

Choose Love

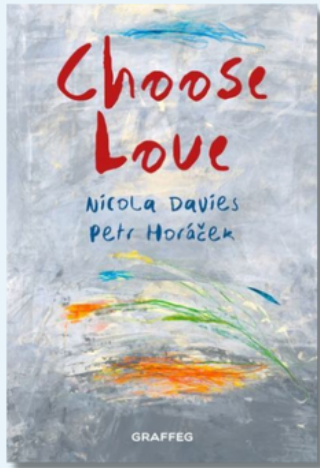
Nicola Davies

Illustrated by Petr Horáček

BOOK TALK CARDS



Spark discussion and foster a reading community with our top picks



ABOUT THE BOOK

This beautiful and gut-wrenching cycle of poems spotlights the real-life experiences of those forced to flee their homes and leave their previous lives behind into an unknown future as refugees.



OUR THOUGHTS

"This is a book which offers a reminder that behind the headline are individuals - not so different from you or me."

- **Anna, Schools Team Manager**



THEMES:

Migration • Home • Travel
Belonging • Tolerance • Hope

TIME TO TALK

- 1 "She is yourself, He is your kin." What does this phrase mean to you?
- 2 Consider the section titles: *Departure, Arrival, Healing*. How do you think individuals experience these three phases? Do you think the experiences always come in this order? Are there any other terms that you think would describe a phase, once you have reflected on the experiences shared in the book?
- 3 "This moment from which nothing will ever be the same." Can you share any moments in your own life that have felt this way? What feelings did you have at this moment? How did they evolve over time?
- 4 'Five Minutes' - how does the author create a sense of urgency through the structure selected for the poem? If you had five minutes to decide what to take with you from your life - what would you take? What would be important to you at this time, aside from physical items?
- 5 How do the numbers in 'Mathematics' add to the impact of the poem? Can you write or discuss ideas for a 'maths of' poem on an opposing theme? Perhaps the maths of: hope, bravery, ambition...
- 6 Which is your favourite image? What do you like about it, what does it make you think of? How do you think it connects to the poem?
- 7 What stirs a 'shoot of hope' inside of you? Can we stir 'shoots of hope' in others? How might we do this?
- 8 Consider 'The Interview' - how does it help us to empathise with the plight of refugees? What judgements does the interviewer make? What judgements might the interviewee also be making? How can we work towards better understanding of each other?

TAKE THE TEXT FURTHER WITH OUR TOP 5 TEXTS TO CONTINUE THE THEME:



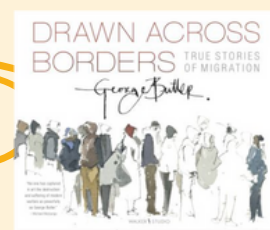
Forced To Flee by Laura Padoan and Matthew Saltmarsh



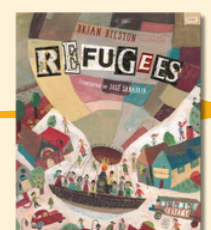
On The Move by Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake (illustrator)



Migrations: Open Hearts Open Borders by various contributors



Drawn Across Borders by George Butler



Refugees by Brian Bilston and Jose Sanabria (illustrator)