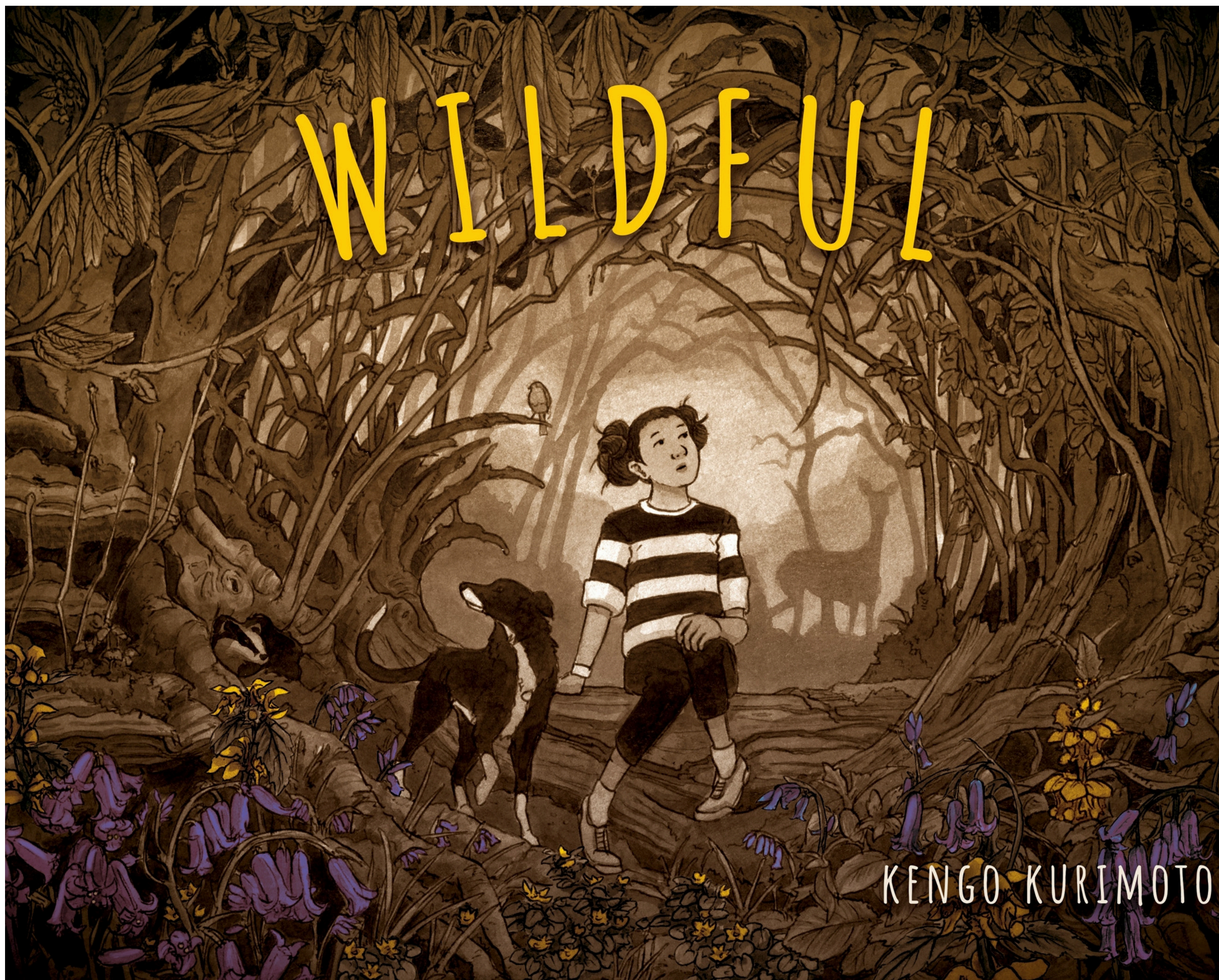


The Carnegies



The Carnegie Longlist 2026 Shadowing Resources

Wildful

Carnegie Medal for Illustration

Illustrator: Kengo Kurimoto

Age range: 7+

Description:

A quiet, reflective story about finding wonder and solace in the world around us. Poppy and her mum are struggling to come to terms with the loss of their grandmother. There's palpable emotion present on every page. Readers are visually drawn into the world and are invited to think around our relationship with nature and the ways in which this ties in with finding ourselves.

Themes:

- Nature
- Mindfulness
- Senses
- Grief
- Healing

Shadowing Ideas:

1. In Wildful, Poppy finds comfort in the natural world. Take a walk in nature and try to be fully present. Breathe in deeply and pay close attention to the world around you. Make a note of something you see, something you smell, something you taste, something you hear and something you touch. Take a book with you and read outdoors. How does it feel? Do you prefer it to reading indoors? Why might that be?
2. Poppy learns to love the sounds of the different birds in the woods. Work your way through the book and look at how the different birdcalls are illustrated. Visit <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/identifying-birds/bird-song-identifier> and learn about the different types of birds and the sounds they make. Which one is your favourite? How might you illustrate that sound?
3. Create a pencil sketch of your favourite outdoor place. It might be your garden, your playground or a local park. When your drawing is complete, add a single pop of colour to one element of the scene. You might use this to highlight a particular tree or flower. Perhaps you want to pick out a tiny detail, like a kite or emphasise an animal. Which colour did you choose and what effect did it have on your artwork?