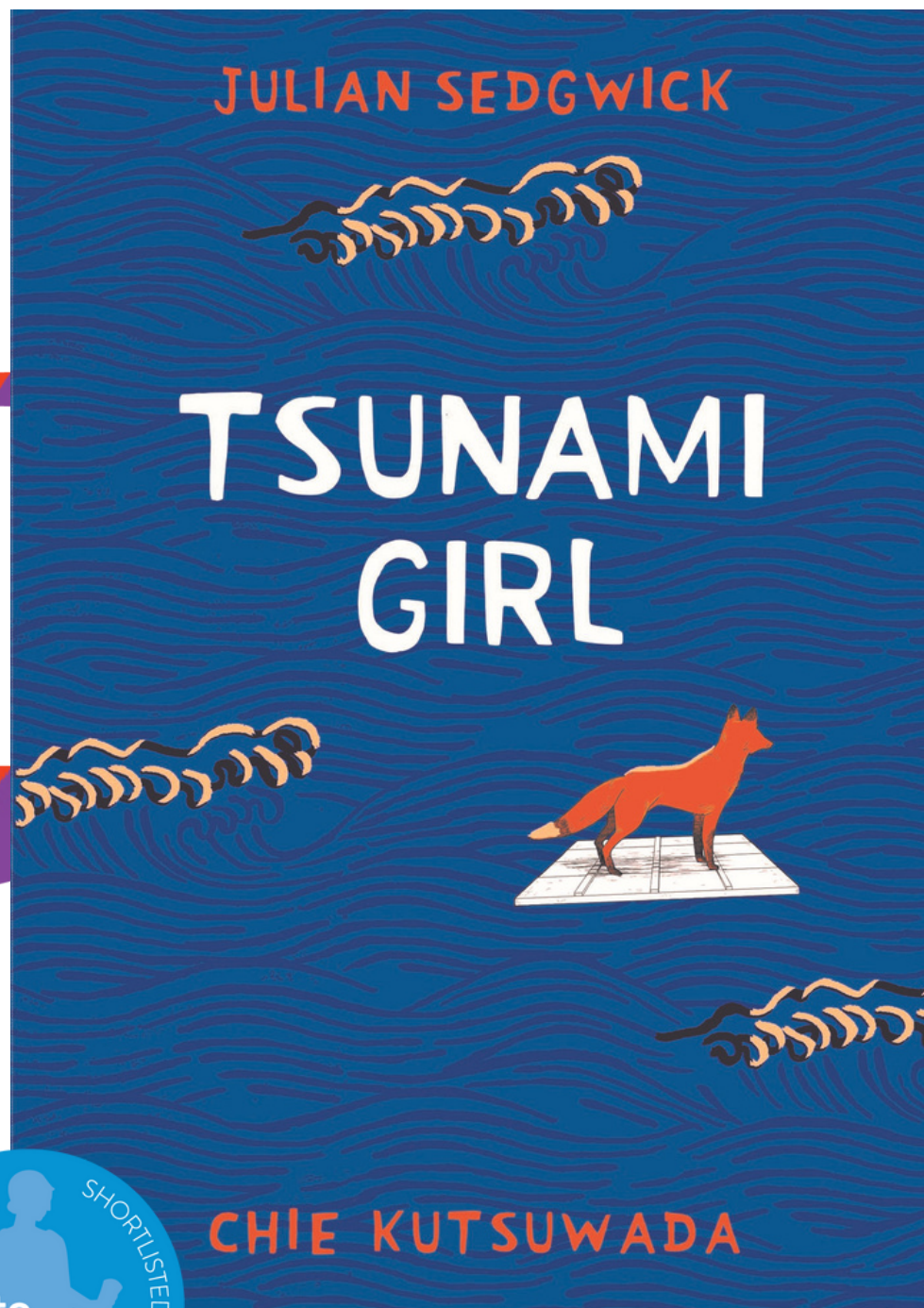


Yoto Carnegie Shortlist 2022 Shadowing Resources



yoto
CARNEGIE
GREENAWAY
AWARDS

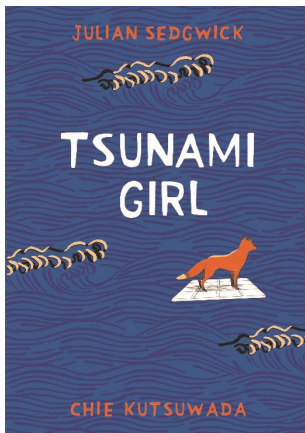


EMC
English & Media Centre

#CKG22

Yoto Carnegie Medal 2022

Activities Pack



Title: **Tsunami Girl**

Author: **Julian Sedgwick**

Illustrated by: Chie Kutsuwada

Publisher: Guppy Books

Age: 10+

Note to Group Leaders

Shortlisted books may contain material that may not be suitable for some students. We recommend that group leaders read the books carefully before sharing or recommending them to students and/or seek parental guidance. We trust that Shadowers and other young readers will be guided by their group leader, librarian, teacher or parent to help them select suitable, enjoyable and age appropriate material from the lists.

General Activities

1. Create a HAIKU POEM of three lines using a syllabic structure [WORDS CUT UP INTO SOUNDS] of 5-7-5 to describe your experience reading each book.

○ Example:

Fantastical shapes (Line 1- 5 syllables)

create patterns for the eye (Line 2- 7 syllables)

to become amazed (Line 3- 5 syllables)

Share your HAIKUS on Social Media using the hashtag #CKG22.

2. Search for book trailers for each of the shortlisted titles online. Use these as inspiration to create your own trailer to celebrate the book you are currently exploring through shadowing.
3. Create your own playlist to accompany a shortlisted book - you might want to highlight a particular theme, tap into the geography or time period of the book or choose a character and create a playlist that reflects them.
4. Create a moodboard for the shortlisted titles. Think about materials and colour palette, texture, shape and perspective. What do you want your moodboard to suggest or represent? Why?

5. Create a cake that reflects one of the shortlisted titles. Perhaps you will make one large cake, dozens of smaller cakes or a combination of both. Don't forget to share your bookish bakes on social media, using the hashtag #CKG22.
6. Have a go at building book spine poetry using the shortlisted books. Arrange the books in different ways, with the spines visible so that the titles can be read in a certain order. Share your poems on social media using the hashtag #CKG22.
7. Play charades, using nonverbal communication to act out the title of each book.
8. Use a shoebox to create a diorama inspired by a shortlisted title. Your diorama should include key items which reflect the themes, plot, characters and mood of the book.
9. Think of some questions you would like to ask the shortlisted authors and share them on social media using the hashtag #CKG22 and tagging the author.
10. Take one of the shortlisted titles and use it as a springboard to create a recommended reading list for wider reading. Your list should include books that will enhance the reader's experience of the shortlisted title by offering further information, exploration of the subject through a different medium - nonfiction or poetry, perhaps - or a different perspective. Share your lists on social media, using the hashtag #CKG22.
11. Redesign the cover of a shortlisted book. How would your creation differ from the existing cover? What would you include and why?
12. Make a list of the new words you've learnt when reading the shortlisted titles and add a definition for each one.
13. Give each of the following elements a mark out of 5:
 - Title
 - blurb
 - opening line
 - appeal of the cover
14. Now score each book out of 20 and rank the books accordingly. You could use this exercise to determine the reading order.

Book Activities

1. Redraw the opening sequential art panels of *Tsunami Girl* and add in your own creatures from Japanese folklore.
2. Design your own manga character like Half Wave - what do they look like? How are they dressed? Do they carry any special objects?
3. Make a manga wall of scenes from *Tsunami Girl* and share using the hashtag #CKG22.

4. Research the Japanese festival of Obon. Create a manga collage celebrating the tradition of honouring ancestors.
5. Create some origami flowers and join them together to make a mobile as a centrepiece for a display on Japanese traditions.- See link for ideas: <https://herecomethegirlsblog.com/how-to-make-origami-flowers>
6. Select a key scene from the book and act it out.
7. Design a map to track Yuki's journey back to her grandfather's house.
8. Imagine you are talking to Yuki and her grandfather. Research some Japanese phrases you could say to them.
9. Listen to Julian speaking about his creative process behind *Tsunami Girl* here- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKomsBYG6SM&t=12s>
10. Explore the artistic world of mangaka with illustrator Chie Kutsawada: <https://www.selfmadehero.com/creators/chie-kutsuwada>. What inspired her illustrations for *Tsunami Girl*?
11. Explore Japanese folklore. Create a Japanese Yokai Dictionary featuring ghosts and monsters like the water kappa, and the Nine Tailed Fox.
12. Research the 2011 Japanese Tsunami and create a scrapbook of events.

Wellbeing Activity

Have a go at making Candy Sushi for your meetings. Here's a recipe to try:

To make candy sushi, you only need a few simple, easy-to-find ingredients:

- Unsalted butter
- Mini marshmallows
- Puffed rice cereal: Rice Krispies or similar
- Fruit roll-ups: square sheets are ideal and pick your favourite colours like green and red
- Soft candy: liquorice, fruit twists, gummy worms, Swedish fish etc.

The most common colours for the fruit roll-ups are red and green, and they both look amazing. For the soft candy, pick whatever you like best!

To make vegan candy sushi, try substituting in vegan mini marshmallows, non-dairy butter and natural fruit roll-ups. These ingredients make this recipe mostly natural and healthier as a result. <https://tipbuzz.com/candy-sushi/>

Tsunami Girl

by Julian Sedgewick

As Tsunami Girl deals with the after effects of a tsunami, characters' experiences of death and grieving are central to the novel. The main character encounters a dead body at one point. These issues are dealt with in a helpful and sensitive way, but, as with any text, we would strongly recommend teachers are familiar with the novel before recommending it to students.

Tsunami Girl

by Julian Sedgewick

Before Reading

These tasks are designed to be completed in small discussion groups. However, they can easily be done on your own too. Instead of talking about the tasks, you can write down and keep a record of your ideas.

A dedication

After the title page, there is a dedication in both Japanese and English beginning:

'Dedicated with deep respect to the people of Odaka, Minamisoma, Japan.'

- Read the full dedication.
- Discuss or make a note of your thoughts and predictions about a book with this dedication.

Take up to 10 minutes for this activity.

What's in a name?

After the dedication, a note in the front of the book explains the name of the main character, beginning 'This is a story of a girl called Yuki' and explaining what her name means in Japanese.

- Think about why the writer might have chosen this name and make some predictions about the character.

Take up to 10 minutes for this activity.

Looking inside the book

- Working on your own, in a pair, or in a small group, flick through the pages of the book
- What are your first thoughts about the mix of manga and prose in the book? What do they suggest about the tone of the book (how it feels)?

Take up to 10 minutes for this activity.

During Reading

We recommend working through the novel without pausing too often, then doing some more substantial work afterwards. The novel does offer lots of opportunities to pause for reflection, particularly about the different relationships described and the issues raised.

- Keep a journal while reading, pausing to write down your reflections about each of the points below. Where possible, have a discussion with other readers before putting your thoughts down on paper.

Part 1

Chapters 1-3

- How do we know Yuki suffers from anxiety, right from the start of the novel?
- What can you tell about the relationship between Yuki and her grandfather?
- What have you picked up about Japanese culture so far? (For example, the language has levels of politeness, respect and honour, gift giving.)

Chapters 4-7

- What differences do you notice between the way Taka presents himself and what his father says about him? Why do you think this is?
- What do you pick up about the shrine: what it's for and its importance?
- How does the end of Chapter 6 fit with the beginning of Chapter 1?
- How does the way Sedgewick describes the earthquake help you to imagine what it was like?
- How does Sedgwick build up tension before the arrival of the tsunami?
- What are the manga inserts adding in this section of the book? You could think about why the book switches to manga as the wave arrives and what relation the panel with Half Wave helping someone in the water has to real events.

Chapter 8

- How does Sedgewick help you to imagine the tsunami? What details from the description stood out for you?

Part 2

Before Reading Part 2

- Part 2 is called 'Between Worlds'. The first two chapters in this part are called 'The Great Parting' and 'Not Alive'. Make some predictions about what might happen in this section of the novel.

Chapters 1-2

- Is 'the Great Parting' what you thought it might be?
- What do you learn from the manga panels in these two chapters? What do they add to the story?
- Why do you think the fox has become so important? Where else in the book have foxes appeared?

Chapters 3-4

- Why has Yuki been finding it hard to draw? What helps her to get started again?
- What is your theory about the phone call that came from Taka's mobile phone?

Chapters 5

- Aunt Kazuko tells the story of the kokeshi doll. See if this helps you to understand more about the manga panels on pages 27-30 and 43-44.

Part 3

Chapters 1-4

- What do you think of Yuki's decision to go back on her own?
- Why do you think some people have chosen to come back home, despite the risks?

Chapters 5-6

- In what ways do Yuki and Taka's shared experience of the tsunami help them to understand each other?
- What do you notice about the way Yuki handles her panic attack?
- What's your response to Taka's confession?

Chapter 7

- Why do you think Grandpa in the manga panel says 'We all need to go home in the end'?
- Do you think going to Grandpa's house will help Yuki? Why/why not?

Chapters 8-9

- Why do you think so much of Chapters 8 and 9 is told in manga panels?
- What seems similar and different in the ways Taka and Yuki deal with their grief?
- Would you say Chapter 9 gives the novel a happy ending?

Epilogue

- An epilogue is defined as 'a section at the end of a book which serves as a comment on or a conclusion to what has happened'. Why do you think Sedgewick chose to add an epilogue?

After Reading

Reflecting on the whole book: discussion questions

Tsunami Girl deals with some powerful and tragic events.

- Take a moment to think about how you feel about this, before thinking about some of these questions.
 - What do you like about the book?
 - What do you dislike about the book?
 - Which moments most stick in your memory?
 - Do you think *Tsunami Girl* does a good job of presenting difficult emotions (like grief) and real-life tragic events (including a lot of death) in a way that is suitable for children and young adults?
 - Why do you think foxes are important and what do they seem to represent?
 - Why do you think the song 'Let's Not Forget', which Grandpa used to whistle or sing, comes up often in both the prose and the manga panels?

Take up to 20 minutes for this activity.

Exploring the book further

Use one or more of these tasks to explore *Tsunami Girl* further.

A character with a mental health issue

- Think about the questions below and either make some notes for yourself or discuss with others:
 - How do different characters in the novel respond to Yuki's anxiety and either try to help, or pretend it doesn't exist?
 - Which responses seem to be most helpful to Yuki?
 - How has Yuki changed by the end of the novel?

Take up to 10 minutes for this activity.

Writing about real life

From the author's notes, it's clear that Julian Sedgewick did a huge amount of research about the real events of 2011, when a devastating earthquake and tsunami hit Japan. In an interview on Tripfiction.com, Sedgewick was asked about the challenges of writing about a real-life tragedy. He answered:

Writing about a real disaster – and one in recent memory – requires real caution and sensitivity. This wasn't 'my' story in that I wasn't directly affected by the tsunami and radiation. But long-term friends of mine in Fukushima City, who were there on 3.11 and afterwards, emailed me every day after the initial disaster, and I had a good idea of the emotions and trauma that people were dealing with. [...] After visiting the area, and meeting local residents, I had so much material that I felt overwhelmed by the scale of the story, and worried that I couldn't do it all justice. Slowly though I realised that by telling the story from the perspective of an outsider – as long as I kept in mind the reality of so much suffering – I could find my way. The hardest thing sometimes was to spend so much time reading and watching and listening to people's accounts of what happened to them on March 11th and afterwards. As a writer you're trying to inhabit those stories, but without the professional 'safe distance' I use as a therapist.

- Think about the difficulties of writing about a real-life tragedy in a work of fiction and what you think about the decisions Sedgewick made about how to do this. Either make some notes for yourself or discuss with others.

Take up to 20 minutes for this activity.

Between worlds

Some of the 'between worlds' elements of the book include:

- The explanation in the front of the book that Yuki's name can be written with a character that also means 'ghost'
- The brutal reality of death, including dead bodies
- Fantasy characters and people who have died moving between the manga world and the real world
- Stories about people who don't know they are dead
- The living talk to (and often apologise to) the dead
- The dead apparently caring for the living
- Stories and rumours about ghosts
- Seeing, hearing, or dreaming about people who have died, or feeling their presence
- Rituals for and shrines to the dead and the need to say goodbye properly.

- Think about the questions below and either make some notes for yourself or discuss with others:
 - Why do you think ghosts and the spiritual world are an important part of the book?
 - What do Yuki and Taka seem to believe about some of their encounters with ghosts and spirits?
 - Why do you think it was so important for Yuki and Taka to go back to the Zone to say goodbye to Taka's father and Grandpa?

Take up to 20 minutes for this activity.

The manga panels

- Working on your own, in a pair, or in a small group, flick through the book and choose one or two of your favourite manga panels.
- Now think about what the manga panels add to the novel and either make some notes for yourself or discuss with others. Use the statements below to get you started:
 - Although at first the story of Half Wave seems like a completely separate story, it helped me to understand the main story as well.
 - The manga panels remind us that Grandpa was a talented and respected artist and that drawing is something he and Yuki shared.
 - Manga is an important and well-known aspect of Japanese culture and the panels add to our understanding of that culture, especially as they are by a Japanese artist.
 - The spiritual and 'between worlds' element of the story wouldn't have worked so well in prose.
 - The manga panels are included because some parts of the story are difficult to express in words, especially for someone like Yuki.

Take up to 10 minutes for this activity.

Write or draw

Either:

- Choose a manga insert. Tell the story in the manga panel in prose. This doesn't mean describing what is in the pictures but writing it like the rest of the story.

Or:

- Take one of the prose sections and turn it into a manga panel.

Take up to an hour for this activity.

A useful story?

In an interview for Tripfiction.com, Julian Sedgewick said:

Yūki is struggling in her life when she meets the tsunami, but I hope her story shows how imagination, creativity and community can be incredibly powerful forces. As we make our way through our unforeseen crisis – of COVID – I hope it's a useful and uplifting story to read.

- Write a letter or an email to Julian Sedgewick, explaining whether you think *Tsunami Girl* is a 'useful and uplifting story' for people to read in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Take up to 40 minutes for this activity.

Reading the reviews

The extracts, below, are all from reviews of the book.

- Working on your own, in a pair, or in a small group, consider which reviewer comes closest to your own view of the book.
- Working individually, write your own paragraph to express your views about the novel. You can draw on the review extracts you have read if you wish.
- If possible, compare your ideas with other readers.
- Submit your reviews to the Carnegie Shadowing Scheme website. This can be accessed at: <https://carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/books/tsunami-girl>

Take up to an hour for this activity.

A. This is an incredibly intense and atmospheric read - the prose descriptions of the disaster and its aftermath are breathtakingly powerful. But it is also a story suffused with Japanese legend and modern-day ghost stories. Manga is an important theme throughout the book – Yuki's recovery is bound up with the creation of her own manga story and manga is so important to the character of her grandpa and her own love of Japan. The superb drawings seamlessly reveal the other worldly and spiritual nature of Yuki and Taka's story and the multi-layered whole becomes a truly immersive and compulsive reading experience that will linger long in a reader's thoughts. Highly recommended.

Joy Court, Lovereading.co.uk

B. Absolutely brilliant! It had a slightly slow start, but I'm so glad I persevered. I love how all the threads came together in the end, some I hadn't even noticed were a thread to follow. A truly stunning book that had me thinking about how long it takes to rebuild a community after a natural disaster, something I thought I knew but I really didn't.

I love the way it captures what it's like to be of mixed heritage, of the bleed between the cultures. I also loved the manga panels. I was a little dubious at first. What would they add? However, they were not distracting as I worried they would be, they weren't jarring. Instead, they flowed as naturally as the prose, enriching the story.

Emma on Goodreads

C. One of my favourite aspects was the present tense perspective. It gave it a great sense of urgency and 'in the moment' which is crucial to the themes of the story. It's masterfully written, engaging, and was hard to put down. Yuki is a phenomenal protagonist, and the story also captures some of the nuanced details of the horrific tragedy.

Kathy Joy on Goodreads

D. Another must-read graphic novel is *Tsunami Girl*. Inspired by the events of the 2011 Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, it is a coming of age tale like no other. The story focuses on survivor Yuki Hara Jones, and her experience of events and the aftermath of the disaster. Through art and the creation of a manga superhero called Half-Wave, Yuki is able to process her grief and begin to embrace her future. Sedgwick's prose is heart-warming and heart wrenching in equal measure, and Kutsuwada's illustrations really bring Half-Wave to life.

Review in *The Scotsman*

E. A huge amount of research went into this book and this is very evident in the feeling of place and attention to detail that the author has brought to Yuki's story.

As well as being a story of the tsunami and of the devastation and loss that it brought, this is also a celebration of family and of finding peace even after the very worst has happened.

The manga inclusions are both a joy to read and a clever way of showing how important our imagination can be in times of crisis.

Katie Poels on Amazon

ALCS



yoto
CARNEGIE
GREENAWAY
AWARDS

Let's get Quizzical!

Take part for your chance to win:

**£500 for your school plus tickets
to the CKG Winner Ceremony!**

alcs.co.uk/quizzical

#CKG22

