

Out

By Angela May George & illustrated by Owen Swan

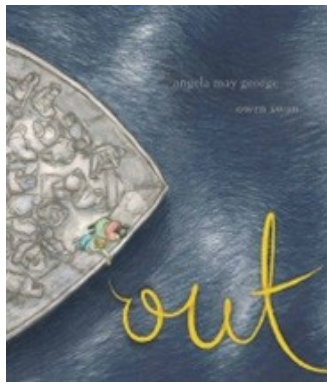
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I'm called an asylum seeker, but that's not my name.

A little girl and her mother have fled their homeland, making the long and treacherous journey by boat to seek asylum. Timely, powerful and moving, *Out* celebrates the triumph of the human spirit in the darkest times, and the many paths people take to build a new life.



Themes:

- Asylum seekers
- Human spirit
- Making a new life
- Family

Discussion Points and Activities:

- Before you read the story and just by looking at the cover, what do you think this book might be about?
- How accurate was your guess?
- 'I'm called an asylum seeker, but that's not my name.' Do you know what an 'asylum seeker' is? Research the meaning of the term 'asylum seeker'.
- Do you know why people leave their country, often in extremely dangerous ways, to seek refuge elsewhere? Discuss this as a class.
- Describe how you think the girl and her mother felt:
 - when they left their home
 - when they were on the boat
 - as they built their new life
 - when their father and husband arrived.
- How do you think you would feel if you had to leave your home and go and live in a country that you had never been to before?
- What challenges do you think asylum seekers might face in their new country?
- What does this story tell you about the human spirit and people's drive to have a better life?
- Re-create the picture of the girl hugging her father at the end of the story, substituting yourself for the little girl and someone you love for her Dad.
- The release of this book coincides with 'World Refugee Day' on June 20th. Your school may like to look up ways to observe this day from the various websites that are dedicated to this cause.