

When Ash loses yet another ball to the vast snow sea beyond the fire walls, he and his friends are forced to face the terrifying monsters that lurk beneath. Soon after, a pathfinder's sleigh encounters them also and Ash, ostracised by his own kind for his supposed magical powers, attempts their brave rescue which reveals the extent of his powers for all to see. Now feared by the only community he knows, Ash is outcast by his people to the dangerous world beyond his home. Fascinated by the brave adventurers aboard the sleigh, Ash stows away in an attempt to survive and in the hope of finding his parents and a place to belong. Life aboard Frostheart is anything but easy, but Ash is determined to be brave, find answers in his magic and do all it takes for his chance to be free.

There are many interesting parts of the story, but my favourite by far is Ash and the Frostheart's encounters with the Leviathans. These creatures are dangerous and unpredictable and include a variety of species with individual strengths and talents.

I would recommend Frostheart for children aged 9 and 10 as the story requires a good dose of imagination as well as a good understanding of some complex ideas and vocabulary. Frostheart is a story of magic and adventure with plenty of action along the way.

Piper, age 10, Christchurch