**Podkin One-Ear**

by Kieran Larwood

**Annotation**

**‘**Podkin One-Ear is a legend: a fearsome warrior rabbit whose reputation for cunning and triumph in battle has travelled the ages. But how did he become such a mighty fighter? The answer may surprise you . . . When a travelling bard arrives at Thornwood Warren on Midwinter night, he is warmly welcomed. In return for food and lodging, he settles down to tell the tale of Podkin One-Ear – and soon the rabbits are enthralled to hear the story of how one lost little rabbit overcame the cruellest enemy imaginable, and became the greatest warrior their land has ever known.’

**Book Talk**

Read chapter one with no explanation and show the front cover; the last part onpage seven is a great lead into a group discussion of what is going to happen in this story. Discuss the mood of the traveler and the setting described so far.

**Book Trailers**

Interview with author <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIYmvbXIaoc>

Reading of first chapter <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1CSqFOkK83k>

**Author on the Internet**

* Website: [http://www.kmlarwood.com](http://www.kmlarwood.com/)
* Twitter: @kmlarwood
* Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KieranLarwoodAuthor>
* Instagram: @kieranlarwood

**Items to use in a library display**

* rabbit stuffed animal
* backdrop of setting
* printout of the map in front of book
* snowy feel with fabric and white lights

**Book Club Discussion Questions/Topics**

* What was your initial reaction to the book? Did it hook you immediately, or take some time to get into?
* What did you like or dislike about Podkin? the storyteller?
* How do you feel Podkin changed and what was the turning point for him?
* Who do you think was the better leader Podkin or Paz? and why?

**First Line of the Book**

*“Crunch, Crunch, Crunch, Crunch.* The sound of heavy footsteps trudging through knee-deep snow echoes through the night’s silence.”

**Non-Fiction Companion Title(s)**

* Rabbits *(Woodland Wildlife*) by G.G. Lake
* Rabbits: Amazing Photos & Fun Facts Book About Rabbits For Kids *(Remember Me Series)* by [Caroline Norsk](https://www.amazon.com/Caroline-Norsk/e/B00F5FACJ4/ref=sr_ntt_srch_lnk_3?qid=1520712924&sr=1-3)

**What to Read Next**

* Brian Jacques’ Redwall Series
* Quest of the Cubs Series by Kathryn Lasky
* The Miraculous Journey of Edward Toulaneby Kate DiCamillo

**Other Books by this Author**

* Freaks
* The Five Realms: The Gift of Dark Hollow
* Peculiars

**Additional Resources**

* <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/724587027521243583/> art project making a bunny bookmark
* Interview with the author: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIYmvbXIaoc>
* Lesson ideas: Character comparison with Paz vs. Podkin, Sequence the change of Podkin thru the story, Word Web about Gorm Tribe

**Name that Book**

“From his hiding place, he could hear hear the tribe, They were heavy, lumbering things, smashing against saplings and branches and plowing the snow aside with brute force.” p. 33

“The Chief called out the traditional greeting to the darkness of the tunnel. “Enter, stranger, and be welcome on the Bramblemas Eve.” p. 15

“I could tell all the land all around was burned and blackened --it was poisned and stank of iron and blood.” p. 187

“The pillars, the roots, the walls--every spare inch of them were draped with lanterns or studded with thick candles that had spilled rivers of melted wax over everything.” p. 106

They used wooden practice swords, which he quickly discoveredm tended to leave nasty welts and bruises wherever they hit you (which was pretty much everywhere.) p. 195