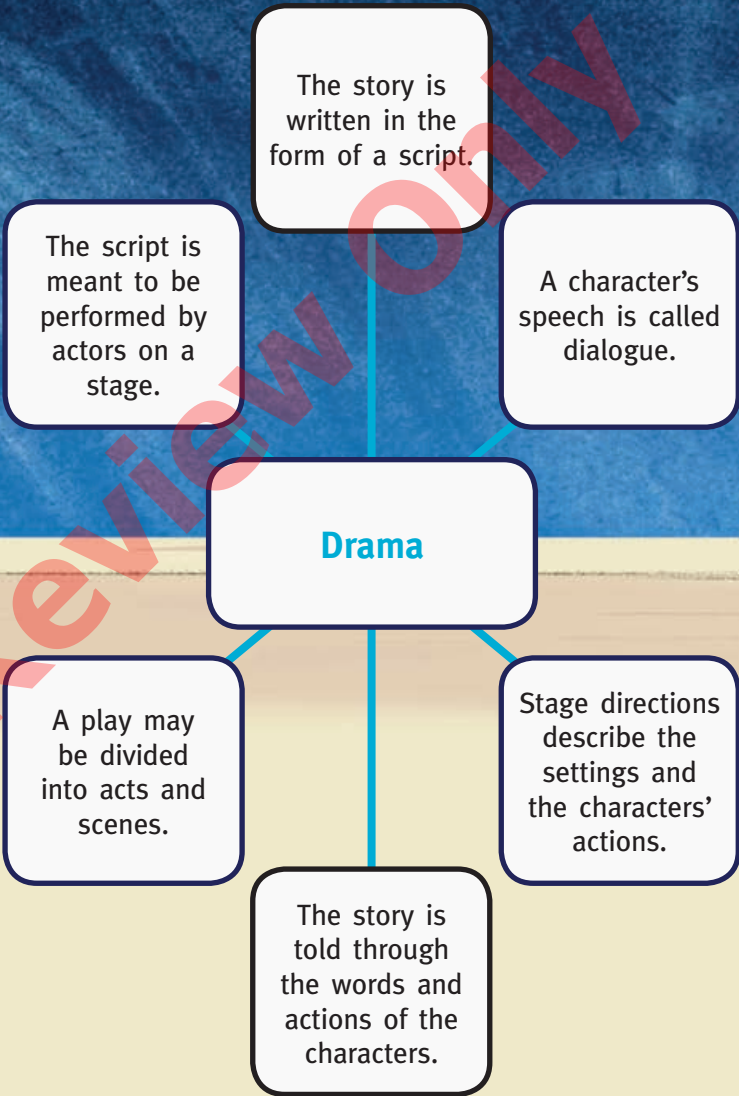


It's Cloud Time Again



Drama

Look for the genre features noted below as you read this book. Use the features to help you understand the text.



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It's Cloud Time Again

CAST OF CHARACTERS

in order of appearance

Percy

an experienced drop of water

Eva

Percy's friend, also an experienced drop of water

Rollo

a shy new drop of water

Sergeant Burst

a cloud

Mike

a trout

Luzita

a ray of sunshine

SETTINGS

the sky, a river, an ocean, a beach

In the Sky

(The lights come up on a backdrop showing a clear blue sky. A cutout of a smiling sun shines. PERCY, a drop of water, comes running onstage, happily flapping his arms as if flying. He skips around the stage.)

Percy: Whee! Whee! Rising up, up, up in the air is so much fun. I love floating and spreading out way up here, even if it gets colder the higher up I go.



(EVA, another drop of water, comes on from the wings, also running and swirling around happily.)

Eva: Here I come! Whee, whee, whee ... *(She bangs into PERCY.)* Oops!

Percy: Ow, Eva! You just bumped into me.

Eva: Sorry. I didn't see you. And I move so much faster when I'm **water vapor**. Look! There's more of us. Let's go say hello. *(She waves hello to other unseen water vapor drops.)* Hi there, Kwame! Good to see you, Salma. It's been a while.

(PERCY looks over the edge of the stage, where he spies ROLLO, a water drop that is trying to hide.)

Percy: Uh ... It looks like we have a straggler. You down there in the puddle. Come up and join us.

Rollo: Don't want to!

Percy: Why not?

Rollo: I like it down here where the air around me feels nice and warm.

(EVA joins PERCY at the edge of the stage.)

Eva: (to PERCY) The air does seem colder up here.
Brrr. (to herself) I should have brought a sweater with me.

Percy: (to ROLLO) You'll be missing out on the fun ...
um ... What's your name?

Rollo: Rollo.



Eva: I'm Eva and he's Percy. And what Percy says is true, Rollo. We have a lot of fun up here.

Rollo: Like what?

Eva: Like floating up, up, up into the **atmosphere!**
(*She demonstrates "flying" as before.*) Whee, whee!

Rollo: That does look like fun.

Percy: It is! Watch me zoom! (*He flies around the stage.*) Whee, whee!

Rollo: I can do that?

Percy: Sure!

Eva: Under the right conditions, the air will carry you up. Whee, whee!

Rollo: (*to himself*) Whee, whee? I'll give it a try.
(*He flaps his arms with increasing confidence, and soon he, too, is flying up on the stage.*)
Whee ... whee ... whee! Say, this is fun.

(PERCY, EVA, and ROLLO fly around the stage. The cutout of the sun is replaced by a cutout labeled Cool Air and a cutout of Wind, puffing its cheeks, blowing fiercely. The lighting changes from bright to dim. SERGEANT BURST, a cloud, comes onstage. He talks through an old-fashioned megaphone.)

Sgt. Burst: Attention! Attention! All water vapors report immediately.

Rollo: Water vapors?

Percy: That's us.



Sgt. Burst: It's **condensation** time. It's time to all come together and become water droplets again.

Eva: Now? We're having so much fun. Can't we stay out a little bit longer? Please? Pretty please?

Sgt. Burst: No, come now. We have work to do. We have to form a cloud.

Percy: I knew it! The moist, warm rising air that is cooling and expanding in the atmosphere means it's cloud time! I hope we get to form a **cumulonimbus cloud**.

Eva: You always like to be in a rain cloud. I like to be in **cirrus clouds**. They're so wispy and graceful, it's like **being** in a dance across the sky. (*dancing as she sings*) La, la-la, la, la.



Rollo: But I don't know how to form a cloud!

Sgt. Burst: Oh, a newbie! Don't worry, son,
we're a team up here. We're in this together.
(into megaphone) Now let's go, go, go!
Gather 'round for cloud time!

(EVA and PERCY link arms, and ROLLO joins them,
hesitantly. They march together offstage.)

Sgt. Burst: One, two, three, four.

(Lights fade to black.)

