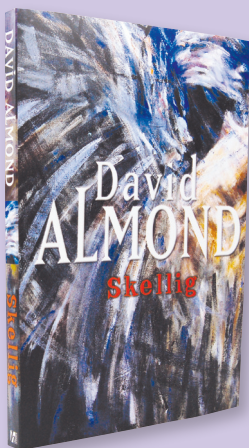


## BOOK CLUB

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## Skellig

When a move to a new house coincides with his baby sister's illness, Michael's world seems suddenly lonely and uncertain. Then, one Sunday afternoon, he stumbles into the old, ramshackle garage of his new home, and finds something magical. A strange creature – part owl, part angel, a being who needs Michael's help if he is to survive. With his new friend Mina, Michael nourishes Skellig back to health, while his baby sister languishes in the hospital. But Skellig is far more than he at first appears, and as he helps Michael breathe life into his tiny sister, Michael's world changes forever.



*Skellig* won the **Whitbread Children's Award** and the **Carnegie Medal**.

## FIND OUT MORE...

If you'd like to find out more about David and his books visit [www.davidalmond.com](http://www.davidalmond.com)

## Author Profile

## COVER2COVER MEETS DAVID ALMOND...

David Almond is the award-winning author of, amongst others, *Skellig*, *Kit's Wilderness*, and *The Fire-Eaters*.



## FACT FILE

**Lives:** in Northumberland, just beyond Hadrian's Wall.

**Pastimes:** walking, listening to music, reading, travelling and spending time with his family.

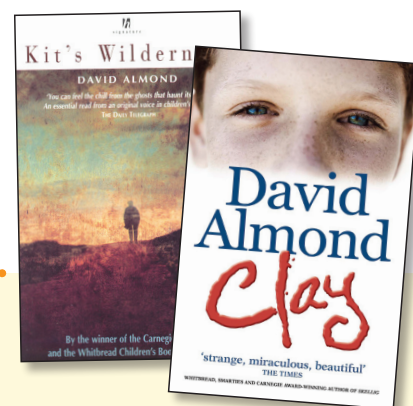
**Ambitions:** to keep writing and to keep on improving as a writer. To see the great high wire walker, Philippe Petit, in action. To travel in space.

**Strength:** patience.

**Weakness:** untidiness.

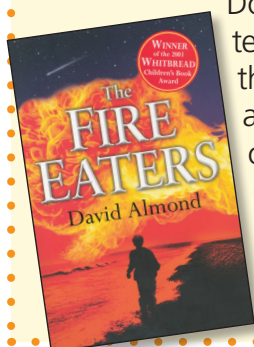
**Previous jobs:** hotel porter, postman, labourer, magazine editor and teacher.

**Favourite food:** fresh sardines, pasta, garlic and chilli.



## DAVID'S TIPS FOR WRITERS...

'Read. Read the things you like to read, not just the things you feel (or are told) you should read. Explore libraries and discover books and writers that are new to you. Try copying a style/writer that you particularly like. Adopt a storyline/idea/image/sentence from a writer you admire.



Don't tell yourself (and don't believe anyone who tells you) that you've got no imagination. We have the kind of minds that want to make things up and to tell stories. Your mind has an endless store of images, tales, memories, dreams, speculations, observations. Relax and allow your imagination to work. Don't give up after a few sentences. Keep going and you'll begin to be absorbed by your story.'