

# 'DRINK ME'

An extract from 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' by Lewis Carroll

Alice opened the door and found that it led into a small passage, not much larger than a rat-hole: she knelt down and looked along the passage into the loveliest garden you ever saw. How she longed to get out of that dark hall, and wander about amongst the beds of bright flowers and those cool fountains, but she could not even get her head through the doorway; 'and even if my head *would* go through,' thought poor Alice, 'it would be of very little use without my shoulders. Oh, how I wish I could shut up like a telescope! I think I could, if I only know how to begin.' For, you see, so many out-of-the-way things had happened lately, that Alice had begun to think that very few things indeed were really impossible.

There seemed to be no use in waiting by the little door, so she went back to the table, half hoping she might find another key on it, or at any rate a book of rules for shutting people up like telescopes: this time she found a little bottle on it, ('which certainly was not here before,' said Alice,) and round the neck of the bottles was a paper label, with the words 'DRINK ME' beautifully printed on it in large letters.

It was all very well to say 'Drink me,' but the wise little Alice was not going to do *that* in a hurry. 'No, I'll look first,' she said, 'and see whether it's marked "poison" or not'; for she had read several nice little histories about children who had got burnt, and eaten up by wild beasts and other unpleasant things, all because they *would* not remember the simple rules their friends had taught them: such as that a red-hot poker will burn you if you hold it too long; and that if you cut your finger *very* deeply with a knife, it usually bleeds; and she had never forgotten that, if you drink much from a bottle marked 'poison,' it is almost certain to disagree with you, sooner or later..

However this bottle was *not* marked 'poison,' so Alice ventured to taste it, and finding it very nice, (it had, in fact, a sort of mixed flavour of cherry-tart, custard, pine-apple, roast turkey, toffee, and hot buttered toast,) she very soon finished it off.

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'What a curious feeling!' said Alice; 'I must be shutting up like a telescope.'

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1. Circle the word, from the first sentence, which is closest in meaning to corridor.

door

passage

rat-hole



Did Alice like to follow rules? Answer using evidence from the text.




3a. What do you think is happening to Alice at the end of the extract  
3b. What do you think she will do next?




Explain what you think the row of asterisks (\*\*\*\*\*) signifies after the fourth chapter.




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5. What type of stories has Alice heard to stop her from drinking the bottle straight away? Use evidence from the text




6. Number the sentences below to show the order in which the happened in the story extract. (one has been done for you)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alice began to feel odd as if she was shutting up like a telescope.</li></ul>               |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alice found a bottle with the words 'Drink Me' written on it.</li></ul>                     |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alice looked along the passageway into a beautiful garden.</li></ul>                        |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• She tasted the liquid and soon finished it all up because it tasted so delicious.</li></ul> |
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• She checked the bottle to see whether it was marked "poison or not."</li></ul>              |

