

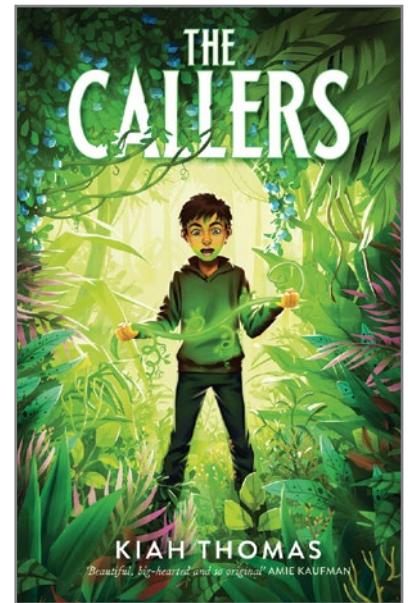
The Callers

AUTHOR
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RECOMMENDED FOR: Lower to Mid Secondary



SYNOPSIS

In the world of Elipsom, the ability to Call, or summon objects, is a coveted skill. And yet despite being born into a family of Callers, Quin doesn't have the gift.

But everything changes when instead of summoning an object, Quin makes something disappear. He quickly discovers that the objects Callers bring into their world aren't conjured at all, but are taken from another land, and another people who have had their lives slowly stolen from them.

Now Quin must team up with Allie, a girl who's determined to stop this unjust practice, and decide whether he should remain loyal to his family, or betray them-and save the world.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kiah Thomas started telling stories when she was a kid; reimagining the endings in books she read. She rediscovered her love of kids books when she had children of her own, and started writing beginnings as well as endings. Kiah is passionate about books that kids and adults can enjoy together. She lives on the south coast of NSW with her husband, three children and at least seven stuffed toy penguins.

QUESTIONS FOR THE CALLERS

- When Quin realises that he is the first Octavius without the ability to Call it gives him a 'twist in his stomach' p 10. Where does the pressure to live up to these expectations come from?
 - How does his mother handle his lack of ability?
 - How do you think he wishes she would behave instead?
 - Have you ever felt pressured to live up to someone else's expectations of you? What did you do?
- The Spurges believe that it is 'wrong to rely on things created from thin air' p 14.
 - Are they right?
 - Why do you think Quin doesn't reveal Milo's identity?
 - What questions does Quin have about Calling after their first encounter?
 - How do you think Milo felt when he first discovered that he could Call?
 - Do you think it would be tempting to use a power even if you believed it was wrong?

- In some ways, Allie and Adriana are in similar positions – they are both leaders in their communities, they are both powerful, and they both know the truth about the relationship between Evantra and Elipsom.
 - What do you think Allie wants for Evantra?
 - How does this make her different from Adriana?
 - What do you think Adriana wants?
- How does Quin feel when he realises that he is Vine-touched?
 - What does his power tell him about the Vine?
 - What would happen if the Vine died?
 - Why do you think the Vine might be dying?
 - What else could people be doing to save it?
- Most fantasy stories have much to tell us about the real world. What do you think *The Callers* is trying to tell us about the world in which we live?
 - Write a paragraph supporting your answer with at least two textual references.
- Make predictions about what might happen in the next book in the series.
 - Will Adriana come to Evantra?
 - What will happen when she and Quin confront each other?
 - How will Quin and Allie save the Vine? Who will help them?