

The Story Spinner - Episode 1 – Transcript

[Soundtrack: Ambient music plays in the background throughout the video.]

[Text: The Story Spinner Episode 1. A creative writing response to landscape artists Steve Messam's "Architect of Ruins" installation at Killhope for you to take part in.]

[Video: The camera plans along a narrow river toward a stone bridge.]

[Text: Listen and watch as writer David Naphvine invites you to create your own narrative through creative writing which you can share with us by emailing your work to killhopeart@durham.gov.uk. Selected works will be included in an Anthology to be produced in the Autumn of 2021. Copyright Steve Messam.]

[Pictures: A piece of art featuring a large white balloon inside a wooden framed building. A stone building with red cone shaped balloons protruding from two sides. A road with stone hills on either side, the road ahead is blocked by a large red and yellow balloon. A piece of art consisting of a large red balloon and two stone stacks of stones to represent a rocket. An entrance to a mine shaft in the side of a hill blocked by a large golden balloon.]

[Video: The camera plans along a narrow river toward a stone bridge.]

[David Naphvine] Hello my name is David Naphvine and welcome to the four writing prompts. These are inspired by Stephen Messams photographs which are on display at Killhope Lead Mining Museum. And the subject of these four prompts for writing, as I prefer to call them is: Ruin. Ruins in whatever form we want to take.

[Video: An ariel shot of moving toward a bridge and following the course of a small river, into the green countryside stone buildings are also visible in the shot.]

[David Naphvine] You know you go walking out and you see a ruined farmhouse, a ruined chapel, a ruined building. You go and see old mines.

[David Naphvine] Ruined fences, damaged, derelict buildings, and farmlands as well, and the streets and things by the river, you can see them all.

[Video: An ariel shot of a small river moving toward a different bridge in the green countryside, eventually we travel over the bridge and onwards up the river.]

[David Naphvine] Each ruin of whatever ilk would tell a story. And our job as writers is to create the stories around those ruins. Now this is not history. We don't want to tell the history; we want to reimagine what we can see. Create a world which is different.

So you have a ruined lead mine at Killhope. Well, is it a lead mine? Or is it the remains of an old castle? Or is it build as an icon for a religious organisation? Was it once a stately home? Was it a folly? Could be any of those things.

So, what I'd like us to do as writers, and I'll be joining with you in this, I'll be doing exactly the same thing as you are. Think of a ruin. Better still, go for a walk. Walk out and look at a ruin, say: 'how did that get there?', 'What was that?', and then write quite simply in whatever form you wish; poem, story, script, write your response. You.

Write your response to what you see in that ruin. I want you to look at how you feel, what you see, what you hear, and that will be the start of our writers' journey if you like, to explore the imaginative world which the ruin can help provoke

Enjoy your writing, I look forward to working with you.

[Picture: An ariel shot slowly zooming in toward a lead mine building.]

[Text: Share you work with us at: Killhopart@durham.gov.uk . Selected works will be included in an Anthology to be produced in the Autumn of 2021.]

[Text: Artist – Steve Messam. Photographs of “Architect of Ruin” by Steve Messam.
www.stevemessam.co.uk]

[Text: (Killhope logo) www.killhope.org.uk. (Facebook logo) @Killhope (Twitter logo) @killhopemuseum Museum, Café, Walks, Wildlife.]

[Text: Photographer – Lee Dobson. Landscape and drone footage
www.leedobsonphotography.com]

[Text: Writer David Naphine Story Spinner Words.]