



A World of IMAGINATION

PETER PAN

"Wendy, do come with me and tell the other boys."

Of course she was very pleased to be asked, but she said, "Oh dear, I can't. Think of mummy! Besides, I can't fly."

5 "I'll teach you."

"Oh, how lovely to fly."

"I'll teach you how to jump on the wind's back, and then away we go."

"Oo!" she exclaimed rapturously.

10 "Wendy, Wendy, when you are sleeping in your silly bed you might be flying about with me saying funny things to the stars."

"Oo!"

"And, Wendy, there are mermaids."

15 "Mermaids! With tails?"

"Such long tails."

"Oh," cried Wendy, "to see a mermaid!"

He had become frightfully cunning. "Wendy," he said, "how we should all respect you."

20 She was wriggling her body in distress. It was quite as if she were trying to remain on the nursery floor. But he had no pity for her.

"Wendy," he said, the sly one, "you could tuck us in at night."

25 "Oo!"

"None of us has ever been tucked in at night."

"Oo," and her arms went out to him.

"And you could darn our clothes, and make pockets for us. None of us has any pockets."

30 How could she resist. "Of course it's awfully fascinating!" she cried. "Peter, would you teach John and Michael to fly too?"

"If you like," he said indifferently, and she ran to John and Michael and shook them. "Wake up," she cried,

35 "Peter Pan has come and he is to teach us to fly."

John rubbed his eyes. "Then I shall get up," he said. Of course he was on the floor already. "Hallo," he said, "I am up!"

Michael was up by this time also, looking as sharp as a
40 knife with six blades and a saw, but Peter suddenly signed silence. Their faces assumed the awful craftiness of children listening for sounds from the grown-up world. All was as still as salt. Then everything was right. No, stop! Everything was wrong. Nana, who had been
45 barking distressfully all the evening, was quiet now. It was her silence they had heard.

"Now just wiggle your shoulders this way," he said, "and let go."

They were all on their beds, and gallant Michael let go first. He did not quite mean to let go, but he did it, and immediately he was borne across the room. 50

"I flew!" he screamed while still in mid-air. John let go and met Wendy near the bathroom. "Oh, lovely!"

"Oh, ripping!"

"Look at me!" "Look at me!" "Look at me!" 55

They were not nearly so elegant as Peter, they could not help kicking a little, but their heads were bobbing against the ceiling, and there is almost nothing so delicious as that.

Up and down they went, and round and round. 60 Heavenly was Wendy's word.

"I say," cried John, "why shouldn't we all go out?"

Of course it was to this that Peter had been luring them. Michael was ready: he wanted to see how long it took

him to do a billion miles. But Wendy hesitated. 65 "Mermaids!" said Peter again.

"Oo!"

"And there are pirates."

"Pirates," cried John, seizing his Sunday hat, "let us go at once." 70

Then Peter knew that there was not a moment to lose. "Come," he cried imperiously, and soared out at once into the night, followed by John and Michael and Wendy.

JM Barrie, *Peter Pan*, 1904.

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Text

1. Introduce the document.
 - People / Place / Time / Type ...
2. What is Peter doing here?
 - What does he want?
3. How does he try to seduce Wendy?
4. What is her reaction?
 - Why could she refuse to go?
5. What would be her role if she went to Neverland?
6. How do the children react when they start flying?
7. Finally, what persuades everybody to leave?

Zoom out

7. What will be the parents' reaction?
 - What will they imagine?

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Cunning / sly: malin / fûté
To darn: repriser / raccommoder
To tuck in: border
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