



The Ghost of Thomas Kempe

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~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

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James Harrison and the cantankerous old sorcerer Thomas Kempe first appeared in 1973 and won the Carnegie Medal for *Penelope Lively*, I have used it extensively with pupils and always found it popular and useful. In think due to its lively theme of ghosts, sorcerers and exorcism, but also because it is a very perceptive study of the frustration of coping alone with problems which no-one else, especially adults, seem to recognise or rate. A bottle is broken as builders prepare the attic bedroom of an old cottage for the new occupants --- the Harrisons. This uncorks Kempe; a medieval, meddling sorcerer, who is determined to exert his past influence on the present with frustrating effects for all concerned, especially his young reluctant apprentice James. A very significant tale, appearing for the first time in Puffin as *Penelope Lively* 'transfers' from *Piccolo*.

Running Order:

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