

# The Arm of the Starfish // Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR), 2011 // 9781466814462 // 2011 // 256 pages // Madeleine L'Engle

The starfish part contains the book's sole venture into science fiction, and it's also where L'Engle, for the first time, starts heading into questionable scientific territory. Not with the basic facts: starfish, as she correctly notes, are within a phylum, Echinodermata, relatively closely related to the phylum containing humans, Chordata. Going much more beyond that to imply that starfish and humans have a close genetic relationship is probably too much, but not too much for a science fiction text. Also, some (not all) starfish can regenerate arms, an ability probably evolved as an adaptation.

Benefits of donating. When you donate a physical book to the Internet Archive, your book will enjoy: Beautiful high-fidelity digitization. Long-term archival preservation. Last edited by ImportBot. November 19, 2020 | History. An edition of The Arm of the Starfish (O'Keefe Family #1) (1965). The Arm of the Starfish. The Arm of the Starfish is a young adult novel by Madeleine L'Engle, first published in 1965. It is the first novel featuring Polly O'Keefe and the O'Keefe family, a generation after the events of *A Wrinkle in Time* (1962). The plot concerning advanced regeneration research puts this novel in the science fiction genre, but it could also be described as a mystery thriller.