

# Penguin Random House

## TEACHERS' RESOURCE KIT

### **MALLORY, MALLORY: THE REVENGE OF THE TOOTH FAIRY**

**James Norcliffe**

When Mallory and her sidekick Arthur kidnap the tooth fairy, they get more than they bargained for in this sparkling fantasy adventure novel for children.

Mallory is a nasty piece of work. Her one friend is Arthur, who only puts up with her because he has no one else. When Mallory loses a tooth, she comes up with an evil idea to capture and blackmail the tooth fairy for an endless supply of money.

But it's never a good idea to meddle with a magical creature, and Mallory and Arthur are about to find out just how bad it can get.

With James Norcliffe's signature magic and humour, and Emily Walker's equally magical illustrations, *The Revenge of the Tooth Fairy* will delight fans of top-quality fantasy adventures.

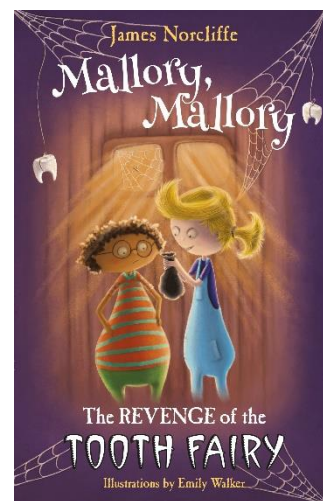
#### **About the Author**

James Norcliffe is an award-winning poet, educator, editor and author of books for adults and children.

His most famous book, *The Loblolly Boy* was published in 2009 in New Zealand, Australia and the United States. Margaret Mahy described it as 'a rich fantasy — alive with original twists surprises and mysteries'.

#### **About the Illustrator**

Emily Walker has worked as a hair stylist, makeup artist and body painter! As an illustrator she has been shortlisted twice for the Storylines Gavin Bishop Award and has been a finalist in the Margaret Mahy Illustration Award. *Mallory, Mallory* is her first book commission.



#### **SPECIFICATIONS:**

Imprint: Puffin  
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Extent: 272  
Readership: 7+

#### **RESOURCE KIT CONTAINS:**

- Before reading
- During reading
- Comprehension questions
- Language and style
- Vocabulary
- Illustrations
- Research and creative responses



# ***Mallory, Mallory: The Revenge of the Tooth Fairy***

Written by James Norcliffe and Illustrated by Emily Walker

## **BEFORE READING**

- 1) They say we shouldn't judge a book by its cover, but there are many clues that hint at what a book is about to be found there! Name three 'clues' you can see on the cover of this book.
  
- 2) The back of the book has helpful information, too. Why do you think these things feature? (You won't know the answer yet — you haven't read the book! Just try to guess why.)
  - a) Money — notes and coins
  - b) Spiderwebs
  - c) An extracted tooth
  - d) An apple with a bite taken out of it
  
- 3) Open the book and look at the first few pages. Who is this book dedicated to? Why do you think authors dedicate their books? Who would you dedicate a book to? Why?
  
- 4) The page between the title page and the dedication is called the 'colophon', or imprint page. This carries the information about the publication of the book, and colophon translates roughly from Latin as 'finishing touch'. Can you find the name of the book designer here?

## DURING READING

### *Close Reading Questions*

- 1) What is your first impression of Mallory? What is your first impression of Arthur?
- 2) What is the name of Mallory's teacher who features in her dream?
- 3) What is Arthur's mother's name?
- 4) What does Arthur initially guess is in the bag?
- 5) What is actually in the bag?
- 6) From whom does the mouse have to get the money?
- 7) In the book, what are the canines, molars and incisors?
- 8) What do the canines make wolves look like?
- 9) What is the name of the new character introduced in Chapter 9?
- 10) What are the first names of the Molars?
- 11) What is the truth about the Molars, according to the mouse/tooth fairy?
- 12) What does the sign say at the Customs Gate?
- 13) Who are the Incisors?
- 14) What do the Incisors call Mallory's tooth?
- 15) What is the name of the town in which Mallory and Arthur have separately arrived?
- 16) What do you think the 'test' is that Arthur feels like he passed?
- 17) How does the Hex Checker open the large, studded door?
- 18) What are the pie-makers' series of grievous crimes?
- 19) What does Mallory get back at the end of chapter 22?
- 20) Why did Mallory 'pump her arm in triumph' at the end of chapter 27?
- 21) How does Mallory put the blame on Arthur at the end of the book?

## **Themes**

This book helps us understand that **friendships come in all shapes and sizes**. It also looks at **how we should be responsible for our actions** and that **standing up for ourselves is really important**.

- 1) Find examples of these themes in the book:
  - a) Friendships come in all shapes and sizes.
  - b) We should be responsible for our actions.
  - c) Standing up for ourselves is really important.
- 2) Does Mallory deserve a friend like Arthur? Why/not?
- 3) Why do you think Arthur stays friends with Mallory?
- 4) The Wisdom Tooth at the Fount of All Wisdom says: 'It seems to me. . . that **this is a story of great unkindness, and at the same time within it there are great elements of kindness.**'
  - a) Name five acts of great unkindness in the book.
  - b) Name five elements of kindness in the book.
- 5) Do you think The Wisdom Tooth is right? Why/not?

## **Characters**

**1) Mallory and Arthur** are the main characters in this book. Mallory is described as ‘a nasty piece of work’ and Arthur is described as ‘a nerdy little kid who rubbed people the wrong way’.

- a) As you read the book, note down other descriptions of Mallory. Try to find other character’s words to back up what you are saying.
- b) Do the same for Arthur. Try to find other character’s words to back up what you are saying.
- c) Mallory plans to kidnap the tooth fairy. Why do you think the author made Mallory so nasty and naughty?
- d) Do you think she is all bad? Why/not?
- e) What change do you see in Arthur at the end of the book? (a clue: he ‘bites back’ at Mallory, and says that it feels good.)

**2) Tooth Fairy/Mouse** is also a character in this book. We get the tooth fairy’s side of the kidnap story on page 214.

- a) What is different about this telling of the story?
- b) How would you describe the tooth fairy/mouse? Use five interesting words here.

**3) Choose one minor character** in the book. You might choose the Hex Checker, The Wisdom Tooth, Major Rat, Cyril, Bruce the budgie, or Mollie and Maurie. Describe how their character/s show us an element of kindness OR unkindness, or maybe both.

## **Writing Style and Language Activities**

### **1) Descriptive Language**

This book uses **similes** and **metaphors** to make the story interesting to read.

Here is a reminder of what these figures of speech do in our writing:

**Metaphor:** a direct comparison; saying one thing **IS** another (for example, 'the tree **was a skeleton in the night**, with its arms waving in the air').

**Simile:** a comparison that uses like or as (for example, 'the tree **was like a skeleton in the night**, with its arms waving in the air', or 'the tree **was as scary as a skeleton in the night**, with its arms waving in the air').

Here are some metaphors and similes from the book:

Arthur was **like** the ten-cent coin on the footpath nobody ever bothered to pick up.

'Mallory was **like** the Scotch thistle nobody dared to touch' (9)

'It **was** a fiendish grin. **The grin of a monster**' (16)

- a) Find **five** other similes from the book. Explain the comparison.
  
- b) Find **five** other metaphors from the book. Explain the comparison.

## 2) Vocabulary

Do you know these words?

- 1) Secretive
- 2) Flourished
- 3) Outfoxed
- 4) Cunning
- 5) Alternative
- 6) Guttural
- 7) Transit
- 8) Spasm
- 9) Sniping
- 10) Negotiate
- 11) Fastidious
- 12) Impasse
- 13) Slavering
- 14) Discombobulated
- 15) Waylaid
- 16) Unorthodox
- 17) Emanating
- 18) Skulduggery
- 19) Malevolent
- 20) Imperceptibly
- 21) Stupendously
- 22) Apparatus
- 23) Impertinence
- 24) Obfuscation
- 25) Rescinded

1) Look them up in a dictionary and write down their meanings.

2) Write your own scene including Mallory and Arthur using **five** of these words. If you really want to challenge yourself, use **ten** words.

Share your 'chapter' with a friend.

## ***Illustrations***

- 1) On the cover, the words in the title ‘tooth fairy’ use a **specific lettering** that is different to the other fonts (style of words) on the page. Why is this?
  
- 2) Look at the illustration of **Mallory and Arthur** on the cover.
  - a) What can you see in this illustration that tells you about Mallory’s plan and Arthur’s thoughts on this?
  
- 3) Choose your **favourite illustration** from the book.
  - a) Why do you like this picture?
  
  - b) What is happening in the picture?
  
  - c) Why is this illustration important to the story?



## AFTER READING

### *Further Research and Creative Activities*

- 1) In groups of four, turn *The Revenge of the Tooth Fairy* into a play. You will definitely need to cast Mallory and Arthur! Which other characters are important to include? Practice and perform for your class.
- 2) Write a letter or email to James Norcliffe telling him about a time you had a plan (hopefully one that wasn't as naughty as Mallory's!). Tell him about one part of his story you enjoyed. Make sure you write in paragraphs and use the conventions of the text type you choose (email or letter). If you are not sure about these things, ask your teacher.
- 3) Who is the tooth fairy and where did the legend begin? Research the myth of the tooth fairy and make a poster presenting your work.
- 4) What is a shapeshifter? Draw your version of its original form (because, of course it can be anything it wants!)
- 5) Which other books have been written by James Norcliffe? Make a list. If you enjoyed this book, go to your school or local library and choose another book by James Norcliffe to read.
- 6) If you have access to a phone or other technology, make a stop motion animation of Mallory and Arthur's trial. Arrange a viewing for your class.
- 7) The Wisdom Tooth says that **this is a story of great unkindness, and at the same time within it there are great elements of kindness**. Research and list five random acts of kindness on a poster to display in your classroom or at home. It can really help if people know what to do!
- 8) Make a map of Oralia. Make sure you reference all the places Mallory and Arthur visited.