

LEVEL B1

ENGLISH READERS EDELVIVES



EYES OF MIDNIGHT

# The Bloodline of the Orcans

Daniel Hernández Chambers  
ILLUSTRATIONS Antonio Lorente



ENGLISH READERS EDELVIVES

EYES OF MIDNIGHT

# The Bloodline of the Orcans

Daniel Hernández Chambers

Illustrations  
Antonio Lorente

# before reading

- 1 In the story, the soldiers from the North, the Royal Brothers' Grey Eagles, use symbols on their horses to identify who they are. **Explain** what these symbols mean?



---

---



---

---



---

---



---

---



---

---

2 If you could be an additional character in the story, what would you be like? **Describe** the features of your character.

Type of character: \_\_\_\_\_

Character's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical appearance: \_\_\_\_\_

Special powers or skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the other characters in the story: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Personality: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief history of the character: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Crey gives Elbha a horse in return for her help. **Match** these famous horses with their stories.

Khan

*Spirit: Stallion  
of the Cimarron*

Maximus

*Sleeping Beauty*

Artax

*Mulan*

Spirit

*The NeverEnding Story*

Samson

*Tangled*

# before reading

4 The story takes place in the Middle Ages. **Test** how much you know about this period.

- What was a common drink in the Middle Ages? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What were some typical jobs in the Middle Ages? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What were some everyday foods in the Middle Ages? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- At what age did noble girls and boys get married? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What is an apprentice? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5 **Unjumble** the words in the definitions to discover names of medieval fantasy characters.

- A small, imaginary being of human form that has magical powers, especially a female one. IRFAY \_\_\_\_\_
- A creature supposed to guard the earth's treasures underground. NOEGM \_\_\_\_\_
- A person who predicts your future by looking at cards, a crystal ball, tea leaves, etc. OTNURFE-LERTEL \_\_\_\_\_
- Short, human-like creatures who are often skilled in mining and metalworking. WRADF \_\_\_\_\_
- In legends and fairy tales, a man who has magical powers. ZIWRDA \_\_\_\_\_
- A person who says he can see the future. EERS \_\_\_\_\_

6

**Correct** the titles of these Aesop’s fables, or animal tales, retold in the Middle Ages.

- The Ant and the Horse \_\_\_\_\_
- The Town Mouse and the City Mouse \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The Tiger and the Mouse \_\_\_\_\_
- The Fox and the Strawberries \_\_\_\_\_
- The Fox and the Heron \_\_\_\_\_
- The Ass and his Students \_\_\_\_\_
- The Tortoise and the Rabbit \_\_\_\_\_
- The Angry Lion \_\_\_\_\_

7

**Categorise** these words from the Middle Ages according to their topic.

dance      lord      windmill      vassal  
 peasant      knight      tournament      music  
 mechanical clock      eye glasses      printing press      gunpowder  
 stirrup      king      stories      servant

feudalism	entertainment	inventions

# during reading

1 **Decide** if these sentences in the story are true (T) or false (F).

The spider in Crey's nightmare is actually Tulka.

Crey's ulcers are getting worse.

Crey wants to find the Golden Spring because those were Broelam's last words to him and he thinks he will find Maitrep's tomb.

The gates of the Nalcar Valley will be opened for Lady Selima's wedding.

The rainmaker tells Crey his destiny is known.

2 **Fill in** the missing words describing the legend of the Three Sisters.

neither unquestionable thin survived  
spoke sacrifice source nobody

One of the fishermen said it came from a legend about a farmer's three daughters – one was very tall and very \_\_\_\_\_, another was short and fat and the third was a mix of the two, \_\_\_\_\_ too tall nor too fat.

It sounded to me like a children's story, but he \_\_\_\_\_ as if he was telling an \_\_\_\_\_ fact.

The well where the farm took its water was dry and the whole family went to look for a new \_\_\_\_\_ of water for their plants and animals. The days went by and \_\_\_\_\_ found water, so the three sisters decided to \_\_\_\_\_ themselves to save their parents. They each jumped off a different cliff and should have died on the rocks below, but instead, three torrents appeared at the foot of each of the cliffs and filled all the wells with water. And the sisters \_\_\_\_\_.

3 **Identify** who is being described.

Hjordyn      Tornebalt      A man in the tavern

The short, fat sister      Elbha

\_\_\_\_\_ had one white eye and one green eye.

\_\_\_\_\_’s hands were covered in chilblains and she had a curious hook-shaped scar on her left cheek.

\_\_\_\_\_ is twenty years old and engaged to the Heir to the Valley.

\_\_\_\_\_ was blond, with very short hair on the sides of his head and a long ponytail down his back. He had a strong jaw and high cheekbones, which made him look cruel and frightening.

\_\_\_\_\_ has the Golden Spring named after her.

4 **Add** the adjectives in the right places.

strange      optimistic      fast-flowing  
hairless      horrid      multicoloured

It is a \_\_\_\_\_ cloth which is only half finished.

I knew how \_\_\_\_\_ the tea tasted.

His head was like a lined, \_\_\_\_\_ ball, and his eyes were extremely curious.

The little girl also told me how Tornebalt had got his \_\_\_\_\_ nickname.

It was a \_\_\_\_\_, wide river, but I could easily see across to the opposite bank.

The \_\_\_\_\_ fisherman’s calculation was right.

# during reading

5 Read the next questions about the actions that take place in these pages of the book. **Tick** the correct answer.

Who sticks to Crey's back and hits him against the rocks?

the Storm Lord     the Dreamcatcher     the Rainmaker

Who does Crey see when he first enters the Valley gates?

Captain Nashun     Uncle Clobert     Selima

Who is very happy to see Crey return to High River?

Tulka     Tesna     Selima

Who praises Crey for being a hero?

Selima     Uncle Clobert     Willen of Orcans

Who attacks Hjordyn?

Malken     Crey     the Storm Lord

6 In Chapter 10, Crey, Malken and Tesna meet again. **Write** how each character might feel when this happens.



Crey is \_\_\_\_\_

Tesna is \_\_\_\_\_

Malken is \_\_\_\_\_.

**7 Unjumble** the sentences about Crey's return to the Nalcar Valley.

they stopped me, / If / for my uncle. / I would tell them / who / I was / and ask them / to call

---

---

to attack / The most / was / important thing now / the future / to stop the plot / of the Orcans.

---

---

at once. / She wanted / and her questions / I had been, / to know why / and where / all came out / I had left

---

---

I would / see you again. / I thought / never

---

**8 Match** the sentences about what happened with the Storm Lord.

A black substance is sticking to Crey's boots and clothes and he falls.

Crey realises he has conquered the Storm Lord and rides away on his horse.

Crey is attacked by the black mass and falls into the pool, almost drowning.

Crey tries to hit the sticky mass with his sword but he cannot.

The black mass lets Crey go.

Crey throws the crystal dagger against the rocks and it breaks.

# during reading

9 **Choose** the correct answer to each question about the story.

Why is Crey in a prison cell?

- Because he says that the Misty Peak family wants to destroy the bloodline of the Orcans.
- Because he is in love with Selima.
- Because he has tried to kill Hjordyn.

What is the best evidence Crey has to prove his innocence for hurting Hjordyn?

- That Willen of Orcans is on Crey's side.
- That the guard has disappeared.
- That the guard is Hjordyn's personal guard.

Why does Willen of Orcans visit Crey in his cell?

- To tell him that he is innocent.
- To tell him that he can now marry Selima.
- To tell him that he will stand trial for the death of Hjordyn.

Why does the King decide to sentence Crey to death?

- Because there is no real evidence that Hjordyn is guilty.
- Because Alteon says that Crey is brave and honest.
- Because the Lord of Misty Peak says that he is loyal to the King.

10 In your own words, **give your opinion** why Crey attacks Hjordyn.

---

---

---

---

---

11 **Link** the speaker to what they said.

Lord of Misty Peak    Crey    Willen of Orcans  
Uncle Clobert    Captain Nashun

‘If Hjordyn isn’t part of a plot to destroy the Orcans, then I am a criminal. I attacked an innocent man.’ \_\_\_\_\_

‘I told Willen that his disappearance shows that your story is true, and the guard has run away because he knew he had been discovered.’ \_\_\_\_\_

‘If anybody can find the fugitive, it is your uncle,’ he said. ‘I trust that he will do it and be back at the palace tomorrow.’ \_\_\_\_\_

‘I’m taking you to a different cell and I’m staying at the door this time.’ \_\_\_\_\_

‘I fought in the war against the Royal Brothers of the North – me and all my army. Why would I unite with them now, against my King and the Nalcar Valley?’ \_\_\_\_\_

12 **Find** words related to Crey’s accusation and time in the prison cell which match these definitions.

escort    deny    dignitary    ashamed

- feeling guilty or embarrassed about something you have done or about a quality in your character \_\_\_\_\_
- a companion or guard for someone or something \_\_\_\_\_
- to refuse to admit that you say something is not true or you did not do or say something \_\_\_\_\_
- someone who has an important official position \_\_\_\_\_

# during reading

13 Do you **remember** how Crey is saved from being executed?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

14 **Match** these medieval expressions to their meanings.

To play devil's  
advocate

Beg for mercy

Godspeed

Fare thee well

A plague upon thee!

What ho!

The apple of one's  
eye

Anon

Hello, there!

An expression of good  
wishes and success to  
someone starting on a  
journey

To argue against or  
attack an idea, even if  
one is in favour of it

To desperately ask for  
compassionate  
treatment and pity

A cherished or  
favoured person

Soon, later

I wish you bad luck.

Have a nice day

15

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

- Some people in the crowd (boo) \_\_\_\_\_ when Crey was going to be executed.
- Willen of Orcans tells the guards that they will be (arrest) \_\_\_\_\_ if they don't let him enter his palace.
- The soldiers acted as if they had (swear) \_\_\_\_\_ to defend the King.
- Hroak (smash) \_\_\_\_\_ a soldier against the wall.
- The King of Nosc (mastermind) \_\_\_\_\_ the plot and used Hjordyn without the Lord and Lady of Misty Peak knowing.

16

**Find** ten examples in the word search related to justice in the story.

SCAFFOLD      TREASON      LAW-ABIDING  
 PITY          SWEAR          BETRAY  
 MERCY          EVIL          PLOT          ALLY

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

# after reading

## 1 Identify the characters in the story.

Who plots against Willen of Orcans together with Hjordyn?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who cuts the rope and saves Crey's life just before he is going to be executed? \_\_\_\_\_

Who helps the Valley Guard defeat the Grey Eagles in the Battle of Red Slates? \_\_\_\_\_

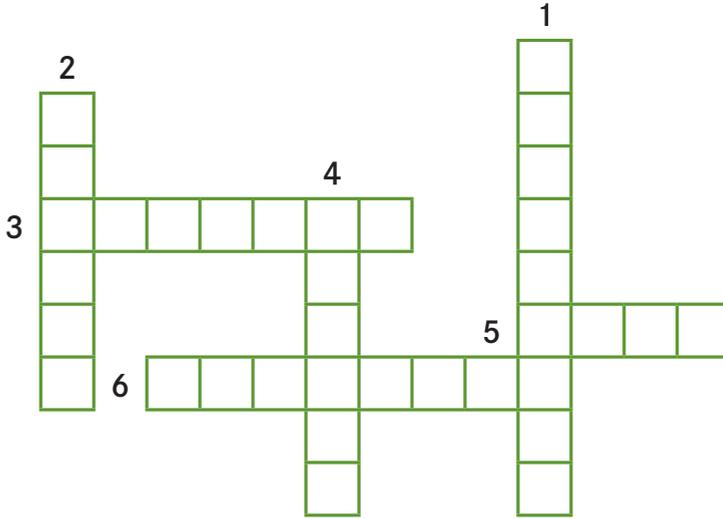
Who blows the whistle to call Hroak for help? \_\_\_\_\_

Who supports the Kingdom of Nosc even though their son plots against it? \_\_\_\_\_

## 2 Hroak gives Crey a whistle to use if he ever needs his help, and it saves his life in the end. Choose the right word for each sentence about these important objects in the Middle Ages.

- These were used to provide light in the darkness. *candlesticks / light bulbs*
- Kings and queens drank from this cup. *crown / chalice*
- This is what knights wore in battle. *armour / guns*
- This was used to execute people. *rope / bow*
- A type of metallurgical furnace used for smelting to produce industrial metals. *boiler / blast furnace*
- A glass container that contains sand and is used for measuring time. *hourglass / clock*
- A movable container with a wheel at the front and two handles at the back, used especially for moving building materials and in gardening. *cart / wheelbarrow*

- 3 **Solve** the crossword puzzle with words related to Medieval architecture.



**Across**

- 3. A decorative element that divides a column from the building it supports
- 5. An extension or projection from a building, generally circular
- 6. Part of a monastery that connects the domestic part to the church

**Down**

- 1. An arch which encloses an opening in a wall which may appear to be a window, but which is actually only a shallow indentation in the wall
- 2. A series of arches supported by columns or piers
- 4. An open courtyard at the west end of a building

- 4 How do you feel Crey has changed by the end of the story? **Give an example** or reasons why you think so.

---



---



---



---

# after reading

5 Which of these important events did NOT occur during the Middle Ages? **Choose** the correct answers.

- The Black Death kills 200 million people.
- This is the Golden Age of Islam.
- The kings of England and France begin a war that lasts 100 years on and off.
- Dante Alighieri writes *The Divine Comedy*.
- The Magna Carta is chartered, beginning the limit of power of monarchs.
- The Italian Renaissance begins.
- The printing press is invented.
- Ferdinand and Isabella get married.
- Columbus sails to America.
- The French Revolution occurs.
- Ghiberti wins the competition for the doors of the Florence Baptistery.
- The Americans defeated the British in the Revolutionary War.
- Two or three men try to be pope at the same time during the Western Schism.
- The Ming Dynasty overrules the Mongols in China.

6 **Invent** a different ending for the story. What happens in your version?

---

---

---

---

---