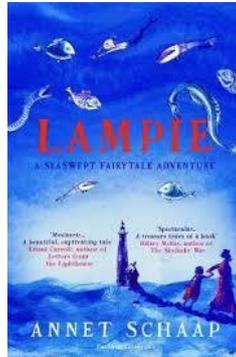


Pittville Community Book Club

'Lampie (A Seaswept Fairytale Adventure)' by Annet Schaap



Synopsis

Every evening Lampie the lighthouse keeper's daughter must light a lantern to warn ships away from the rocks. But one stormy night disaster strikes. The lantern goes out, a ship is wrecked and an adventure begins. In disgrace, Lampie is sent to work as a maid at the Admiral's Black House, where rumour has it that a monster lurks in the tower. But what she finds there is stranger and more beautiful than any monster. Soon Lampie is drawn into a fairytale adventure in a world of mermaids and pirates, where she must fight with all her might for friendship, freedom and the right to be different.

Discussion Topics

1. What are your thoughts about the start of the novel? Whose fault is it that the lighthouse light goes out? What are your feelings about Lampie's father, Augustus? What are your thoughts about Lampie being made to leave her father?
2. What are your thoughts about the character of Miss Amalia? Does she, for example, remind you of any other characters in books, or in films? Why do you think the writer chose to put a character like her in the book?
3. When Lampie first moves to the Black House, she thinks that there is a monster living on the top floor. What do you think the book has to say about monsters – either real, or ones that exist in our imaginations?
4. What are your thoughts about the character of Lenny? For example, do you think the book provides a fair and realistic portrayal of a boy with quite severe learning difficulties?
5. Lots of characters in the novel undergo major changes. What kinds of changes do different characters experience? Which character do you think changes most during the course of the book?
6. Edward or Fish? Which name do you think he should use and why?
7. When Lampie first meets Edward his character is fairly unpleasant. Did you feel any sympathy for him, even though he wasn't very nice? Does the book present him in ways that make you feel sympathy for him from fairly early on?

8. Edward's mother, it turns out, was a mermaid. Clearly this makes the story a magical one, perhaps in the fairy-tale genre. But does the portrayal of Edward and his mother offer readers a message about how we treat people in general?

9. What are your thoughts about the ending of the novel? (Perhaps think of the different endings for different characters.)

10. What type of reader would you recommend this book to and why?

The following links also contain more information and activities:

<https://carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/books/lampie/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=toKRW05Loxo>

Further Reading

- The Girl Who Speaks Bear – Sophie Anderson
- The Monstrous Child – Francesca Simon
- Who Let the Gods Out? – Maz Evans
- The Train to Impossible Places – P.G. Bell
- Sky Song - Abi Elphinstone
- I The Storm Keeper's Island - Catherine Doyle
- Odd and the Frost Giants - Neil Gaiman
- The Graveyard Book – Neil Gaiman
- The Thirteen Treasures – Michelle Harrison