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Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children

Maggie Mason Smith

Clemson University, mason5@clemson.edu

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Riggs, Ransom. *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*. Philadelphia: Quirk Books, 2011. Popular Reading, PS3618.I3985M57 2011.

"*I'm Jacob, I wanted to say. I've been looking for you.* But my jaw had come unhinged, and all I could do was stare." – page 121

Jacob Portman grew up listening to his grandfather tell stories: stories about a Welsh island, stories about the monsters that chased him to the island, and stories about a group of peculiar children he met when he arrived. Jacob has always loved his grandfather's stories – because of them, he yearns for adventure – but as he grows older, Jacob realizes the stories cannot possibly be true. With mingled anger and regret, Jacob stops believing.

But when Jacob finds his grandfather, dying, out in the woods, he also sees something unexplainable lurking nearby and it is something only he can see. Jacob begins to think that his grandfather's stories may have been true after all. Hoping to learn more about his grandfather and to make sense of his grandfather's cryptic dying words, Jacob travels to the island at the center of his childhood. On the island, Jacob may finally get to have adventures of his own.

Ransom Riggs' *New York Times* best seller, *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*, is a haunting mixture of fantasy and realism. Using authentic found photographs, Riggs weaves a world in which children can be invisible and float through the air; they can create fire out of nothing and grow vegetation at will. It is a world where monsters exist in the shadows but threaten to soon abandon the dark. Riggs creates a strange setting that serves as a foundation for an inventive narrative peppered with historical fact – it is a setting wherein readers will experience both the familiar and the fresh.