

What are Human Rights?

- rights and freedoms inherent to all human beings
- universal and inalienable
- based on shared values
- defined and protected by law
- can be restricted



Human Rights in Literature

Literature can be used to:

- promote human rights
- create awareness
- connect to realism
- write about human rights (not only in contemporary literature)
- understand fiction is one of the best way to reflect on them
- change society (poetry is a powerful way)
- read between the lines
- elicit emotions in the reader (poetry better than other literary forms)

Fundamental Rights

Some of Italian fundamental rights:

- right to life
- right not to suffer any cruel treatments or punishments
- right not to be reduced into slavery
- right to freedom and personal safety
- right of action in order to protect one's rights
- right to the respect of family and private life
- right to freely manifest one's thoughts
- right of freedom of pacific meetings and freedom of association
- right to marry and form a family

Human Rights in Literature I

Ian McEwan - The Children Act (2014)

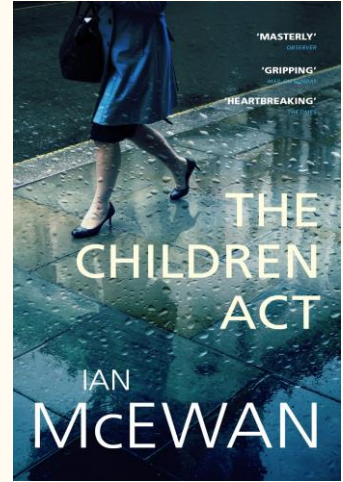
Violation: art. 32

The Constitution of the Italian Republic

Respect: art. 8 and art. 19

The Constitution of the Italian Republic

- Children's Act (1989) = act to guarantee children's well being
- right to life
- respect of different religious faith
- 17 year old dying of leukemia
- he is a Jehovah Witness



Human Rights in Literature II

Malala Yousafzai - I am Malala (2013)

Violation: art. 34

The Constitution of the Italian Republic

- autobiographical novel
- right to education
- female rights in Pakistan
- brave
- winner of 2014 Nobel Peace Prize

