



Multi-award-winning historical fiction author, Tom Palmer returns to Barrington Stoke with a moving wartime tale set in the Cumbrian countryside

Angel of Grasmere is an insightful and endearing story that explores the impact of Dunkirk on life at the homefront and tackles themes of desertion, grief and heroism in a sensitive and thought-provoking way.

Palmer's latest is a powerful addition to a standout backlist of World War fiction including FCBG Children's Book Award winners *Armistice Runner* and *D-Day Dog*, and the Carnegie-longlisted *After the War*.

ABOUT THE BOOK

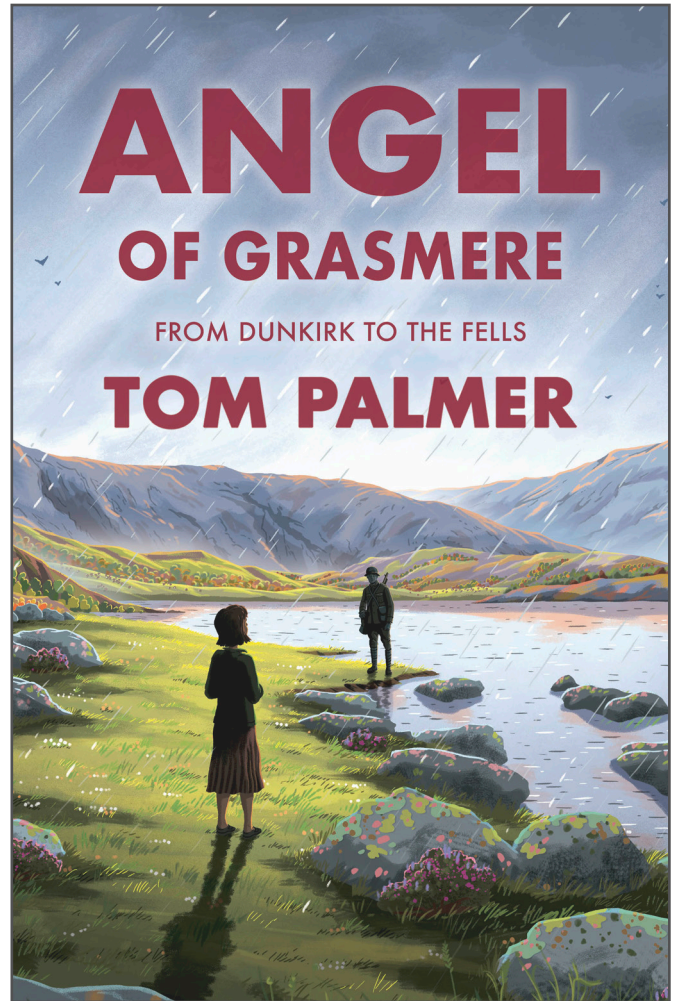
July 1940 – as Tarn struggles to come to terms with the loss of her beloved brother in the chaos of the British retreat at Dunkirk, she and her friends scour the hills around their Lake District home, watching for any signs of the long-dreaded Nazi invasion.

But as the war drags on, with little good news from the front, the locals become aware of someone carrying out anonymous acts of kindness, such as saving a flock of sheep from a snowdrift and helping an injured farmer who might otherwise have died.

With no one claiming credit, they come to think of this unidentified stranger as a kind of guardian angel, but when his identity is finally revealed, can Tarn come to terms with the truth?

“A lovely story about what it really means to be brave.”

**DAN SMITH ON
*ANGEL OF GRASMERE***



Publication date: 9th May 2024

For 9+

Reading Age: 8

978180090216

£7.99 P/B

Illustrations by Tom Clohosy Cole

TOM PALMER is the multi-award-winning author of the Young Quills Award winners *After the War* and *Resist*, and FCBG Children's Book Award winners *Armistice Runner* and *D-Day Dog*. In 2019, Tom was awarded the National Literacy Trust's Ruth Rendell Award in recognition of his contribution to literacy work in the UK.



ABOUT THE PUBLISHER

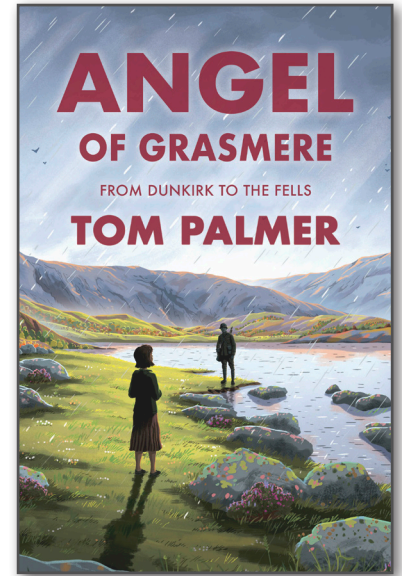
Award-winning Barrington Stoke publishes top-quality short novels by the UK's best writers, expertly edited and produced to ensure they are accessible to all – as a quick engaging win for confident readers and a satisfying achievement for those who have to work harder. The company regularly receives wonderful feedback from parents, teachers and librarians who have previously struggled to find age-appropriate, enjoyable and accessible books for their children.



A note from the author:

“While I was researching my other books set in the English Lake District – **Armistice Runner** and **After the War** – I unearthed so many interesting stories about what we now call Cumbria during both world wars that I felt compelled to write about them too. The men who hid in the mountains for years to avoid being enlisted. The fear of and preparation for a Nazi invasion among the fells and lakes. **Angel of Grasmere** is the product of those stories and also of my ongoing relationship with Grasmere School, who have helped me with all three books.”

TOM PALMER



A note from the editor:

“In this powerful new novel, Tom Palmer masterfully conveys the devastating impact of war both for those who fight on the frontlines and those who are left at home to worry and grieve. Written from the dual perspective of a deserter tortured by his experiences in France, and a young girl grieving for a brother lost at Dunkirk, **Angel of Grasmere** is another brilliant example from Tom of how history can be brought vividly to life for young people today in a way that they can relate to and empathise with.”

AILS A BATHGATE

PRAISE FOR TOM PALMER’S HISTORICAL FICTION

“The best children’s book I’ve yet read about the Holocaust”

TIM ROBERTSON, CEO ANNE FRANK TRUST ON AFTER THE WAR

“Historical fiction doesn’t get much better than this”

LOVEREADING4KIDS

“The best author writing accessible history-inspired children’s fiction today”

NORTH OF SCOTLAND NEWSPAPERS

“Another very emotional read from Tom Palmer and Barrington Stoke. They are the perfect pairing”

PHIL EARLE ON D-DAY DOG

ABOUT THE PUBLISHER

Award-winning Barrington Stoke publishes top-quality short novels by the UK’s best writers, expertly edited and produced to ensure they are accessible to all – as a quick engaging win for confident readers and a satisfying achievement for those who have to work harder. The company regularly receives wonderful feedback from parents, teachers and librarians who have previously struggled to find age-appropriate, enjoyable and accessible books for their children.