



2018

The Ice Sea Pirates

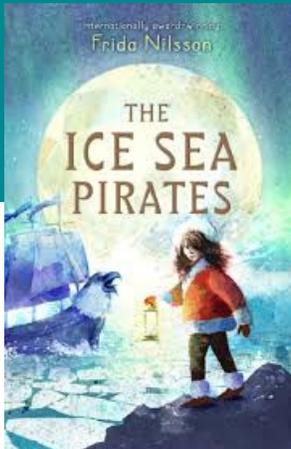
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Book Review

The Ice Sea Pirates

Author

Frida Nilsson

Illustrator

David Barrow

Reviewer

Brooklynn Marshall

Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate

Pages

359

Year

2017

Publisher

Gecko Press

ISBN

9781776571451

Among a string of imaginary islands in the Arctic, the tale is told of a Captain Whitehead, an ice sea pirate nefarious for abducting small children and forcing them to work in his diamond mine. Siri and Miki live with their elderly father on one of these islands, but never believed that they would fall prey to the clutches of Whitehead and his crew. One day while the sisters are gathering berries on a neighboring island, the pair are separated and Miki is kidnapped. In effort to prevent her father from risking his life, Siri goes after her sister to save her from the cold-hearted pirates. As she embarks on this journey, Siri learns more about herself and humanity through every encounter. Eventually, Siri is reunited with Miki and the pair successfully return home, having conquered Captain Whitehead and his crew.

This book strives to bring the audience to an awareness of child abuse. This is seen through various encounters, including Whitehead kidnapping and forcing children to do hard labor in the harsh conditions of the coal mines and abundant mistreatment and brutality towards young wolf cubs. However, presenting this dark material in the format of a middle-grade novel results in an ever-present hope that the characters' situation is not permanent. Additionally, explicit details creating sharp, gruesome mental images of this suffering are omitted. Through this story, the reader's attention is drawn to the injustices that nature enacts on the young and helpless in order to emphasize the importance of treating all living things well.

*Contains mild language and mild violence.