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Where Minds Pollinate

Class 9
English

Chapter 9

Printed Notes

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Paraphrase of "Travel" — Detailed Version

Explained in simple, longer sentences for better understanding

Stanza 1

The poet says that he has a strong wish to get up and travel far away from his home. He dreams of visiting magical places where special fruits like golden apples grow on trees. He imagines tropical islands that are full of colorful parrots. These islands look still and quiet, as if they are anchored in the sea under a sky that is different from his own.

Stanza 2

On those islands, the poet pictures lonely people like Robinson Crusoe. These men live all alone and spend their time building boats to escape or explore. While they work, white crested cockatoos and goats watch them silently. This shows how quiet and wild those places are.

Stanza 3

The poet also dreams of traveling to countries in the East. He imagines big cities stretching for miles under the hot, bright sunshine. These cities have beautiful mosques with tall, thin towers called minarets. The cities are built among sandy areas with small gardens, showing the beauty of desert life.

Stanza 4

In the markets of those Eastern cities, called bazaars, many expensive and beautiful things are sold. These goods come from nearby towns and also from very far-off countries. They are hung up in shops so that travelers and local people can see and buy them.

Stanza 5

The poet wants to see China and its famous Great Wall that runs for thousands of miles. On one side of the wall there is a dry, windy desert where sand blows all the time. But on the other side, there are busy, noisy cities full of life. You can hear the sound of temple bells, people talking, and drums beating.

Stanza 6

He also dreams of visiting huge tropical forests. These jungles are extremely hot, as hot as fire. They are as wide as the whole country of England and their trees are as tall as the pointed towers of churches. The forests are full of wild monkeys, coconut trees, and small huts where African hunters live.

Stanza 7

The poet imagines going to Egypt and seeing the River Nile. There, large crocodiles with rough, bumpy skin lie lazily on the banks and blink their eyes in the sun. Beautiful pink flamingos fly over the water, diving down to catch fish right in front of them.

Stanza 8

In deep jungles both near and far, there are dangerous tigers that can eat humans. These tigers hide quietly and listen carefully with their ears. They wait to hear if hunters are coming close to catch them, or if a traveler passing by in a covered seat called a palanquin is nearby.

Stanza 9

The poet dreams of finding an old, empty city buried in the desert sand. Long ago, all the people who lived there — both poor children who cleaned chimneys and rich princes — grew up and left. Now no one walks in the streets or lives in the houses. It is completely silent; you can't even hear a child or a mouse moving. When night comes, the whole city is covered in darkness with not a single light shining anywhere.

Stanza 10

The poet promises that when he becomes a grown man, he will travel to that deserted city with a group of people riding on camels, called a caravan. He will enter one of the dusty, old dining rooms and light a fire there to remove the darkness so he can see inside.

Stanza 11

By the light of the fire, he will look at the paintings on the walls. These pictures will show stories of brave heroes, great battles, and happy festivals from ancient times. In a corner of the room, he will discover old, forgotten toys that Egyptian children played with many hundreds of years ago.

Overall Theme:

The poem is about a child's imagination and his strong desire to grow up and explore the wonderful, mysterious, and

adventurous places of the world.

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