



Two Stories About Flying

(I) His First Flight – Liam O’Flaherty

1. How does the young seagull’s hesitation symbolize human fear of taking the first step?
2. In what ways does the mother’s strategy of using food demonstrate natural instincts of teaching?
3. How does the seagull’s fear highlight the tension between survival and dependence?
4. What role does the setting (the cliff, the sea) play in intensifying the young seagull’s fear?
5. How does the story reflect the theme of courage as a learned behavior, not an inherited one?
6. How is the seagull’s first flight a metaphor for human growth and independence?
7. Why is hunger used as a driving force to push the seagull into flying?
8. How does the story reflect parental love as both compassionate and strict?
9. How does the seagull’s transformation from fear to confidence reflect human psychology?
10. Could the seagull’s fear be compared with modern anxieties (like public speaking, exams, etc.)?

(II) Black Aeroplane – Frederick Forsyth

11. How does the narrator’s decision to fly into the storm reflect human overconfidence?
12. What does the mysterious “black aeroplane” symbolize—hope, miracle, or hallucination?
13. How does the story blur the line between reality and imagination?
14. How is irony created when the narrator is saved but the helper is never traced?
15. How does the theme of faith vs. rationality appear in the pilot’s experience?
16. In what way is the “black aeroplane” similar to the concept of unseen guidance in life?
17. Could the story be interpreted as a lesson in trusting intuition during crises?
18. How do natural forces (storm, lack of fuel) act as tests of human determination?
19. How is suspense created and sustained until the end of the narrative?

20. What universal human fear does the story capture through the metaphor of being "lost in the storm"?