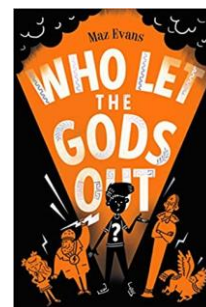


**Title:**

Who let the Gods out?

**Author:**

Maz Evans

Blurb:

A troubled boy's life is turned upside down when an immortal crashes out of the sky onto his barn. They go on adventures together but accidentally release a daemon. With help from the gods, they begin a quest to save the world that takes them to incredible places on Earth and beyond.

Author background:

Maz Evans began her career as a TV journalist and still broadcasts regularly on the radio. As well as writing books, she also writes songs and musical theatre productions. *Who Let the Gods Out?* has received over 20 award nominations worldwide, including Waterstones' Book of the Year. She has written several sequels to the book and narrates audiobooks for them.

Cultural background:

The immortals are part of Greek mythology. Zeus is the king of the gods and his daughters Aphrodite and Athene are the goddesses of love and wisdom respectively. Hermes is Zeus' personal messenger. Daemons are spirits. Hypnos is the spirit of sleep, Thanatos is the spirit of Death and Charon is the ferryman who carries the dead to the underworld. Constellations are semi-divine spirits. Greek myths explain how each constellation came to be.

Literary terms:

Cliff-hanger - A cliff-hanger is when a section of a novel or film ends and you don't know what is going to happen next. You are held in suspense until the next instalment.

Fantasy - Fantasy stories involve magic, good and evil characters and adventure.

Irony - The irony of a situation is odd or amusing because it involves a contrast that you would not expect.

Simile - A simile compares one thing to another using like or as. For example, '*like a china doll on a bad hair day.*'

Third person narrator - A text in the third person is written about a character but is not told from their point of view. For example, '*Elliot stared at Virgo through his puffy red eyes.*'

BOOK ANALYSIS

Vocabulary examples:

Potential, loathsome, lurking, forbidden, curdle, sincere, tentative.

Benefits for our children:

This book brings Greek mythology up-to-date and sees how a young boy cares for his mother without giving up. A relatable character that shows resilience and strength. It is funny, witty, inspired and utterly contemporary, this fantasy thriller/adventure is a magical blend of ancient and modern, with a truly human story at its heart - combined with the wealth of new vocabulary it brings to our children, this novel will secure their history knowledge as well as expand their language.