



The Wonderling by Mia Bartók

Reviewed by Julie

Talking animals, a boarding school with a wicked Head Mistress, a Fagin-like character – all the ingredients for a delightful fantasy.

Welcome to the Home for Wayward and Misbegotten Creatures, an institution run by evil Miss Carbunkle, a cunning villainess who believes her terrified young charges exist only to serve and suffer. Part animal and part human, the groundlings toil in classroom and factory, forbidden to enjoy anything regular children have, most particularly singing and music.

Then Wonderling, a one-eared, fox-like eleven-year-old with only a number rather than a proper name, escapes. With his only friend, Trinket, they set off to discover his true destiny.

Highly recommended.

450p. Age: 10+

Available from Newcastle Libraries in [book, CD and Ebook formats](#)