

LEVEL B1

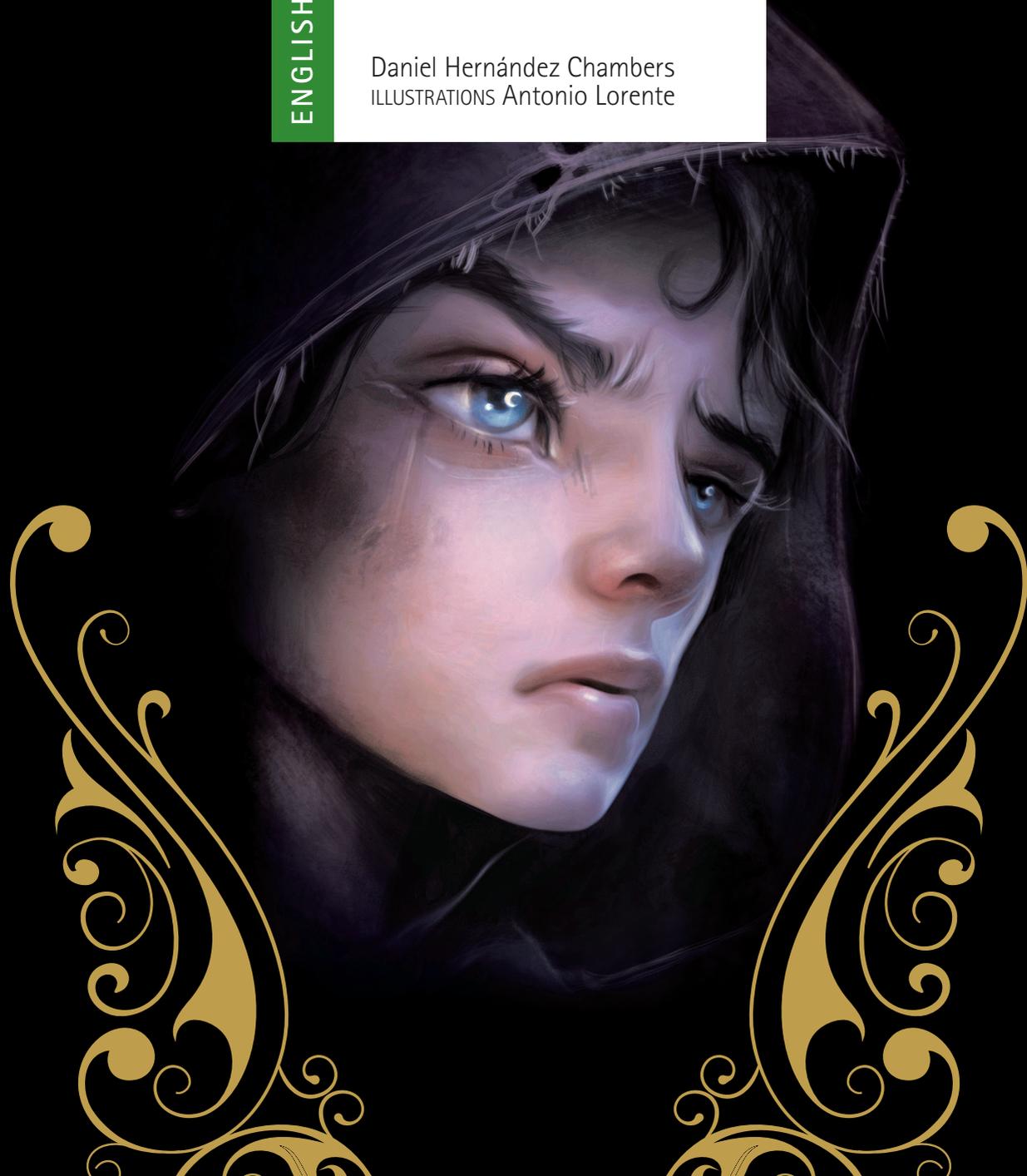
ENGLISH READERS EDELVIVES



EYES OF MIDNIGHT

The Ones with No Shadows

Daniel Hernández Chambers
ILLUSTRATIONS Antonio Lorente



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before reading

- 1 This story is set in the Middle Ages. How much do you know about the Middle Ages around the world? **Decide** if these events happened before (**B**), during (**D**) or after (**A**) the Middle Ages.

Collapse of the Roman Empire

Renaissance Period

Great Famine

Christopher Columbus sails to the Americas

Bubonic Plague

Christianity dominated most people's lives in Europe

Age of Exploration/Discovery

- 2 **Match** the authors to these stories written about the Middle Ages.

Geoffrey of Monmouth

The Book of Margery Kempe

Anonymous

The History of the Kings of Britain

Marie de France

Beowulf

Geoffrey Chaucer

Lais

Marco Polo

The Decameron

Margery Kempe

The Travels of Marco Polo

Giovanni Boccaccio

The Canterbury Tales

Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy

3

Look at this picture from the book. **Make a list** of all the things you can see. What do you think the story is going to be about?



The story is going to be about _____

4

Look at the first pages of the book. **Decide** if these sentences about the story are true (**T**) or false (**F**).

Crey's parents died because of the plague.

Both Crey and his uncle see that the pedlar has no shadow.

The plague has just started.

Crey's uncle takes him to the Nalcar Valley to rescue him from the plague.

The Nalcar Valley is free from the plague and also closed to outsiders.

Crey's uncle was never a soldier.

before reading

- 5 Chess is one of the most popular games in the world and was popular in the Middle Ages. Its moves were changed in Europe at the end of this period. **Match** the names of the pieces with their pictures and how they move on the chess board.

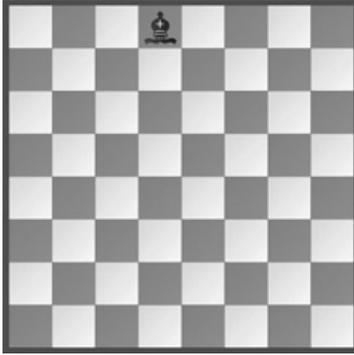
pawn

rook (castle)

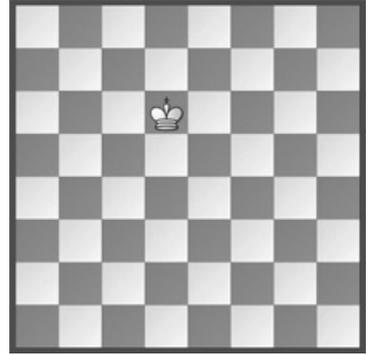
knight (horse)

bishop

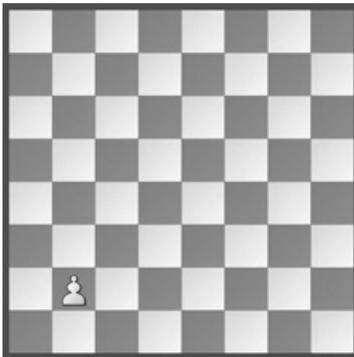
king



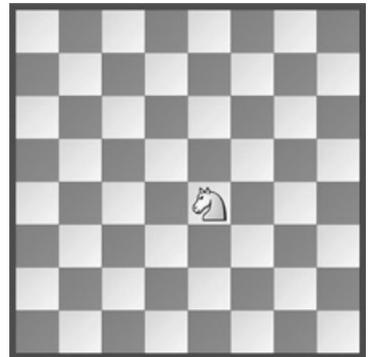
■ _____



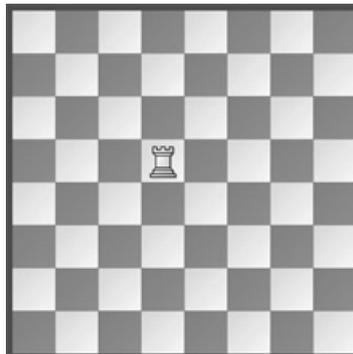
■ _____



■ _____



■ _____



■ _____

6 Unjumble the different jobs people had in the Middle Ages.

1. Someone who cultivates land or crops or raises animals is a RAMFER _____.
2. A person who sells meat in a shop is a HETBRUC _____.
3. A person who makes cloth by crossing threads over and under is a VARWEE _____.
4. A person who is trained to work with bricks and stones is a NAOSM _____.
5. A person who blows hot glass into a bubble with a pipe is a SASLBEGWRO _____.

7 Find ten medieval weapons in the word search.

AXE CROSSBOW DAGGER SWORD LANCE
ARROW KNIFE BOW GUN SPEAR

X	A	R	Y	I	M	E	R	P	U	A	D
T	S	P	E	A	R	G	A	X	E	O	G
K	T	K	S	I	N	I	R	U	T	G	U
S	A	Y	W	Y	O	W	R	O	A	A	N
W	C	R	O	S	S	B	O	W	G	J	X
B	D	U	R	S	A	E	W	A	G	D	D
E	T	G	D	T	L	A	I	R	E	P	A
A	I	J	D	M	L	R	N	P	R	I	G
W	R	K	U	O	A	A	P	O	U	M	G
B	I	A	I	K	N	I	F	E	R	A	E
O	B	X	J	O	C	D	A	G	U	S	R
W	A	W	I	F	E	S	L	H	M	T	Q

during reading

- 1 **Decide** if these sentences about these chapters are true (**T**) or false (**F**).

Crey's father did not take part in the war because he had lost a foot in an accident.

Malken and Tesna immediately believe that Crey saw a man with no shadow.

Malken and Tesna accompany Crey to Lakes to find the man with no shadow.

Tulka had deformities from birth and could only crawl.

The sheriff doesn't allow Tesna's father to fight because he is not a soldier like the captain.

- 2 Read the next questions about the actions that take place in the first chapters of the book. **Tick** the correct answer.

Who first sees that the pedlar has no shadow?

Crey Tulka Uncle Clobert

Who does Captain Nashun accuse of robbing his money?

Tesna Malken Tulka

Who fights in a duel to defend Tulka?

Uncle Clobert Crey Malken

Who tells the children that the pedlar Clistobian had crossed the river with him?

Malken Tesna a ferryman

Who fights in the war between the Guards of the Nalcar Valley and the Grey Eagles of the Royal Brothers?

Captain Nashun Uncle Clobert Tesna's father

Who owns the biggest tavern in High River?

Uncle Clobert Tesna's parents Malken's parents

3

Unjumble the sentences to reveal different opinions about Tulka's innocence.

me or the monster. / I think / a duel to discover / that's a magnificent idea, / who is telling the truth – / _____

Tulka / child. / is / an innocent _____

it / no value. / finds, / even if / Tulka / picks up everything / she / has

calling her / 'Stop / a monster,' / shouted / a woman / out.

nobody / robbed me, / That girl / and / here / to care. / seems

4

Fill in the missing words describing the duel between Capitan Nashun and Uncle Clobert.

counterattacks fought defend attacked breath
flashing duel surprise justice comfort

'Let the _____ commence and let _____ and the Law of the Valley win.'

There was silence. We all held our _____. The two men looked at each other from their positions.

I felt Tesna take my hand to _____ me. I only looked at her for a moment, but it was long enough for the sound of the swords to _____ me. The captain had _____ first, but my uncle had stood his ground and lifted his sword just in time.

The silence was broken, and the attacks and _____ came fast.

The two men _____ in a very similar way and knew how to attack and _____ themselves, their swords _____ as they crossed.

during reading

- 5 Read the description of the magical beasts in the zoo of the palace gardens of Noth of Orcans and **draw** what you think they look like.

There were winged serpents, whose blood and poison can be used in dozens of different spells; flower men whose petals contain a juice you can mix with mint and honey to give you dreams which will predict the future; giant silver-blue butterflies – if you throw their wings into a special fire, you can call up tornados and snowstorms; talking spiders who can tell you if an unborn baby will be a boy or a girl and how old they will be when they die; dwarf dragons from the White Desert whose scales are used to make the strongest shields and coats of armour ever known ...



6 **Choose** the correct answer to these questions about the story.

Why do Sheriff Larn Stuldiar and Captain Nashun go to Red Slates?

- Because they want to inform the Lord of the Valley that witchcraft may be happening in High River.
- Because they want to find Tulka's shadow.
- Because they are going to find the soldiers who had seen a man with no shadow.

Why does Noth of Orcans order witches and wizards to leave the Valley?

- Because the witches and wizards were causing problems to many people in the Valley.
- Because his son Nander was mysteriously killed.
- Because Tulka announced that she had sold her shadow.

Why do Uncle Clobert and Crey have to move to Red Slates?

- Because they are in danger of losing their shadows.
- Because they will be safe from the plague.
- Because the Lord of the Valley has ordered Uncle Clobert to be his personal guard.

7 **Match** the sentences about what happened next.

Crey asks Uncle Clobert why witches and wizards were expelled from the Valley.

Clistobian sells his shadow to the wizard.

Tulka describes the wizard who bought her shadow.

Clistobian receives a message from the wizard.

The Lord of the Valley orders the people to watch for strange events in High River and orders Uncle Clobert to be his personal guard.

Uncle Clobert tells the story of how Noth of Orcans loved wizards but, when his son was killed, he expelled all of them from the Valley.

during reading

- 8 Below are some important quotes from the story. **Link** the character to what they said.

Uncle Clobert Crey Alteon
robbers group of travellers

‘If there is a cure for witchcraft, it is more witchcraft. One spell to cure another. That is what I understand.’ _____

‘I didn’t want to tell you, but there’s no reason to hide it from you now. If we don’t discover what to do, Lady Selima will die soon too.’

‘You have two more days travel before you get to Arhamen, if your horse has the energy. A night in company will do you good, but I won’t insist.’ _____

‘I will save you, Selima.’ _____

‘Don’t get up till we’ve gone. If you watch where we go, we’ll come back and kill you. Do you understand?’ _____

- 9 In your own words, **explain** what happens to Selima in the palace in Chapter 16, *The revenge and the promise*.

- 10 Do you **remember** why Crey goes to Arhamen with his horse Zafar?

11 **Fill in** the spaces with the correct verb in the correct form.

This feeling (change) _____ when I saw a caravan of five old carts moving slowly northwards.

I had finished all the provisions I (take) _____ from the palace and I was only eating the occasional fruit I found growing on a tree.

The only thing I (know) _____ about Arhamen was that it was a town by the sea.

The days (pass) _____ quickly and there was less and less time for the Heir to the Valley.

The plague came to our town and we (have) _____ to leave.

The man and the women looked at me, waiting for me to say something more, but I (prefer) _____ to keep silent, and we carried on eating in silence.

'He's just a kid,' a strange, rough voice was saying. It (seem) _____ distorted, getting louder and softer on every word.

In reply, the thing hit me, and my head (crash) _____ onto the ground once again.

12 **Identify** the words from the story with opposite meanings.

tension	anguish	powerful	cyclical	success
failure	joy	weak	linear	relaxation

during reading

13 **Identify** the characters in the story.

Who is following Crey in the form of a shadow? _____

Who slows the virus from Crey's body? _____

Who told Crey that Bodessa and Nalvia could help him to save Selima?

Who died fighting in the battle of the North? _____

Who kills the wizard Nalvia who is disguised as Malken? _____

14 In Chapter 22, Bodessa explains to Crey why Nalvia wants revenge. **Give** reasons why.

15 **Decide** which adjectives describe each character and draw a line.

Crey	•	vengeful, used to be peaceful and quiet
Nalvia	•	determined and brave
Won Talkyan	•	well-respected
Bodessa	•	ambitious and arrogant
Alteon	•	the oldest and wisest man in the kingdom
Willen of Orcans	•	helpful and caring

16

Order the events that happen when Crey arrives in Arhamen and meets Bodessa.

- Bodessa gives Crey a magic sword that will assist him in fighting Nalvia.
- The old woman tells Crey he has eyes the colour of midnight and he should not be afraid.
- Crey encounters an old woman and begins a conversation.
- Bodessa slows the virus in Crey's body so he has longer to live and is less contagious.
- The old woman tells Crey that Nalvia will not kill him and that he will have to kill him.
- Crey encounters Nalvia and Nalvia transforms into Malken.
- Crey explains to the old woman that he is looking for Nalvia.
- Crey kills Malken, Nalvia's dead body appears, and Selima's shadow is saved.
- The old woman tells Crey that wizards were expelled and that Won Talkyan was resentful
- The old woman explains that Won Talkyan and Nalvia were step-brothers and that the death of Noth of Orcan's son was blamed on the wizards.
- The old woman tells Crey that Won Talkyan died in a battle with the Northern Kingdom.

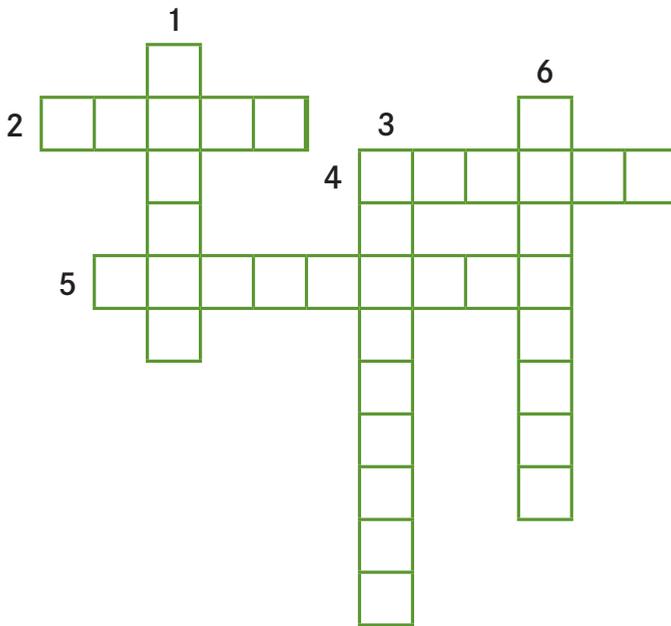
17

How does Crey find out that it is Nalvia and not Malken that he is fighting in the last chapter of the story? **Write** your response.

3 **Circle** the words and phrases linked to the Middle Ages.

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|-------------------|------------|
| mustard | telescope | sword fighting | entry fee |
| knights | Picasso | horses | serfs |
| plague | peace | Leonardo Da Vinci | church |
| revenge | castle | gramophone | witchcraft |

4 Art played an important role in the Middle Ages. **Find** the terms related to Art during this period in the crossword.



Across

- 2. Large and done on a wall, sometimes on the outside of a building
- 4. A picture or pattern made by placing together small pieces of glass or stone of different colours
- 5. A figure made by carving or shaping wood, stone, clay, metal, etc.

Down

- 1. The method of painting on a wall while the plaster is still wet
- 3. The activity of making objects out of metal
- 6. A picture or pattern that is made by weaving coloured wool onto heavy cloth

after reading

- 5 Who is your favorite character from the story? **Describe** him or her. Why do you like them best?

- 6 **Connect** the two parts of these words and find their definitions.

counter	time	the use of magic powers, especially evil ones
fisher	attack	the time when it is dark
night	blower	a person who catches fish, either as a job or as a sport
glass	man	to make an attack in response to the attack of an enemy or opponent in war, sport or an argument
black	side	a person whose job is blowing hot glass into shapes using a special tube
witch	smith	a person whose job is to make and repair things made of iron
mountain	craft	the side or slope of a mountain