

* Novel Study - Yellow Group - EBook can be bought online for £3.98 *

Titanic

Death on the Water

Prior Knowledge

1. Look at the Title and Subtitle - what do these tell us?

2. Look at the picture - what is happening?

3. Read the Blurb
 - a. What is the name of the character we read about and what does the blurb tell us about him?

 - b. What adjectives are used to describe the Titanic?

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Chapter 1

Main Ideas

"It was a terrible thing to admit even to himself, but Billy was glad his Da was dead." (page 7)

Da had been a fitter at the Harland and Wolff shipyard, a skilled man, and he said it was the best job in Belfast.....

...They had argued, and Ma had tried to make peace between them, but there could only have been one end to their quarrel." (p9)

"Maybe he could get a job on the Titanic." (p15)

1. What words do the authors use to describe how Billy feels about his dad's death?
2. Read page 9 again and then explain why Billy started working at the shipyard.
3. Describe how Billy feels about working at the shipyard.
4. Write four bullet points explain the main ideas in this chapter.

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Chapter 1

Visualisation

MUM

"She was standing beside him in the circle of mourners and stared straight ahead, her eyes dry, although her face was pale and drawn from all the crying she had done last week." (p7)

UNDERTAKER'S CARRIAGE

"Ma, Billy and the girls went home in the undertaker's carriage that had brought them. Mabel stopped crying, so fascinated was she by the horses, a pair of coal-black stallions with black feather head-dresses." (p9)

SHIPYARD

"Da had been hammering rivets fifty feet up the side of a hull when the plank he was standing on had given way." (p11)

".....it had always reminded him of other pictures he'd seen at Sunday school - those of Hell. The shipyard was a place of sound and fury and constant movement, of sudden showers of sparks and clanging steel and men having to do ridiculously dangerous things as a normal part of their jobs." (p12)