

SKELLIG

Do nothing.

MINA crouches beside SKELLIG, takes the torch, starts at him, touches him.

MINA

Who are you?

SKELLIG

Nobody.

MINA

Dry and cold. How long have you been here?

SKELLIG

Long enough.

MINA

Are you dead?

SKELLIG

Kids' questions. All the same.

MICHAEL

Tell her things. She's clever. She'll know what to do.

SKELLIG

Let me see her.

MINA

I'm called Mina. I'm Mina, you're . . .

SKELLIG

You're Mina. I'm sick to death.

MINA touches his hands, his skin.

MINA

Calcification. The process by which the bones harden and become inflexible. The process by

which the body turns to stone.

Not as stupid as she looks.

SKELLIG

MINA

It is linked to another process, by which the mind, too, becomes inflexible. It stops thinking and imagining. It becomes hard as bone. It is no longer a mind. It is a lump of bone wrapped in a wall of stone. This process is ossification.

SKELLIG

More beer.

MICHAEL helps SKELLIG to drink.

SKELLIG

Take her away.

MICHAEL guides MINA's hand to SKELLIG's shoulder blades.

NARRATION

Michael took Mina's hand.

NARRATION

He guided it towards the shoulder blades.

NARRATION

He pressed her fingers to the growths beneath the jacket.

MINA

What are you?

MICHAEL

You've got to leave here. They're going to pull it all down. Tomorrow.

MINA

We can help you. There's somewhere we could take you. It's safer there. You could just sit there dying too, if that's really what you want.

SKELLIG

More beer.

MICHAEL

One of these as well.

MICHAEL helps SKELLIG to drink. He drops a cod-liver oil capsule onto SKELLIG's tongue. SKELLIG gags.

MINA

You have to let us help you.

NARRATION

The roof trembled in the breeze.

NARRATION

Dust continued to fall on them.

NARRATION

Tears fell from Michael's eyes.

MICHAEL

Please.

SKELLIG

Where did you come from?

MICHAEL

What?

SKELLIG

You. From.

MICHAEL

Me? There. Out there. Why?

SKELLIG

Go away.

MICHAEL

Why won't you move?

SKELLIG sighs.

More beer.

SKELLIG

I hate you. I hate you!

MICHAEL

You have to let us help.

MINA

Do it. Do what you want.

SKELLIG

Tonight.

MICHAEL

MICHAEL and MINA leave the garage. They stand outside.

MINA

He's an extraordinary being.
What's on his back?

*They stare and wonder and are silent. The blackbird
sings.*

MINA

We'll take him out tonight.

MICHAEL

At dawn.

MINA

We'll call to each other. We'll hoot
like owls. We'll make sure we don't
sleep. An extraordinary being.

MICHAEL

I'll go back to my dad now.

MINA

I'll go back to my clay.