

“Inkheart” Review

Genre: Fantasy, adventure

Author: Cornelia Funke

Rating: 5/5

“Perhaps there's another, much larger story behind the printed one, a story that changes just as our own world does. And the letters on the page tell us only as much as we'd see peering through a keyhole. Perhaps the story in the book is just the lid on a pan: It always stays the same, but underneath there's a whole world that goes on - developing and changing like our own world.” -Cornelia Funke, “Inkheart”

Inkheart focuses on twelve-year-old Meggie Folchart, and her father Mo- who has the ability to read aloud and bring fictional beings into the real world. But this comes at a cost- he cannot control who or what comes out, and something from our world must go *in* to the book. When Mo accidentally brings out some of the most heinous villains of the book *Inkheart*, Meggie is thrown into the type of adventure she’s only ever known in books.

This book is one of my all-time favourites. It’s a great read for both younger and older audiences, and would make a great ‘transition book’ from junior to YA fiction. That said, it’s a book I still enjoy reading as an adult.

Funke’s writing is vivid and rife with beautiful imagery to entertain the reader. Her cast of characters is wonderfully varied, and each of them -from the desperate, cunning Dustfinger to the eccentric Italian author Fenoglio- feels complete to the reader and adds to the story. It is a dark tale at times, but I would not classify the overall tone of the book this way.

The story itself is a creative concept, and confirms what every book lover already knows; the stories we read matter, and can affect us in ways we don’t always understand. Overall, *Inkheart* is an adventure story about family, imagination, and magic, that will speak to the heart of any book lover.