

FEATURED AUTHOR

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PHIL EARLE

DISCOVER THE WORLD OF
PHIL EARLE

BOOK REVIEWS

AWARD-WINNER



FEATURING

Phil Earle

PHIL EARLE WAS BORN, RAISED AND SCHOOLED IN HULL. HIS FIRST JOB WAS AS A CARE WORKER IN A CHILDREN'S HOME, AN EXPERIENCE THAT INFLUENCED THE IDEAS BEHIND BEING BILLY AND SAVING DAISY. HE THEN TRAINED AS A DRAMA THERAPIST AND WORKED IN A THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY IN SOUTH LONDON, CARING FOR TRAUMATISED AND ABUSED ADOLESCENTS. AFTER A COUPLE OF YEARS IN THE CARE SECTOR, PHIL CHOSE THE MORE SEDATE LIFESTYLE OF A BOOKSELLER, AND NOW WORKS IN CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING.

"when I'm writing, regardless of my age, there's nowhere I can't go, no person I can't be, no world I can't create, no adventure I can't go on. I can go anywhere, be anyone and do anything. What more could I... or you, possibly ask for?"

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Content from
philearle.com
literacytrust.org.uk and
waterstones.com

ALL ABOUT PHIL

I NEVER WANTED TO BE A WRITER GROWING UP. I WANTED TO BE A PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER FOR THE MIGHTY HULL CITY.

IT WAS ALL ABOUT THE SPORT (FOOTBALL, CRICKET, TENNIS, GOLF) AS WELL AS ACTING IN PLAYS AND TRYING TO SING IN BANDS.

READING NOVELS AS A YOUNG PERSON WAS A REAL STRUGGLE, BUT I DISCOVERED A LOVE OF COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS (ANYTHING FROM BATMAN OR DAVEDEVIL TO MAUS), PLUS NOVELISATIONS OF HOLLYWOOD FILMS. 'KARATE KID - THE NOVEL' WAS A PARTICULAR FAVOURITE.

MY LIFE CHANGED DIRECTION UNEXPECTEDLY WHEN I TOOK ON A TEMPORARY POSITION IN THE CHILDREN'S SECTION OF A BOOKSHOP. IT WAS THE BEST MOVE OF MY LIFE. THE BOOKS UNDER MY NOSE THERE WERE QUITE UNLIKE ANYTHING ELSE I HAD READ, AND QUICKLY I FOUND MYSELF DEVOURING NOTHING BUT CHILDREN'S FICTION. IT BECAME THE SPRINGBOARD TO ME REALISING I WANTED TO TRY WRITING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

LUNCHTIMES WERE SPENT IN THE BASEMENT WITH AN OLD, SLOW LAPTOP. IT WAS A SERIOUSLY HAPPY TIME.

I WORKED AS A BOOKSELLER FOR FIVE YEARS, BEFORE TAKING A JOB IN PUBLISHING, AND NOW I SPLIT MY WORKING LIFE BETWEEN SELLING BOOKS FOR A PUBLISHER AND WRITING MY OWN.



I'M A VERY LUCKY LAD.

-BOOKS BY PHIL EARLE-

WINNER OF THE BRITISH BOOK AWARD FOR CHILDREN'S
FICTION BOOK OF THE YEAR
WINNER OF THE BOOKS ARE MY BAG READERS AWARD FOR
CHILDREN'S FICTION

1941. WAR IS RAGING. AND ONE ANGRY BOY HAS BEEN SENT TO THE CITY, WHERE BOMBERS RULE THE SKIES. THERE, JOSEPH WILL LIVE WITH MRS F, A GRUFF WOMAN WITH NO FONDNESS FOR CHILDREN. HER ONLY LOVES ARE THE RUNDOWN ZOO SHE OWNS AND ITS MIGHTY SILVERBACK GORILLA, ADONIS. AS THE WEEKS PASS, BONDS DEEPEN AND SECRETS ARE REVEALED, BUT IF THE BOMBERS SET ADONIS RAMPAGING FREE, WILL EITHER OF THEM BE ABLE TO END THE LIFE OF THE ONE THING THEY TRULY LOVE?

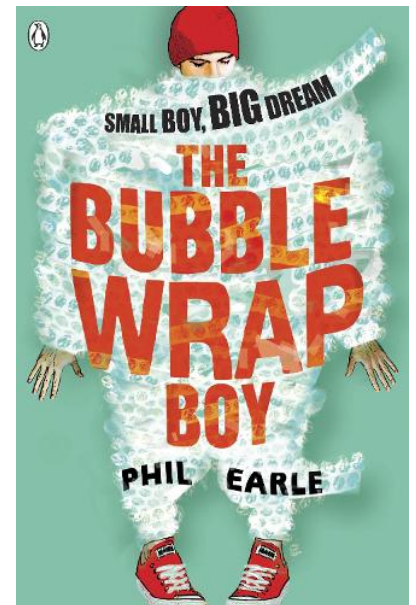
INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY.



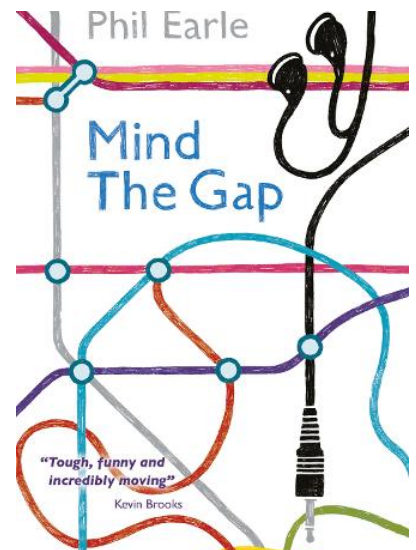
HOW DO YOU STAY ON THE BOARD WHEN YOUR WORLD IS
TURNED UPSIDE DOWN?

CHARLIE'S FOUND HIS SECRET TALENT: SKATEBOARDING. IT'S
HIS ONE-WAY TICKET TO POPULARITY. ALL HE'S GOT TO DO IS
PRACTICE, AND NOTHING'S GOING TO STOP HIM - NOT HIS
CLUMSINESS, NOT HIS OVERPROTECTIVE MUM, NOTHING.

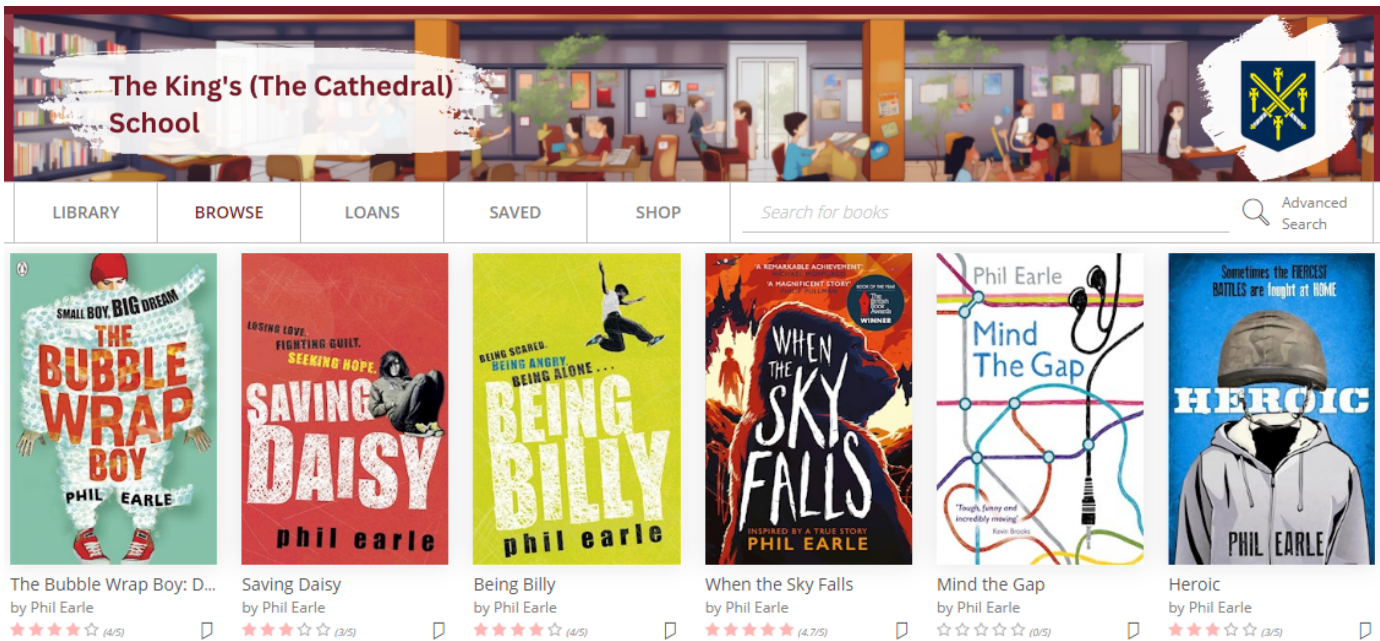
EXCEPT CHARLIE ISN'T THE ONLY ONE IN HIS FAMILY HIDING A
MASSIVE SECRET, AND HIS NEXT DISCOVERY WILL CHANGE
EVERYTHING.



WHEN MIKEY'S DAD DIED, SOMETHING IN MIKEY DIED TOO. HE LOVED HIS OLD MAN AND HE NEVER STOPPED DREAMING THAT ONE DAY HIS DAD WOULD LAND THE ROLE OF A LIFETIME, PROVE THEM ALL WRONG, AND ROCK BACK UP TO THE ESTATE IN THE FLASHIEST CAR ANYONE HAD EVER SEEN. NOW THERE'S JUST NUMBNESS, AND NOT CARING, AND REALLY, REALLY STUPID DECISIONS. HE SAYS THE WORST OF IT IS THAT HE CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER HIS DAD'S VOICE ANY MORE. EVENTUALLY MIKEY'S BEST MATE CAN'T BEAR IT ANY MORE, AND SO HE SETS OUT TO GIVE MIKEY THE MEMORIES - AND HIS DAD'S VOICE - BACK.



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