



Ryland's Footsteps

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~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

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Rye's father is appointed as Governor to a new penal colony on a sub-tropical island. His method of governing his new domain is intolerant and unflinchingly energetic - moulding it to his specifications, regardless of custom or understanding. Rye forms a tentative friendship with Kris, whose father wants him to become as accomplished a practitioner of island magic as he is. Both boys are trapped by their parents' assumptions that they will follow the same life paths. When Steff arrives with her father, a prisoner for crimes of environmental terrorism, the picture is complete. However, Rye's father unwittingly destroys the island's landscape and triggers a catastrophic earthquake, Rye discovers he is the result of a cloning experiment, and Kris and Steff rebel against their parents' expectations in order to break outmoded and destructive moulds. Comparisons with Louis Sachar's *Holes* bear fruit but this is an original thought-provoking story, powerfully and graphically written, which memorably warns of the consequences of blindly following tradition at the expense of communal well-being.

Running Order:

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