

# BOOK CLUB PICK!

## Chronicles of Whetherwhy: The Age of Enchantment

### KEY FACTS

**Title:** Chronicles of Whetherwhy: The Age of Enchantment

**Author:** Anna James

**Reading Age/Interest Age:** 9+



**Author Bio:** Anna James is the acclaimed author of the Pages and Co. series. As a journalist, she writes for a variety of newspapers and magazines, and chairs events at bookshops and literary festivals across the UK. She lives in London, in a flat full of books. This is the first book in the Chronicles of Whetherwhy series.

**Teaser:** In Whetherwhy, everyone has magic inside them – grown from the changing seasons of spring, summer, autumn and winter. **But a rare few are Enchanters: people born with magic in their bones, who can wield all four seasons of magic.**

When Juniper discovers she is an Enchanter, she is invited to study at Thistledown Academy. Unwilling to be left behind, her twin brother, Rafferty, follows her to the capital city of Stormgrove and takes up an apprenticeship at a bookbindery.

As Juniper learns to wield enchantment, Rafferty becomes involved with a mysterious secret society that meets after dark. Monsters are creeping out of the shadows and dangers lurk in unexpected places. Amid night markets and magic lessons, the twins realise there is more to enchantment than they ever imagined – and the adventure that follows brings their paths together again in ways they could never have expected ...

**Setting and background of the book:** The series is set in Whetherwhy, an enchanting place where everyone has magic grown from the changing seasons. Much of the story takes place in the capital city of Stormgrove where Juniper studies at Thistledown Academy, a school for enchanters, while her brother, Rafferty, is an apprentice at a nearby bookbinders.

**Key characters to introduce:** Juniper and Rafferty are thirteen-year-old twins who live in Honeyvale in Whetherwhy. Juniper is brave and loyal, Rafferty is calm and hardworking. They have a very close relationship at the start of the book. When it's discovered that Juniper is an Enchanter and has to leave to study at the capital, they are reluctant to leave each other and so, Rafferty decides to follow Juniper to Stormgrove. As secrets and mysteries start to unravel around them and cause them to drift apart will they be able to come back together and face a great danger?

## Book club questions:

1. Which season do you think has the best magic?
2. Did you like Juniper? Who were your most and least favourite characters?
3. What do you think of Juniper and Rafferty's relationship?
4. What do you like about the setting of the book?
5. Would you prefer to go to Thistledown Academy like Juniper or study bookbinding like Rafferty?
6. Did the end of the book surprise you?
7. What do you hope happens in the next book?

8. What was the biggest conflict in the book?
9. What questions would you like to ask the author?

**Cross curricular links:** The book revolves around seasonal magic and could be tied into lessons about the changing of the seasons.

## New vocabulary:

**Trundled:** To move heavily and slowly (verb)

**Lucrative:** Something that makes a lot of money or profit (adjective)

**Bookbinding:** Bookbinding is the skill of fastening loose pages together inside a cover to make a book, while a bookbindery is the shop where this takes place (noun)

**Tentative:** Uncertain or done without confidence (adjective)

**Cynical:** Believing that people are motivated by self-interest (adjective)

**Haphazardly:** In a disorganised manner (adverb)

**Unflappable:** Not easily excited or upset especially by a sudden crisis (adjective)

**Churlishly:** Rudely or impolitely (adverb)

**Menagerie:** A collection of wild or exotic animals (noun)

**Reticent:** Reluctant to speak, restrained or shy (adjective)

**Impasse:** A stalemate where no solution is met (noun)

**Feign:** To pretend or fake (verb)

**Inlaid:** Set into a surface in an ornamental design (adjective)

**Beseeking:** To beg or make an important or urgent request (verb)

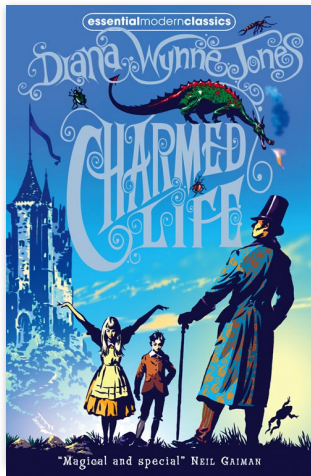
**Glimmered:** To give off a dim or unsteady light (verb)

**Interlude:** A pause, space or interval between events (noun)

**Best extract to read aloud:**

Chapter Tweny: Juniper and her new classmates reach Thistledown Academy for the first time and go through the welcome ceremony.

## If you liked this:



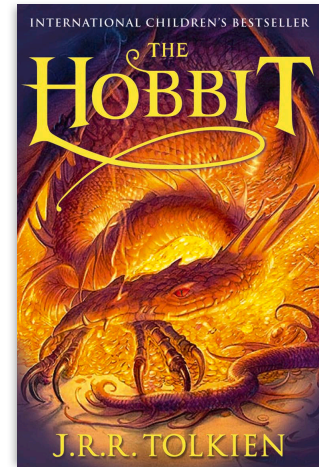
### Charmed Life

By Diana Wynne Jones  
9780007255290



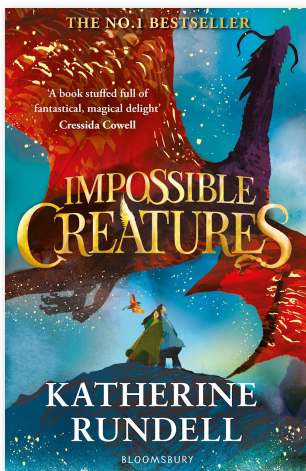
### Pages & Co

By Anna James  
9780008229870



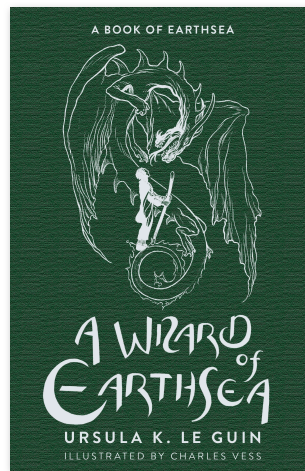
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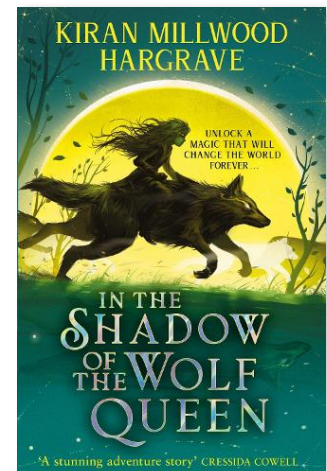
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9781408897430



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By Ursula K. Le Guin  
9781473223561



### In the Shadow of the Wolf Queen

By Kiran Millwood Hargrave  
9781510107854