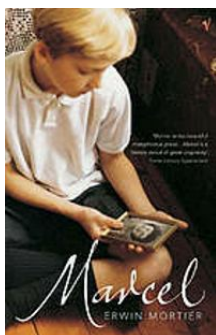


MARCEL

The narrator is a ten year old boy who lives with his grandparents in a Flemish village. His grandmother guards the family dead with fierce determination, arranging and re-arranging their photographs in a special cabinet, talking to them and arguing with them. The cabinet is an extension of heaven, with its own purgatory and hell: their place in his grandmother's favour is marked by their proximity to a statue of the Blessed Virgin. But, one image is always next to...



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Reader's Opinions

Short, seemingly simple story, more a writing exercise by a debuting author. For example, the language is sometimes banal-modal, and then again very expressive-daring, but in such a way that it often has a very "constructed" feel. Also, the story itself is very ambivalent: on...