

Book of the Month: December 2020

Claudia E. Laube recommends *Howl's Moving Castle* by Diana Wynne Jones (1986).

"Whilst I am sure many of you know the famous Ghibli movie, I want to point towards Diana Wynne Jones original *Howl's Moving Castle*. It naturally shares many similarities with the movie, but where Miyazaki's piece focuses more on the gravity of war, Jones' book delves into a more light-hearted, comedic and especially heart-warming mood. Having been inspired by a schoolboy who simply requested a story about a "moving castle," Jones manages to captivate the reader with something as arbitrary as a woman talking to hats. No, it is not about the Mad Hatter, but it is just as magical and definitely one of those books I like to recommend to anyone who needs a good laugh combined with a generous sprinkle of fantasy and wit."