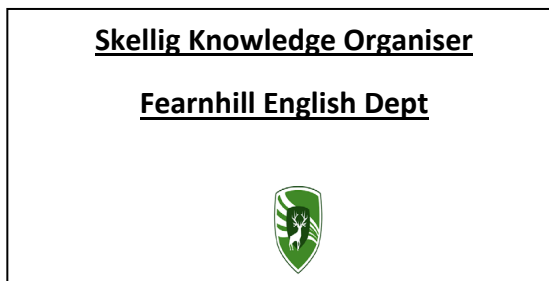


<u>Chapter:</u>	<u>Summary:</u>
1-4	Michael moves to a new neighbourhood. He finds a strange man in the garage and is scared.
5-6	Michael goes to school and has a chat with his father about the baby. He doesn't tell anyone about the man.
7-10	Michael brings the strange man Chinese food. He meets Mina for the first time.
11-14	Michael's baby sister needs to go back to hospital. Michael starts to confide in Mina and the strange man.
15-16	Michael finds out the man is called Skellig. He wants to bring Mina to meet Skellig, but Skellig disagrees.
17-21	Michael does bring Mina to meet Skellig. Skellig is suspicious at first, but relaxes. Michael's dad asks how he is settling in.
22-28	Mina and Michael move Skellig to a new shelter. Michael's baby sister gets even sicker. Michael gets angry with Leakey because Leakey is mean about Mina.
29-32	Skellig gets better and better. He begins healing Michael and Mina.
33-40	The baby needs an operation on her heart. Michael asks Skellig to look after her.
40-46	The baby survives, thanks to Skellig. Skellig has completely recovered and leaves them without saying goodbye. Michael and his family get to live together happily.

<u>Features of Magic realism</u>		
<i>Magic and the supernatural:</i> Whether or not Skellig is an angel is a constant mystery.	<i>Uncertainty and ambiguity:</i> The identity of Skellig, the fate of the baby etc all create uncertainties.	<i>'Normal' settings:</i> Despite the magic, most of the settings are a garage, a garden shed, a hospital.



<u>Character:</u>	<u>Description:</u>
Michael	The boy who finds the creature in the garage
Mina	Michael's new friend. She is home-schooled and sees the world very differently to Michael.
Michael's Dad	The only other victor District 12 has ever had. He mentors Katniss and Peeta throughout the Games.
Doctor Death	The house doctor who visits Michael's sister
Skellig	Creature / human / Angel that Michael finds in the garage. He and Mina help him.
Leakey and Coot	Michael's old friends from school. They struggle to understand his relationship with Mina.
Grace	Old Woman from hospital. She helps Michael find some perspective on life.

<u>Themes:</u>	<u>Symbols:</u>
<u>Life and Growing up:</u> As Michael progresses through the book he meets new people and has his horizons and attitudes expanded.	<u>Blackbirds:</u> Clever, and not actually the colour everyone thinks they are, blackbirds symbolize the need to wait before judging someone.
<u>Faith:</u> Michael must learn to have faith in his new and old friends for health and support.	
<u>Education:</u> Michael experiences a wide variety of education styles and must learn how to draw his own conclusions.	