



# The Glimme

Author: Emily Rodda

Illustrator: Marc McBride

Publisher: Scholastic

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## Synopsis

Lone Annie sees dragons in your future... She sees giants. She sees fire and water. She sees death.

Finn's life in the village of Wichant is hard. Only his drawings of the wild coastline, with its dragon-shaped clouds and headlands that look like giants, make him happy.

Then the strange housekeeper from a mysterious clifftop mansion sees his talent and buys him for a handful of gold and then reveals to him seven extraordinary paintings.

Finn thinks the paintings must be pure fantasy-such amazing scenes and creatures can't be real!

He's wrong.

Soon he is going to slip through the veil between worlds and plunge into the wonders and perils of The Glimme.

## Author Bio

Emily Rodda grew up with her two younger brothers on Sydney's North Shore and graduated from the University of Sydney in 1973 with an MA (Hons) in English Literature. Always an avid reader, she moved naturally into a career in publishing, first as a book editor, and finally as a publisher at Angus & Robertson.



Emily Rodda's first book, *Something Special*, was published in 1984.

It marked the beginning of a career that has seen her become one of the most successful, prolific and versatile writers in Australia. She has written or co-authored well over fifty books for children, and as Jennifer Rowe (her real name) she writes popular mystery novels for adults. Her children's books range from picture books to YA novels, and include the award-winning Rowan series and the outstandingly successful Deltora Quest fantasy series.

Winner of the Children's Book Council of Australia's Book of the Year (Younger Readers) Award a record six times, she seems to know instinctively what children want to read. She has been a fulltime writer since 1994. "I feel very lucky to have a job I love so much," she says. Her four children, including twin boys, have given her plenty of inspiration over the years. "None of the characters in my books are exactly like anyone I know, but all of them have things in common with people I know. Everyone writes from his or her own experience. I look at people I know and listen to them and when I am trying to think of a new character, these things come back to me."

In 1995 Emily Rodda won the prestigious Dromkeen Medal. The judges of the award said of her that she "maintains a prolific writing schedule, continues to provide a role model in promoting children's literature, and still spends many hours sharing her love of books with children and educators".

<http://www.emilyrodda.com/>

## Illustrator Bio

Marc McBride is the illustrator of Emily Rodda's best selling Deltora Quest series, which has sold over eighteen million copies around the world and has become an Anime TV show.

He has illustrated two hundred book covers, ten picture books, countless magazines and has had work exhibited with the New York Society of Illustrators international show. He has won Aurealis Awards for the Deltora Quest series and World of Monsters, which he wrote and illustrated.



<https://www.marcmcbride.net/>

## Curriculum Links

### English Year 4 and Year 5

- ACELT1603** Discuss literary experiences with others, sharing responses and expressing a point of view
- ACELT1609** Present a point of view about particular literary texts using appropriate metalanguage, and reflecting on the viewpoints of others
- ACELT1610** Recognise that ideas in literary texts can be conveyed from different viewpoints, which can lead to different kinds of interpretations and responses
- ACELT1614** Analyse and evaluate similarities and differences in texts on similar topics, themes or plots
- ACELT1607** Create literary texts that explore students' own experiences and imagining
- ACELT1612** Create literary texts using realistic and fantasy settings and characters that draw on the worlds represented in texts students have experienced (ACELT1612 - Scootle )

### The Arts - Visual Arts Year 5 and 6

- ACAVAM115** Develop and apply techniques and processes when making their artworks  
-enhancing and practising their art making skills in using a range of materials and technologies

## Pre Reading

Based on the cover, what do you think this book will be about?

Without reading the blurb, is this the sort of book you would pick up, based on the cover alone?

Discuss



Identify the author and the illustrator.

This author and illustrator have worked together on a number of books.

Can you name other books by Emily Rodda, and illustrated by Marc McBride?

**Has anyone ever read any Emily Rodda books?**

**Examples may include:**

**Series:**

- Deltora Quest
- Rowan of Rin
- Three Doors
- Star of Deltora

**Stand Alone novels:**

- His Name Was Walter
- Shop at Hoopers Bend, The

If you haven't read anything by Emily Rodda, what are some of the reasons why not?

What genre, or genres do you think The Glimme fits into?

- Identify different genres and talk about personal preferences.
- See which genres are popular on your class, and talk about why?

What are you expecting from reading this book?

How do you think this book may be similar or different to those you have read by Emily Rodda or in the same genre?



**The Glimme is a highly illustrated story.**

How much do the illustrations help with your enjoyment of the story?

Does it help create a picture in your head or would you rather use your imagination?

- Can you think of any other novels that have extensive colour illustrations?
- What about black and white illustrations?

## Discussion Questions

In Chapter 1, there are some words that students may not be familiar with. Write them on the board and see if they can give a definition.

Re read the sentences that the words appeared in, as the context may help with the meaning.

- Lollygagging (page 6)
- Frittering (page 9)
- Thunderstruck (page 10)
- Dilly-Dally (Page 13)
- Jaunts (page 20)

Make a list of any other unfamiliar words you come across throughout the story.

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**Finn sees many paintings of different fantastical places, mostly scary.**

- If you could create your own painting of a fantastical place what would it look like?
- Describe your world, remembering that you can visit it if you want to. Draw a picture if you can

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**Glimme is written from Finn's point of view**

- In Chapter 7 the group are attacked by Bogwights, and Lori is captured, covered in an oily liquid and paralyzed beneath a hardened shell.
- Write a brief passage describing how Lori felt during this attack.

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**In Chapter 9, we are introduced to Battle Reejos.**

Without showing any illustrations that may depict these creatures, ask the class to create their own versions them based on the description alone.

- Ferocious looking
- Four legged
- Huge
- Smooth
- Grey
- Tiny red eyes
- Showing their teeth

Create your creature using any medium they wish, draw/paint/create using a digital program like:

**Krita** <https://krita.org/en/> Or any one of the many digital art Apps available

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**The title of this book is The Glimme.**

Glimme is a derivatie of Dutch /German word -Glimmen, which means to shine/glow/shimmer

Why you think the author chose this name for the world?

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**ART/ENGLISH**

Collaboration between author and illustrators can work in a multitude of ways.

Usually the illustrator would be asked to illustrate an author's story.

In the case of Glimme, Marc McBride sent Emily Rodda a set of fantasy paintings, and asked if she could write a story to go with them, and Glimme is the book that she wrote.

**Activity:**

Students are to write their own story, based on a famous work of art. This activity can be done in conjunction with an art topic on art and artists.

If possible, each child should have a copy of their chosen art work, so that they have an opportunity to study the image closely.

Find examples of artworks online or use a book like, USBORNE CHILDREN'S BOOK OF ART, THE to get you started.

