

TWO STORIES ABOUT FLYING

STUDY-NOTE

PART – 1 HIS FIRST FLIGHT

Liam O' Flaherty

- The story by “Liam O' Flaherty” is an account of a young bird that is afraid to fly for the first time. The story of His First Flight is based on a young seagull who is afraid to fly because of distrust on its wings.
- All his younger siblings can fly fearlessly despite their shorter wings. On the other hand, the young bird cannot gather the courage to trust his wings. He always becomes afraid when coming forward to the brink of the ledge and attempting to fly.
- His mother and father come around calling him and threatening him starve on the ledge unless he flies. Despite all the upbraiding and calling to him shrilly, he could not move. All day long he watches his parents fly with his siblings and teaching them how to skim the waves.
- One day the whole family flies to a big plateau and on the opposite cliff, the seagull is sitting hungry. Only his mother, who is withering a fish in an attempt to eat it, notices his son. The young seagull cries out of starvation hoping his mother would help. On seeing his mother come to him with the fish, he gets excited.
- But on noticing that his mother stopped mid-way, he gets maddened out of hunger and takes a dive at the fish, forgetting for a moment that he is afraid to fly.
- Finally, he took his first flight. All the family members celebrate his victory by cheering and dancing around him. He also attempts at floating in the sea that he was once afraid of. Thus, he overcomes his fear and realises that it is all in the mind.

PART – 2 THE BLACK AEROPLANE

Frederick Forsyth

- The lesson “Black Aeroplane” by Frederick Forsyth reflects on how one’s judgement gets distorted due to fantasizing and how it creates problems.
- The narrator of the old Dakota was caught in storm clouds. He lost his contact with the control room. In this troubling situation, his fuel was also running out.

- The very less amount of fuel is left and the pilot starts panicking in the situation. Suddenly he sees another plane flying next to him through the storm.
- The pilot turns his plane to the north in order to follow the strange Aeroplane. The pilot starts frightening again as the fuel is getting low.
- The anonymous pilot guides them out of the storm and disappears. After landing, the pilot asks about the other plane but is left in shock to know that there was no other plane in the sky, except his.

