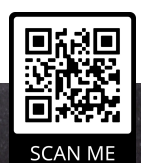


Activity Sheets

Key Stages 2-3

Themes: Grief | Adventure | Family relationships | Identity | Sense of Place

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About the book

Love, death, hope ... the island will change their lives forever. From the bestselling David Almond, author of SKELLIG, and now with fantastic illustrations by the award-winning David Litchfield.

Louise has travelled with her father to the island every year since she can remember - it's the place her mother loved best of all.

The arrival of Hassan changes everything. Louise is restless and yearning for independence; meanwhile, the fiercely free and self-reliant Hassan seems to know the island from long ago as if it were his home from birth.

Hassan is an acrobat, maybe a sorcerer, possibly a source of great danger. The wild boys who call the island their home want to cast him out.

The forces of love, death and hope move Louise and Hassan together. The island will change their lives forever.

About the author

David Almond is the author of many beloved and prize-winning books for children and teenagers. His best known work, Skellig, won the Whitbread Children's Award and the Carnegie Medal and has been widely adapted for stage and screen. He has also won the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the world's most prestigious prize for children's authors. In 2021, David was awarded an OBE for services to literature.



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Discussion questions

Why is Lindisfarne such an important place for Louise?

What do you think the significance of Hassan's t-shirt 'Dark Star' is?

How do the illustrations enhance the story?

What's your favourite description in the book?

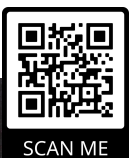
Humans have gone on pilgrimages for millennia, how does the book explore the idea of modern day pilgrimages?

How does the book explore the lives and challenges of refugees?

5 facts about Lindisfarne

1. The island is only accessible at low tide.
2. The island is approximately 1,000 acres.
3. In 634 AD St Aidan established a church and monastery on the island.
4. The castle was first built in 1550 and has been open to visitors since 1944.
5. There is a small island off Lindisfarne called St Cuthbert's Isle where the 7th century saint lived.

Can you find out any other facts about Lindisfarne?



Wordsearch

N Q X Y O R N Y A K Y S S H O L Y I S L A N D H M
 X E W J I W G H V D C A O H S Q E H G P D N U H I
 Y D V F N Q M L N G U Z S S W S E S A Z G A D S A
 I N R F I P H D R B Q W B J N W Q K I H D O L H V
 O K E N N W T H X C S H L X H I O F Y X W N S A Q
 S R Z B F L K D L S A A H R T D P F H P N W K G F
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 L O A M D N G D A R K S T A R H D I O O M B L Q X
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 X F Z G W T T Y T N S R D H A J L V A T G J C X A
 X P F T Q E W Z P X D T J N D H R C B V R S N F O
 I O T U K R K U Q S A H L S S Q D K U I U S Z Q N
 G W Q F J O I A K L Z J A V I S Y A X C I S R J B
 Y T R S J A J U D J F N I M V M H C K G B S X T H
 F V R D D T F E D D V K N Z B S A Q C K J E Y U T
 C H Q O C J K R C U A C T S Q A J M K N Y H Z O L
 F U S E R P M P J W Q V U C Q F Y O B D Y C V E H
 E R J U S R C H A N L D E Q L F A Z H W H G Y F A
 A Y P X O G R D B I H M Y L T V M M G O J V W F D

Spinners Cottage

Lindisfarne

Holy Island

Snipe Point

Sandham Bay

Dark Star

Monsters

Lobster

Haven

