

Philip Pullman was born in Norwich, England in 1946 and grew up in Zimbabwe and Wales. He worked as a teacher for many years and his first children's novel, *Count Karlstein*, came out in 1982. *The Ruby in the Smoke*, the first of the Sally Lockhart quartet of Victorian thrillers, was published in 1985.

He has won many awards for his children's books, including the Carnegie Medal, the Guardian Children's Book Award, the Smarties Prize, the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, the Whitbread Book of the Year Award and a CBE. His acclaimed fantasy trilogy, *His Dark Materials* (Scholastic Books in the UK and Knopf in the US), comprising *Northern Lights*, *The Subtle Knife* and *The Amber Spyglass*, has been published in 39 languages, and the first volume is now a major motion picture, released in cinemas 7th December 2007. The BBC, in line with Bad Wolf Productions, have recently commissioned a new drama series based on *His Dark Materials*, on which Philip is to be an executive producer.

Philip's other books for children and young adults include *Clockwork*, *I Was A Rat!*, and *The New Cut Gang* books; *Thunderbolt's Waxwork* and *The Gas-Fitter's Ball*. *Once Upon A Time In The North* was published in April 2008. He is working on *The Book Of Dust*, another book about the characters in the *His Dark Materials* trilogy.

In 2010 Philip published his controversial number one bestseller *The Good Man Jesus and The Scoundrel Christ*.

Philip Pullman lives in Oxford with his wife, and has two sons.