

# The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle

By Avi

DTDL Battle of the Books 2009

Who is the author of the book?

Avi

How many pages is the story itself?

221

What year did the story take place?

1832 (p. 1)

Where is Charlotte's home?

Providence, Rhode Island (p. 2)

What ocean did Charlotte cross?

The Atlantic Ocean (p. 2)

How did Charlotte remember the details of her trip?

She kept a journal that her father gave her (p. 3)

How many families were supposed to watch over Charlotte on her voyage?

Two (p. 3)

What is the name of the man who escorts Charlotte to the Seahawk?

Mr. Grummage (p. 7)

What is the name of the ship that Charlotte sails on?

The Seahawk (p. 8)

Who is the captain of the ship?

Mr. Jaggery (p. 9)

What was the porter's reaction upon hearing Captain Jaggery's name?

He wouldn't take one more step toward anything to do with a Mr. Jaggery. He set down the trunk and left without getting paid. (p. 10)

Describe the reaction of the second man who carried Charlotte's trunk upon seeing the Seahawk.

The new man had taken one look at the Seahawk, set my trunk down in haste, and like the first, run off without any word of explanation at all. (p.11)

What kind of ship was the *Seahawk*? What determines that? What was the one unique thing that let you know the name of the ship?

A Brig. It is a two-masted ship (with a snow mast behind the main). A carved figurehead of a pale white seahawk beneath the bowsprit. (p. 12-13)

What was the figurehead on the ship?

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It was a pale white seahawk. Wings thrust back, head forward, beak wide open, red tongue protruding. (p. 13)

Why couldn't the 2 families join Charlotte on the Seahawk?  
One family couldn't come in time and the 2<sup>nd</sup> family had a sick child. (p.14)

What was Mr. Keetch's opinion of Charlotte traveling aboard the Seahawk?  
She should take another ship to America. (p.16)

Who was the first person to warn Charlotte from *The Seahawk*?  
Mr. Keetch, the second mate. (p. 16)

Describe Charlotte's cabin.  
The cabin was 6ft. in length. Four feet wide and four a half feet high. A narrow shelf for a bed, a small built-in chest the door of which dropped down and served as a desktop. (p. 19)

Where was Charlotte's trunk stored?  
In top cargo, right below, where she could fetch things if she needed them. (p.20)

How did some of the other crew members feel about Charlotte traveling on board the Seahawk?  
She shouldn't be on the ship. Not alone as she was. Her being there would lead to no good. No good at all. She'd be better off far from the Seahawk. (p. 20)

Describe Zachariah.  
Old black man, very imp of death in search of souls, decrepit clothing, arms & legs were thin as marlinspikes, wrinkled face flecked with the stubble of white beard, thin tightly curled hair, lips were slack, half his teeth were missing, glowing curious eyes, surprisingly soft, sweet voice. (p. 21-22)

What are the four roles that Zachariah plays on the ship?  
Cook, surgeon, carpenter and preacher (p. 22)

Who was the first person to try and befriend Charlotte?  
Zachariah (p. 22)

What was the knife called that Zachariah gave Charlotte?  
A dirk (p. 25)

What did Zachariah offer to Charlotte?  
Friendship (p. 24) A dirk/knife (p. 25)

What does Zachariah give Charlotte just in case she needs it?  
A knife/dirks (p. 25)

What are the names of all of the logged crew members aboard the Seahawk?  
Hollybrass, Keetch, Dillingham, Grimes, Morgan, Barlow, Foley, Ewing, Fisk, Johnson and Zachariah (p. 30)

What are the names of the first and second mates of the ship?

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Mr. Hollybrass (1<sup>st</sup>) and Mr. Keetch (2<sup>nd</sup>) (p. 31)

What was the topic of Charlotte's first conversation with Captain Jaggery?

Her father would not want her on board in this company. She must go back to Liverpool and Miss Weed.  
(p. 33)

How long is the trip across the ocean estimated to last?

One month, no longer than two (p. 33)

Where does Charlotte keep the dirk Zachariah gave her?

Under her mattress (p. 34)

How many days at sea was Charlotte sick?

4 (p. 37)

What is sailor's bread called?

Hardtack (p. 37)

What is a captain to his crew, according to Zachariah?

Sheriff, judge, jury and hangman (p. 38)

What did Mr. Jaggery take from Mr. Cranik?

His arm (p. 39)

Who knows where Charlotte hides her dirk?

Zachariah and Captain Jaggery (p. 41/50)

Describe the captain's cabin.

Full width of the Seahawk, tall enough to stand up in, walls were richly paneled and hung with miniatures and pretty pastoral prints of England, there were windows, sofa, high bed, desk, iron cabinet,(safe), table and chairs, armchairs. (p. 43)

What is the name of the captain's daughter?

Victoria (p. 45)

How old was Charlotte?

13 (p. 46)

What is kept in a locked cabinet in the captain's quarters?

Loaded muskets (p. 47)

What does a roundrobin look like?

Two circles, one within the other and signatures in the space between (p. 48)

Why did Charlotte lie to Captain Jaggery about who gave her the dirk?

She did not wish to bring trouble to Zachariah (p. 50)

Who did Charlotte say gave her the dirk?

Mr. Grummage (p. 50)

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What is a ship's brig?  
Its jail (p. 56)

What did Charlotte see as she was looking through her trunk right before her candle was blown out?  
A face staring at her from the hole into the hold (p. 59)

What did Charlotte mistake as a human head sticking out from the hold while looking through her trunk?  
A carving of a face in a large, brown, nut (p. 61)

Did Charlotte get along with the crew?  
After a while, they began to accept her. She became something of a "ship's boy," willing and able to run minor errands. She mingled more often with them on deck. (p. 69)

Who presented Charlotte with the canvas trousers and blouse?  
Zachariah (p. 71)

What did Ewing, the young Scot sailor have tattooed on his arm?  
A mermaid (p. 76)

What do the sailors sleep on?  
Hammocks (p. 79)

While fetching Mr. Ewing a needle, what did Charlotte see?  
A pistol (p. 79), A round robin (p. 80), A fifth man/stowaway (p. 81-82)

Who told Captain Jaggery about the pistol, the round robin and the stowaway?  
Charlotte (p. 85/86/107)

Where does Captain Jaggery keep the key to the gun safe?  
On the back of a portrait of his daughter, Victoria (p. 88)

Who was the stowaway?  
Mr. Cranick (p. 90)

Who was shot by Captain Jaggery?  
Cranick (p. 91)

Who did Captain Jaggery choose to be punished for the attempted mutiny?  
Mr. Zachariah (p. 95)

What was Mr. Zachariah's punishment for the attempted mutiny?  
50 lashes with a whip (p. 98)

What test did Charlotte need to pass before she could join the crew?  
Let her climb to the royal yard, the highest sail on the mast, 130 ft (p. 117)

What were the 2 ways to climb up the royal yard?  
You can shimmy up the mast itself or climb the shrouds, using ratlines for your ladder. (p.118)

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How did Charlotte climb the up the royal yard?

The ratlines (p. 119)

What advice did Ewing give Charlotte before she climbed?

Keep your eyes steady on the rope and don't look down or up. (p. 120)

What did Charlotte cut during the storm that she had had all her life?

Her hair (p. 141)

How many knives did Charlotte lose in the sea?

Two: Grime's splicing knife (p. 136) Captain's knife (p. 145)

What are the three choices Captain Jaggery gave to Charlotte when she entered his cabin to steal the gun safe key?

Take the key and carry out the plan (p. 201); put her proper clothes back on and renounce her ways and beg him for mercy (p. 201); accept her verdict and be hanged (p. 201)

What did Charlotte's father say about her diary?

"What you have written is rubbish of the worst taste, stuff for a penny dreadful, beneath contempt. Your spelling is an absolute disgrace. And the grammar is beyond belief!" (p. 218)

Name one of the 15 types of sails on the *Seahawk*. Extra credit for each additional.

Main royal, main-topgallant, upper-main topsail, lower-main topsail, trysail, main-royal yard, foreroyal yard, fore royal, fore-topgallant sail, fore-topsail, flying jib, outer jib, inner jib, foremast, fore-topmast staysail. (p. Appendix)