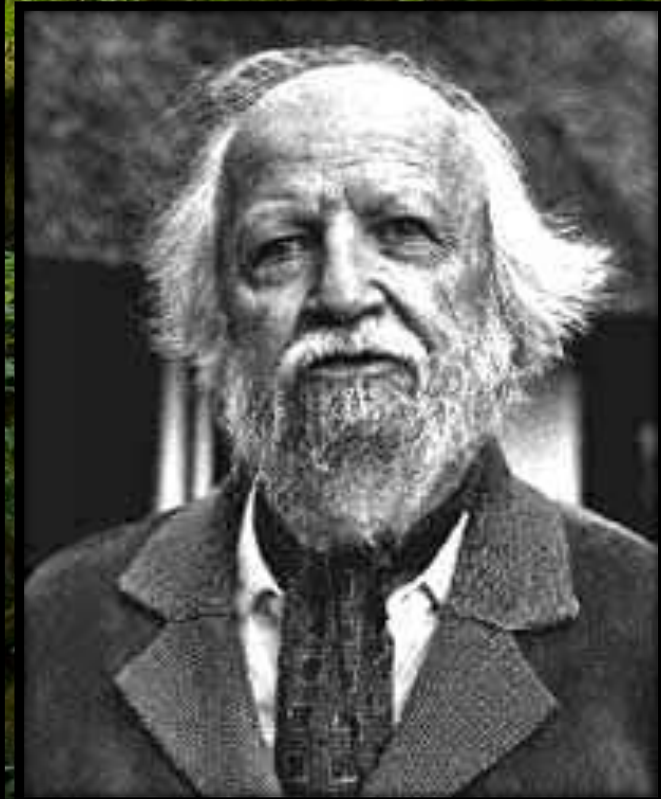


A lush, moss-covered forest scene. The image shows a dense thicket of trees and ferns. The tree trunks are heavily covered in green moss, and the ground is also covered in moss and ferns. The lighting is soft and dappled, creating a sense of a deep, ancient forest. The overall color palette is dominated by various shades of green, from bright lime to deep forest green.

Lord of the Flies
by William Golding

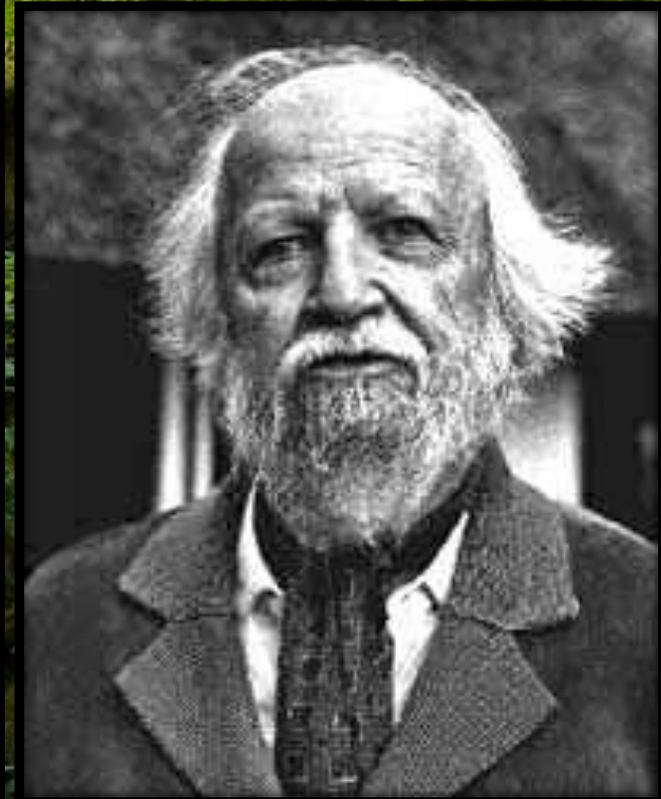
The Author

- William Golding -- Born September 19, 1911 in Cornwall, England.
- As a child, Golding had witnessed WWI, “the war to end all wars”
- At 12, he attempted, unsuccessfully, to write a novel.



The Author

- Later in life, Golding would describe his childhood self as a brat, even going so far as to say, “I enjoyed hurting people.”
- Studied Science and English at Oxford



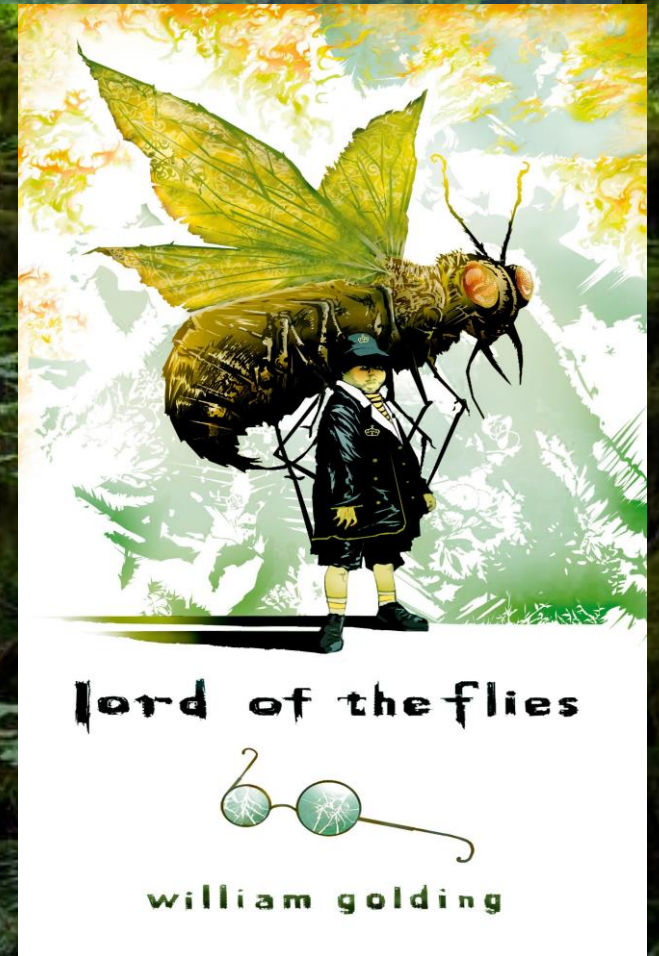
The World Golding Knew

- Joined the Royal Navy and fought in World War II, spending six years on a boat
- During WWII, Britain feared an invasion and evacuated children to other countries
- In 1940- A German U-Boat torpedoed a British ship carrying children, killing the boys, thus suspending the overseas evacuation program



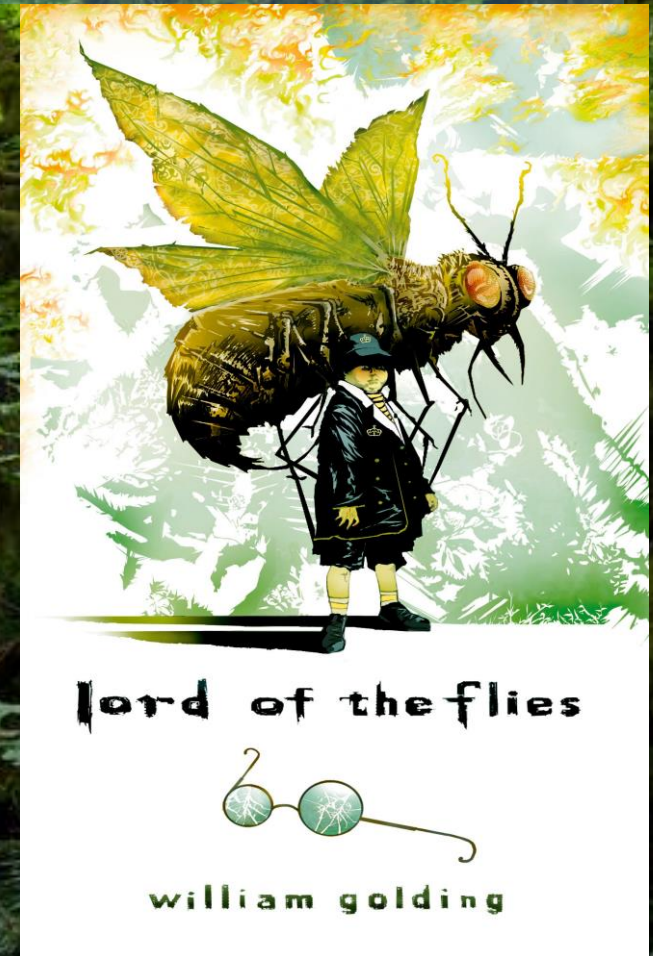
The Author

- In 1945, at the end of World War II, he returned to teaching and writing.
- In 1954, after 21 rejections, Golding published his first novel, *Lord of the Flies*.
- He was awarded the 1983 Nobel Prize for Literature.



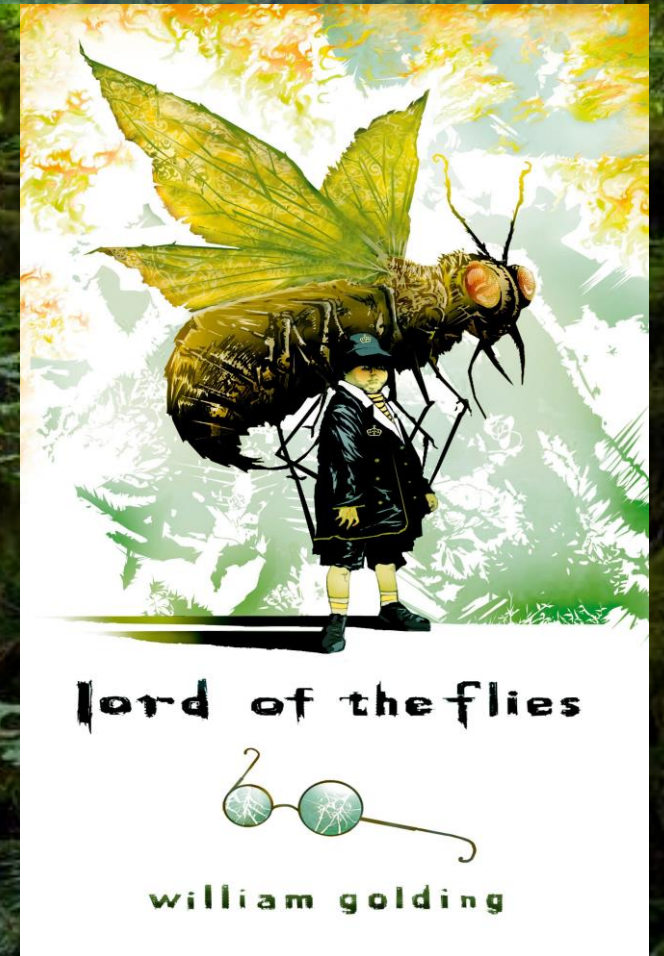
Inspiration for the Novel

- His experience in WWII, where Golding stated, “I began to see what people were capable of doing.”
- While teaching, Golding once allowed his class of boys total freedom in a debate, but had to intervene as mayhem soon broke out



Plot of the Novel

- Set in mid 1940's when Europe was engulfed in war.
- A plane carrying British school boys is mistaken for a military craft and shot down.
- Only the boys survive the crash and try to form a society and govern themselves.





Themes

- Survival
- Power/leadership styles
- Civilization vs. Savagery
- Loss of Innocence
- Human nature
 - Nature Vs. Nurture
 - Good Vs. Evil

Significance of Title

- The phrase “lord of the flies” is a translation of the Greek “Beelzebub,” a devil mentioned in the New Testament.
- In the Bible, Beelzebub sometimes seems to be Satan himself, and at other times seems to be Satan’s most powerful lieutenant.



Main Characters

Ralph

- Elected as leader
- Committed to civilization and morality

Piggy

- The most intelligent of the boys
- Often bullied by the other boys
- Represents rational side of civilization and social order

Main Characters

Jack Merridew

- Leader of the Chorus
- Cruel and manipulative
- Represents our savage instincts played out

Simon

- Small and a bit unusual
- Prone to fainting
- Seems to be connected to nature
- Represents an innate, spiritual goodness

Main Characters

Sam-n-Eric

- Twins
- Represent the “tug-of-war” of good and evil within us

Roger

- Silent and sadistic
- Kills without conscience
- Pure evil

The “Littuns”

- Smaller children who represent the “followers” in society

Popular Allusions and Parodies

- The Simpsons- “Das Bus” is a parody
- Stephen King’s “Castle Rock” (from the novel and series)
- Inspiration for anime series, *Infinite Ryvius*
- *Apocalypto* (2006 movie)
- *Survivor* and *Lost* – inspired by LOTF
- *Unaccompanied Minors* (2006 movie)
- *Degrassi: The Next Generation*
- *Danny Phantom*
- *The Daily Show*

