

# The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane

by Kate DiCamillo

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Edward is repeatedly lost by those who love him. Have you ever lost something that you treasured? How did you deal with it?
2. The day the maid misplaces Edward, Abilene runs from room to room, calling for him. Why does Abilene love him so much. What emotion does Edward feel in return and why?
3. This book is Edward's story, but all of the people who take him in have their own stories, too. Which was your favorite story and why?
4. What might happen to the characters after Edward leaves? How does Edward change their lives?
5. The old doll helps Edward change his attitude and open his heart again. She tells him, "If you have no intention of loving or being loved, then the whole journey is pointless" (page 189). What does she mean? Have you ever encountered someone who changed the way you thought or looked at the world?
6. What are some of the events and experiences that have shaped your life and changed you, for better or for worse?
7. How and why do all adults (except Abilene's sharp-eyed grandmother, Pellegrina) condescend, or talk down, to Edward? Have you ever experienced an adult or a person older than you who condescended to you? How can you tell? Why do you think that person acted that way? How did you handle it?
8. What are some of the life lessons Edward learns on his journey, through good times and bad? What life lessons have you acquired in your life that you would like to pass on to someone else?
9. When the old woman hangs Edward on a pole to scare away the crows in her garden, Edward thinks, "I am done with caring." He feels mocked by the stars, which seem to say, "You are down there alone." On page 113, he tells the stars, "I have been loved," and they reply, "What difference does that make when you are all alone now?" Does it make a difference? Why does it matter to Edward that he has been loved?

**MEETING: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST @ 6:45 PM**