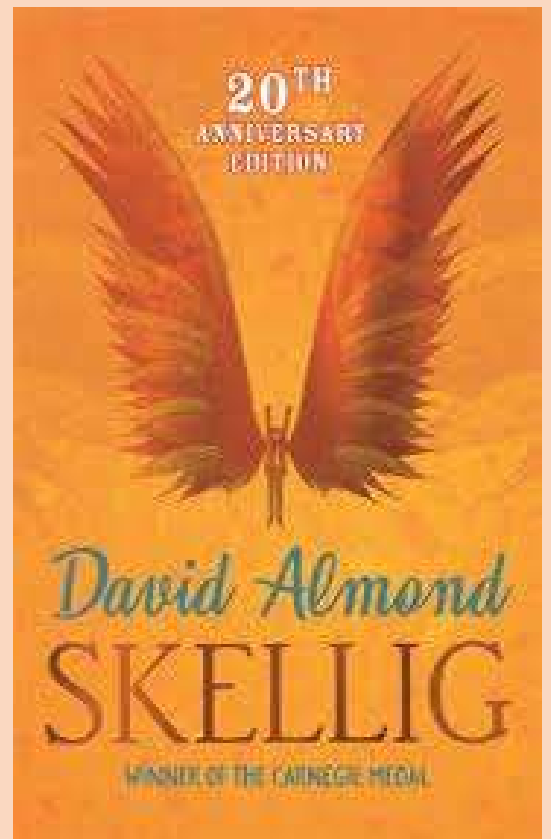
Background

The book focuses on a boy named Michael. After moving into a new home, he finds a strange emaciated man-creature, hidden amid all of the boxes and dead insects. What could he be?

The Setting

The book is set in the UK and follows Michael's journey into his new home. The story mainly revolves around the garage. This is because the mystifying creature he discovers is hiding, and does not have the strength to leave yet.

Interestingly, the author was inspired by his own home in Heaton, Newcastle. He claims the garage in the story was the same he had in his own house! Quite creepy if you ask me...



The Plot

Michael's life has turned upside down. His baby sister is seriously ill and his family have now moved into a house, which is in desperate need of renovation. Luckily, Michael forms a friendship with a girl named Mina who is home-schooled. Her upbringing is completely different to his, and she teaches him about many things. One day, out of boredom, he investigates the garage in his new home. He discovers a dark entity in the corner. Together, Michael and Mina help save the mysterious figure, while not knowing his real identity. What could he be? A bird-man? An angel? A demon? Regardless, they form a bond with the creature and they experience the true magic of friendship and acceptance.

Comments

I read Skellig when I was in Primary School and the story has stuck with me since. I was not surprised when I found out the book had won the Carnegie Medal and The Whitbread Children's Book of the Year. If you are looking for a story that excites you with magical descriptions, then this is the book for you. There are many themes running through this book; such as hope, fantasy and mystery. In 2009, the book had been made into a film. Feel free to watch the film after reading. You can compare your own expectations of Skellig to the movie's interpretation.

Recommendation

I would recommend this book to Year 4 and 5. You will be hooked!
The language used is super impressive.

