



When Empire Calls

by Ken Catran

Keynote

When Empire calls, men go to war ... and families suffer.

Description

It's early days in the Boer War and the small farming community of Huia is gripped by patriotic fervour. Men, young and old, are eager to join up and head overseas to fight the 'evil scoundrel folk in Africa who opposed the British Empire and had to be taught a lesson'.

When his two elder brothers join up, James is left to help his father run the family farm, as well as helping out in the local village store, for the irascible old 'Croaky Fred', a bad-tempered old codger who always speaks his mind - and he has nothing good to say about war in any form. Turns out Fred has a secret ...

Sales points

- Well-known, award-winning author Ken Catran has written another great historical read
- Readers will see the Boer War from the viewpoint of those left behind, but also, through James's brother's letters, they'll learn about the horrors, too - and from old Croaky Fred, they'll learn about the parallels with our own Maori Land Wars.

About the author

Ken Catran is known as one of New Zealand's leading writers for children and young adults.

Awards

Ken Catran has won many awards, including New Zealand's prestigious NZ Post Children's Book Award and the LIANZA Esther Glen Medal.

Specifications

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Teaching notes available	www.scholastic.co.nz

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