



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of Submission: APRIL, 2023
STUDY NOTES	TOPIC: Binya's Blue Umbrella (Prose)	Note: For Reference

About the Author:



Ruskin Bond (born 19th May 1934) is an Indian author of children's books. His first novel, *The Room on the Roof*, written when he was seventeen, won the John Llewellyn Rhys Memorial Prize in 1957. Bond has authored more than 500 short stories, essays, and novels which includes 69 books for children.

About the Book:

'The umbrella was like a flower, a great blue flower that had sprung up on the dry brown hillside.'

In exchange for her lucky leopard's claw pendant (necklace), Binya acquires a beautiful blue umbrella that makes her the envy of everyone in the village, especially Ram Bharosa, the shopkeeper. It is the prettiest umbrella in the whole village and she carries it everywhere she goes.

The Blue Umbrella is a short and humorous novella set in the hills of Garhwal. Written in simple yet witty language, it captures life in a village- where ordinary characters become heroic, and others find opportunities to redeem themselves.

**RUSKIN
BOND**
The Blue Umbrella



Setting of the story:

The story takes place in a Garhwal village in Himachal Pradesh. The story revolves around a young girl named Binya, who is around ten years old. She resides with her mother, brother, Bijju and belongs to a poor family. She belonged to the mountains. Thus, dark forests and lonely hilltops held no terror for her. The story has multiple emotions including materialistic love, jealousy and kindness.

Character Sketch of Binya:

Binya is the main character of the novel. She loves wandering over the mountains and in the distant valleys. She isn't afraid of darkness, forests and climbing the trees. Another aspect of Binya is that she is a kind-hearted person. She allows the children of the village to hold her umbrella for a short while.

Coming to her looks, Binya is fair, stout and sturdy with black hair and eyes. Though Binya is an ordinary girl, like most of the children of her age, but her virtues like compassion, kind-heartedness and boldness makes her stand out from the crowd.

Analysis:

Even the story is short and simple but it gives value lessons about human goodness and kindness. Binya is an example of innocence and compassion and stands out as a great role model for children and adults alike.

The blue umbrella symbolizes beauty and richness. Binya's possession of the umbrella sets her apart from the other village people making her a target of envy.

