

THE MIRACULOUS JOURNEY OF EDWARD TULANE by Kate DiCamillo

Lesson 1

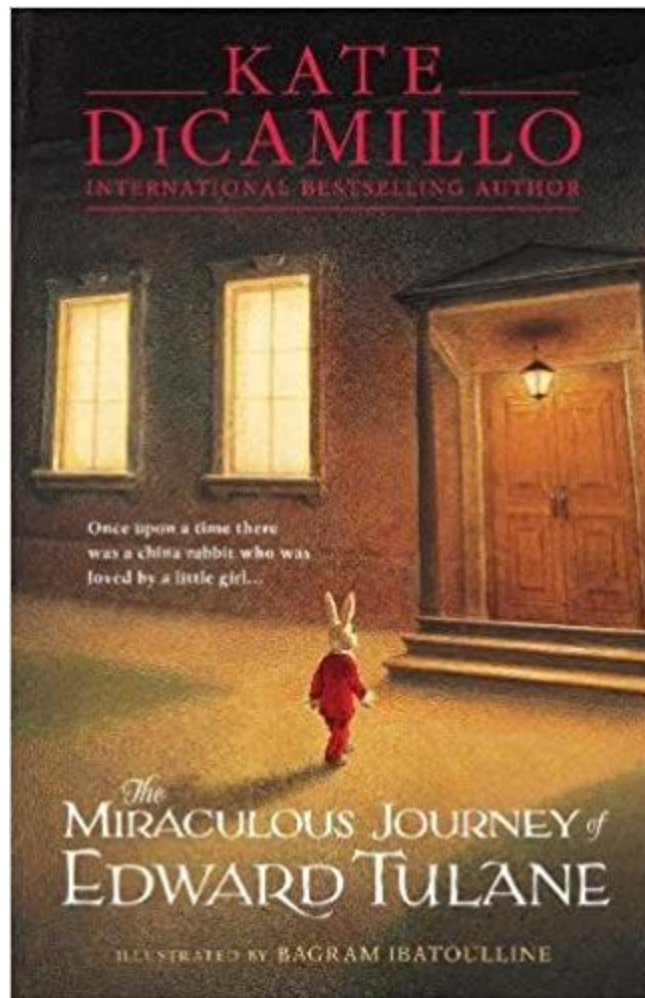
Before reading...

Look at the front cover.

- What do you think the book will be about?
- What things can you see on the front cover?
- What sort of story will it be?
- Who might enjoy it?

Now read the blurb...

- Were any of your predictions correct?



Chapters 1 and 2

Vocabulary

- Why do you think the author repeats the word 'china' in the opening paragraph of the story? What effect does it have?
- Explain these words and phrases from Chapter 1 and 2: jaunty, full of ennui, condescended, derogatory.
- Look at the phrase 'like a flock of demented and unfriendly birds'. What does it suggest about the dolls?

Infer

- What does the phrase 'unsavoury animal' suggest about Edward?
- What are your initial impressions of Edward?
- Why do you think Pellegrina is the only adult who treats Edward as an equal?
- When do you think this story is set?
- What impression do you get of the Tulane family?
- What might Edward be thinking and feeling when he is attacked by Rosie?

Predict

- Read to the end of Chapter 1. What do you think will happen next?
- Look at the end of Chapter 2. What do you think 'the ship' might be? How might it affect Edward's life?

Explain

- Do you think Edward is real? Explain your ideas.
- Look at the beginning of Chapter 2. How does the author show that Edward's life is monotonous?
- Which section of Chapter 2 was the most exciting/interesting?

Retrieve

- Where does Edward live?
- What is Edward made of?
- The name of Edward's mistress is Abigail Tulane. True or false?

Summarise

- Describe Edward in one word.

Chapters 3, 4 and 5

Vocabulary

- Find all the adjectives and phrases in Chapter 5 that describe Edward's appearance. What impression do they give?
- Can you use these words in a sentence of your own? Billowed, disregarding, frantic.

Infer

- Why do you think the Tulane family are travelling to London?
- How does Alibene feel about Edward?
- Why does Pellegrina tell the story about the princess?
- Look at the picture on page 37, of Abilene listening to Pellegrina's story. What might she be thinking and feeling as she listens?
- Why do you think Pellegrina is disappointed in Edward?
- Why do you think the boys began throwing Edward around on the ship?

Predict

- Do you think Edward will change over the course of this story? How? Why?
- Do you think Edward will drown when he is thrown overboard? Explain your answer using evidence.

Explain

- What do you think the moral of Pellegrina's story is?
- Can a story end happily if there is no love?

Retrieve

- The Tulane family are sailing to New York. True or false?
- What did the princess swallow?
- The princess was turned into a parrot. True or false?

Summarise

- What happened after the princess ran away?
- Describe Pellegrina's story in one word.

Chapters 6, 7, 8 and 9

Vocabulary

- What does the author mean when she says the boat 'sailed blithely on'?
- Find and copy all the words and phrases in Chapter 7 related to the storm. What effect do they have?
- The word 'umbrage' is closest in meaning to...

Infer

- Is there anything odd about the third question at the beginning of Chapter 6?
- What might Edward be thinking and feeling when he is rescued by the fishermen?

Predict

- Read to the end of Chapter 6. Do you think Edward will be rescued from the bottom of the sea? How?
- What do you think Nellie and Lawrence's daughter will do to Edward?

Explain

- Abilene screams out, "Come back!" when Edward falls into the ocean. Discuss what you think happens to Abilene for the rest of that day.
- Do you agree with Edward that Pellegrina is to blame for him being thrown overboard?
- Edward thinks that the witch is solely to blame for the princesses' fate. Do you agree?
- Does anything comical occur in Chapter 8? Did anything make you laugh?
- How does Edward help Nellie?

Retrieve

- Who rescues Edward from the bottom of the ocean?
- What are the names of the fisherman and his wife?
- Why is Nellie so sad?

Summarise

- Describe Nellie in one word.
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HOMEWORK:

Create a **new character!** Think about what their **name** is, what they **look like**, and how they **act**.

OR

How does Kate DiCamillo make the **opening chapters funny?**