

Escape from Pompeii

Important information

Plot

This book is about two friends who live in Pompeii overlooking the bay of Naples. One day a huge volcano called Vesuvius erupted covering the city in a layer of ash and dust. The children managed to escape on a boat leaving the port.

Themes

Friendship, tragedy, dilemma.

Setting

The story is set in a busy Roman city called Pompeii. It is filled with shops, taverns, bars and aspiring actors. The city is located on a hill overlooking the bay of Naples.

Context

Christina Balit is a popular children's author and illustrator. Christina grew up in the Middle East and uses her experience of a variety of cultures to help her with her writing. Balit is also known for writing *Atlantis: The legend of a lost city*, *The scarabs secret* and *Zoo in the sky: A book of animal constellations*.

What can this book teach us?

This book can teach us about friendship, decision making and the history of Pompeii.

Quotes

"On a hillside overlooking the sparkling bay of Naples, the Roman city of Pompeii glimmered in the sunlight." 'It's topped exploded in a scream and flames ripped upwards to the sky.'

Writing genres covered

Dilemma story, children's literature, historical novel.

Name of book:

Escape from Pompeii

Date published: 2003

Author: Christina Balit

Characters

Tranio	The main character involved in <i>Escape from Pompeii</i> . Tranio is a curious young boy who is always looking for a new adventure. He enjoys spending time with his best friend watching his father's theatre company act.
Livia	Livia is the best friend of Tranio and the daughter of the local baker. She enjoys learning how to do house work and spends her free time playing games with her best friend. She relies on Tranio and knows she can look to him for help.
<u>Key word</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Escape	The act of removing yourself from a certain place or situation.
Volcano	A mountain that has a crater at the top where lava/magma spills out of.
Harbour	A place along the coast where ships moor or dock.
Forum	A rectangle plaza surrounded by buildings and ruins.