



The Water Babies: A Fairy Tale for a Land Baby

By Charles Kingsley

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Water BabiesA Fairy Tale for a Land BabyBy Charles KingsleyThe Complete ClassicSummaryThe protagonist is Tom, a young chimney sweep, who falls into a river after encountering an upper-class girl named Ellie and being chased out of her house. There he drowns and is transformed into a water baby, as he is told by a caddisfly--an insect that sheds its skin--and begins his moral education. The story is thematically concerned with Christian redemption, though Kingsley also uses the book to argue that England treats its poor badly, and to question child labour, among other themes.Tom embarks on a series of adventures and lessons, and enjoys the community of other water babies once he proves himself a moral creature. The major spiritual leaders in his new world are the fairies Mrs. Doasyouwouldbedoneby (a reference to the Golden Rule), Mrs. Bedonebyasyoudid, and Mother Carey. Weekly, Tom is allowed the company of Ellie, who did not drown after he did.Grimes, his old master, drowns as well, and in his final adventure, Tom travels to the end of the...



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