

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

MASSACHUSETTS LEVEL I HONORS 2009

Dear Kate DiCamillo,

Your book *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* really made me think that everything has a purpose in life. Whether it's a person or an animal, alive or stuffed, it has been on some kind of journey.

I could really relate to this book. When I was three or four years old, I lost my favorite stuffed animal named Tinkerbelle. I have always wondered where she is or if someone is now taking care of her. Maybe she is with a little girl playing a tea party game. What if she is ripped or damaged? Someone might have disposed of her thinking she was junk and not my favorite stuffed animal. I wish she would return to me or I would find her again like how Edward returned to Abilene.

Have you ever found a penny? Have you ever wondered about where the penny has been? That penny may have been a treasure or washed in from the sea. A Chinese child may have kept the penny as a souvenir of his vacation here in the United States. Maybe he never let anyone touch it, breathe on it, or look at it because it was something he couldn't find in his country. It may have paid for a child's toy or gumball.

Sometimes we run into people who appear mad or frustrated. Maybe they've had a treasure lost or have had a rough journey.

I think that people sometimes forget about the treasures in their life. Some people, toys, or animals have amazing journeys and an interesting story behind them. When you first meet someone, you don't know any of this. Getting to know a person means learning about their journeys and treasures.

Thank you for reminding me that everything and everybody has a purpose in life.

Sincerely,

Molly

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