



LITERATURE

STD-VI

SUBJECT : ENGLISH
CHAPTER NUMBER: 5
PERIOD NUMBER : 1
CHAPTER NAME :THE GIANT
BY CHARLES MACKAY

CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW

Website: www.odmegroup.org
Email: info@odmps.org

Toll Free: **1800 120 2316**
Sishu Vihar, Infocity Road, Patia, Bhubaneswar- 751024

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

OBJECTIVES

- Recitation of the poem
 - Being acquainted with poem and poet's biography
 - Understanding the idea
 - Appreciate the language of the poem
 - Developing LSRW Skills
-
- Reading a poem on staying strong in the face of difficulties
 - Appreciating the use of allegory and simile in the poem

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

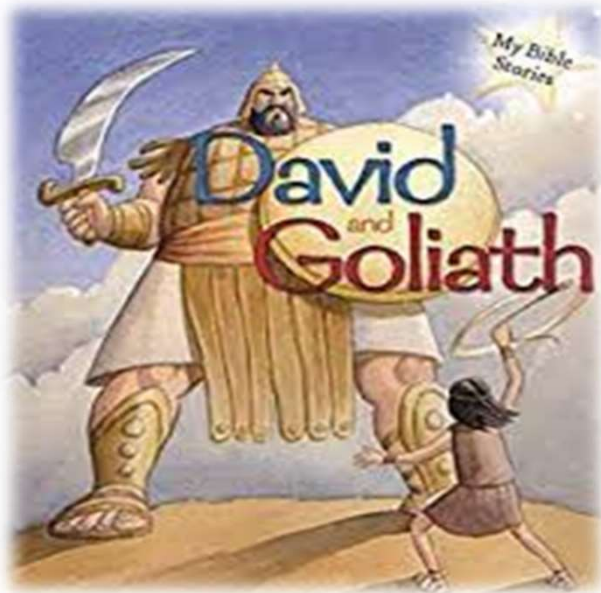


Charles Mackay
1814-1889

Charles Mackay (1814-1889) was a British poet and journalist, son of a naval officer, born at Perth, and educated at the Royal Caledonian Asylum, London, and at Brussels, but spent much of his early life in France. Coming to London in 1834, he engaged in journalism, published *Songs and Poems* (1834), wrote a *History of London*, *Extraordinary Popular Delusions and the Madness of Crowds*, and a romance, *Longbeard*. His fame, however, chiefly rests upon his songs, some of which, including *Cheer, Boys, Cheer*, were in 1846 set to music by Henry Russell, and had an astonishing popularity.

INTRODUCTION

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zLAcUZkxHA>



<https://youtu.be/gzyPTrn-QpM>

David knew size doesn't matter, it's HEART, COURAGE, and COMMITMENT that matters. You can apply the same principle and same level of thinking to your life and the challenges you're facing. Think bigger than the challenge, be bigger than the obstacle, and act as if it's impossible for you not to fail. Size doesn't matter

Be bigger than your fears.

EXPLANATION OF POEM

*Here came a Giant to my door,
A Giant fierce and strong;
His step was heavy on the floor,
His arms were ten yards long.
He scowled and frowned; he shook the ground;
I trembled through and through;
At length I looked him in the face
And cried, "Who cares for you?"*

Fear has been personified as a giant. The giant appeared fierce and strong to the speaker. His step was heavy and made a loud noise on the floor. He had long hands which the speaker describes as a ten yard long hand. He had a threatening look and the speaker trembled looking at him. The speaker faced the giant with confidence and confronted him without fear. She did not let the giant know that she was afraid from within.



EXPLANATION

*The mighty giant, as I spoke
Grew pale and thin and small,
And through his body as't were smoke,
I saw the sun shine fall,
His blood-red eyes turned blue as skies,
He whispered soft and low,
"Is this" I cried, with growing pride,
"Is this the mighty foe?"*



The speaker first trembled looking at the size of the giant. Its appearance was fierce and strong and the speaker thought it would attack her. But soon she gathered courage and looked at the giant in the face and spoke in a loud voice asking the giant as to who was afraid of him. She did not let the giant know that she was afraid from within.

EXPLANATION

*He sank before my earnest face,
He vanished quite away,
And left no shadow in his place,
Between me and the day.
Such giants come to strike us dumb,
But weak in every part,
They melt before the strong man's eyes,
And fly the true of heart*

The giant was unnerved looking at someone who could confront him. He became timid, his blood-red eyes became calm, and his voice became soft and low. Realising that the speaker was truly brave, the giant vanished from the place.

The speaker is referring to the huge figures that show their might and cause fear. One becomes dumb due to fear or worry and is unable to face the giant. Such giants can be defeated if one faces them with confidence and confronts them without fear.



SUMMARY OF THE POEM

A fearsome giant came to the speaker's door one day and scared her at first with his huge size and angry expression. But then, she stood up to him and told him she was not afraid of him. And, as she spoke, he shrank in size, his fiery eyes grew soft and his voice became gentle. The speaker looked at him with growing self-confidence, wondering if this was really the foe she was frightened of, when he disappeared without even leaving a shadow of his presence. The speaker says that such giants strike us with fear but vanish when we confront them honestly with courage.

MESSAGE OF THE POEM

The message in the poem is that our fears will vanish when we face up to them. The giant represents the attitude of those who like to show their superiority over timid and meek people. In the poem the giant came to the door of the speaker looking fierce and strong. It must have come with the idea of exercising some control over the speaker, similar to those who like to dominate timid and meek people. But the moment the speaker took control and faced the giant with a loud voice, the giant just crumbled and vanished into thin air. The poet wants to highlight the importance of courage and bravery to be exercised when faced with danger or dominance.

POETIC DEVICES

1. Sound patterns:

- a) **Irregular Rhyme:** door – flow; strong – long; through – you..
- b) Internal rhyme: scowled – frowned-ground; cried - pride
- c) **Repetition:** through- through; Is this- Is this
- d) **Alliteration:** His step was heavy; At length I looked; And cried, Who cares; saw the sunshine; blood-red eyes turned blue

2. Figures of Speech:

- a) **Personification:** Fears personified as a giant
- b) **Simile:** blue as skies
- c) **Extended Metaphor/ Allegory:** Our fears that vanish when we face them squarely are compared to the giant who disintegrates.

POETIC DEVICES

Simile: blue as skies

Personification: Fears personified as a giant

Extended Metaphor / Allegory: Our fears that vanish when we face them squarely are compared to the giant who disintegrates.

Reference

Simile: a figure of speech involving the comparison of one thing with another thing

Personification: the attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something non-human

Allegory: a story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning

VOCABULARY

Giant: an imaginary creature like a man but extremely tall, strong, and usually very cruel, appearing especially in children's stories

Fierce: strong and powerful

Yards: a unit of measurement equal to three feet or approximately 91.4 centimetres

Scowl: to look at someone or something with a very annoyed expression

Frown: to bring your eyebrows together so that there are lines on your face above your eyes, often while turning the corners of your mouth downwards, showing that you are annoyed, worried, sad, or thinking hard

Tremble: to shake slightly in a way that you cannot control, for example because you are frightened, angry, or excited, or because of illness

Mighty: very large, powerful, or important

Blood-red: a bright red colour like fresh blood

Foe: an enemy

Earnest: sincere and serious

Vanished: to disappear or stop being present or existing, especially in a sudden, surprising way

Write two paragraphs about a fear, real or imagined, that you overcame by facing up to it.
a. Describe your fear in the opening paragraph.
b. Describe the way you handled it in the closing paragraph.



THANK YOU
ODM EDUCATIONAL GROUP

