Chapter 1 – The story and the Song

1. reflect – to throw back the light or image
2. hero – a person who is admired for doing something extremely brave
3. downright – completely

Chapter 2 – The Beginning: A Perfect Home

1. flutters – moves quickly and lightly up and down
2. hatch – break out of an egg
3. hovered – stayed in one place in the air
4. cliffs – high, steep sides of a large area of rock or mountain
5. burst – to break open or apart suddenly so that the contents come out
6. buds – young flowers before they open
7. shoots (n.) – parts of plants that come up above the ground when just beginning to grow
8. fiery – containing fire (or looking like fire)
9. globes – spheres, objects shaped like balls
10. whizzing – moving quickly and making a sound like something rushing through the air
11. whirling – spinning around quickly
12. flapping – moving wings up and down in order to fly
13. chirping (n.) – short, high sounds made by a bird or insect
14. darting – moving suddenly and quickly
15. dashing – going somewhere very quickly
16. wriggling – twisting from side to side with small, quick movements
17. gobbling – the sound made by a turkey
18. snapping – making mouth movements as if trying to bite
19. snorting – a loud sound made by breathing out through the nose
20. skerfuffling – fluttering; sudden, noisy activity
21. galaxies – large groups of stars

Chapter 3 – The terrible lie

1. seething – feeling emotion so strongly that you are almost shaking
2. disguised – changed his appearance so people couldn’t recognize him
3. trusting – believing in someone or something and to depend on them
4. slithered -- slid smoothly across a surface, twisting or moving from side to side
5. hissed – mad a noise that sounds like “sssss”
6. serpent – a large snake
7. nightmare – a bad or frightening dream
8. thicket – a group of bushes and small trees
9. chill – a feeling of coldness
10. naked – without clothing
11. shadows – darkness caused by something that prevents light from entering a place

12. unravel – stop being twisted together; stop working well

13. come undone – to come apart or unfastened

14. sin – disobeying God’s commandments in act or thought

15. properly – correctly

16. clothed (v.) – dressed someone, put clothes on someone

17. suffer – the experience physical or mental pain

18. magnificent – extremely impressive

19. yearning – strongly desiring or wanting something

20. rescue – to save someone from danger or harm

21. do battle – to fight

Chapter 4 – A new beginning

1. ark – a large boat

2. creep (v.) – move slowly and quietly

3. slime (v.) – leave a trail of a thick, slippery substance (like a snail)

4. gallop – movement of a horse moving fast

5. bound (v.) – jump high with a lot of energy

6. “short for” – a shorter way of saying

7. “let alone” – a phrase used to emphasize how extreme something can be; to say that because one thing is not true, another thing cannot possibly be true
8. mind (v.) – care (I don’t mind = I’m not worried or angry)

9. “all aboard” – “Everyone get on (a boat or train)”

10. puddle – a small pool of liquid, especially rain water

11. huge – very big

12. dove (n.) / dove (v.) – white bird / jumped in head first

13. warrior – a soldier or one experienced in fighting

Chapter 5 – Giant staircase to heaven

1. staircase – a set of stairs including railing, etc.

2. “You get the picture” – You understand what I’m describing or the situation (conversational)


4. quarreling – having an angry argument

5. dreadful – very bad

6. muddle – a state of confusion or lack of order

7. grumpier – more easily annoyed and tending to complain

8. cross (adj.) – angry or annoyed

9. scattered – spread over a wide area or over a long period of time (in an irregular way)

Chapter 6 – Son of laughter

1. cruel – deliberately making people or animals hurt or suffer

2. mean (adj.) – cruel or not kind
3. giggling – laughing with a quick, high sound
4. incredible – unbelievable, amazing
5. “Don’t be silly.” – don’t say something that is nonsense; don’t be foolish

Chapter 7 – The present

1. sacrifices – things offered to God – often an animal that was killed
2. steep – sloping at a high angle
3. altar – a raised surface for a religious ceremony/sacrifice
4. struggle – to try very hard
5. leap – jump high in the air (“felt his heart leap with happiness”= was filled with happiness)
6. unbound – untied
7. “folded him in his arms” – hugged him
8. scalding – a liquid that is hot enough to burn you
9. ram – male sheep
10. brambles – wild plants with thorns
11. embers – wood that stays red and hot after a fire has stopped burning
12. velvet (adj.) – a very soft cloth (often black)

Chapter 8 – The girl no one wanted

1. “on the run” – trying to avoid being caught (especially by the police)
2. cheated – behaved in a dishonest way in order to win or to get an advantage
3. “a thought struck him” – he had an idea
4. Scoundrel – a bad, dishonest man

**Chapter 9 – The forgiving prince**

1. splendid – excellent or very fine
2. jealous – feeling angry and unhappy because someone has something that you wish you had
3. blamed – to say someone is responsible for something bad. “It is your fault.”
4. gobbling – eating very quickly
5. famine – a situation where a large number of people have little or no food
6. knelt – past tense of kneel (also kneeled) – to be in a position where you are resting on your knees
7. wronged – treated or judged someone unfairly

**Chapter 10 – God to the rescue!**

1. look after – to take care of or keep safe
2. “caught his eye” – got his attention (He noticed something.)
3. flickering – burning with an unsteady light that goes on and off quickly
4. boomed – made a loud deep sound
5. plagues – attacks of disease or an uncontrollable and harmful increase in numbers of a kind of animal or insect
6. gnats – very small flying insects
7. swarms – large groups of flying insects that move together
8. boils – painful, infected swelling under someone’s skin

9. hailstones – small balls of frozen rain

10. locust – an insect that flies in a very large group, eating and destroying crops (grasshopper)

11. piercing – cutting through suddenly

12. corridors – hallways

13. blood-curdling – extremely frightening

Chapter 11 – God makes a way

1. wilderness – a large area of land that hasn’t been changed by humans

2. pillar – a tall upright post used to support a building

3. stretching – reaching up

4. hooves – plural of hoof (a horse’s foot)

5. shaded (one’s eyes) – put a hand above one’s eyes to block out the sun

6. screeched – yelled with a loud, high sound

7. glinting – flashing and throwing back a small amount of light

8. surging – suddenly moving forward very quickly

9. towering – very tall

Chapter 12 – Ten ways to be perfect

1. blisters – swellings on skin containing clear liquid

2. stinks – has a strong, unpleasant smell

3. crackled – made repeated short sounds like something burning in a fire
Chapter 13 – The warrior leader

1. fortress – a strong, well-defended place
2. ramparts – wide stone walls built to protect a castle or city (or also a wall of earth)
3. bolted – locked by sliding a bolt (metal bar) across
4. ear-splitting – very, very loud; deafening
5. splitting – dividing into separate parts; breaking apart
6. crumbled – broke apart into small pieces
7. vanished – disappeared suddenly

Chapter 14 – The teeny, weenie…true king

1. teeny – very small
2. weenie – goes together with teeny to emphasize – very small
3. anoints – pours oil on his head to show he is chosen (see picture p.121)
4. cleverest – able to use your intelligence most effectively
5. armor – protection for your body in a battle
6. “it didn’t hurt” – (spoken language) It helps; It is an advantage to do or have something
7. weakling – someone who is not physically strong

Chapter 15 – The young hero and the horrible giant

1. “live to tell the tale” – stay alive to tell what happened
2. chickens – cowards, not brave
3. bellowed – shouted loudly in a deep voice
4. rip – tear quickly
5. beady – small, round and shiny (someone who looks dishonest or strange)
6. glowered – looked at someone in an angry way
7. echoing – heard again and again as the sound bounces off a wall or hill
8. slimy – covered with a thick, slippery substance that looks or smells bad
9. “their eyes glazed over” – showed no expression because you are very bored or tired (This word seems to be misused here to mean filled with fear)
10. slingshot – a single long strip of leather or woven wool, with a central “pocket” for the stone. The longer the sling, the greater its range. Long-range slings were about 3 feet long, and the stones were about 2.5 inches in diameter
11. thud – the low sound made by a heavy object hitting something else
12. peered – to look very carefully (esp. because you can’t see something well)
13. finish off – kill someone who is weak or injured
14. stumbled – walked in an unsteady way and almost fell
15. staggered – same as stumbled, but for more steps

Chapter 16 – The Good Shepherd

1. shepherd – someone who takes care of sheep
2. psalms – a song or poem praising God
3. inspire – to give someone an idea for a story, painting or poem
Chapter 17 – A little servant girl and the proud general

1. leprosy – an infectious skin disease in which skin and nerves are destroyed
2. bashed – hit hard in a way that causes pain or damage
3. squished – broken or made flat by being pressed hard (squashed)
4. mistress – (old fashioned) – the female employer of a servant
5. flashing – shining – from the reflection of light
6. stinky – bad-smelling
7. in a rage – very angry (a strong feeling of uncontrollable anger)
8. mend – repair / fix – to make whole again

Chapter 18 – Operation “No More Tears!”

1. flock – a group of animals – sheep, goats, birds
2. wandering – move slowly without direction or purpose
3. palace – a large house where a king lives
4. lame – unable to walk well because your leg or foot is injured

Chapter 19 – Daniel and the scary sleepover

1. sleepover – a party at which children spend the night at someone else’s house
2. spied on – watched someone secretly
3. without fail – always, never missing
4. skipped – moved quickly
5. sire – old fashioned way to address a king
6. majesterial – majestic; impressive, powerful, and beautiful
7. not a wink – not able to sleep at all
8. tossed and turned – moved from side to side in bed; kept changing position in bed
9. glimmer – small sign of pale light

Chapter 20 – God’s messenger
1. went ahead with – carried out; started to do something
2. boarded – got on
3. fierce – wild and strong
4. lurch – to move suddenly in an uncontrolled way
5. pitch – move up and down in an uncontrolled way with the movement of the water
6. sat up bolt upright – suddenly sat up straight because something has frightened you
7. overboard – over the side
8. gulp – big, quick swallow
9. spat – past tense of spit

Chapter 21 – Get ready!
1. “blown it” – ruined your chance of achieving something you want because of something you do or say
2. welling up – coming to the surface of something and starting to flow out
3. calves – plural of calf (a baby cow)
Chapter 22 – He’s here!

1. bowed – bent forward to show respect
2. “minding her own business” – not getting involved in or asking questions about other peoples’ lives
3. angel – a special messenger from heaven (male)
4. flung – past tense of fling – to throw something quickly with a lot of force
5. whirling – spinning around very quickly
6. tumbledown – a building that is old and beginning to fall down
7. trough – a long, narrow container that holds food or water for animals
8. gazed – looked directly at something, with a long, steady look
9. swaddling – pieces of cloth used to wrap a baby tightly
10. cradle – a small bed for a baby, especially one that moves gently from side to side
11. manger – feeding trough

Chapter 23 – The Light of the whole world

1. vaulted (adj.) – a roof or ceiling that consists of several arches
2. pale – lighter than usual color
3. spotlight – a bright light that can be directed at someone or something
4. “pulled out all the stops” – (organ) – to do everything you can in order to make something succeed
5. choir – a group of people who sing together for other people to listen to
6. splendid – very good, excellent
7. raggedy – dressed in rags
8. scruffy – dirty and messy and not taken care of very well
9. riff-raff – noisy, badly-behaved or not socially acceptable
10. rustled – moved softly and rubbed together (leaves, pages, clothing)
11. troops – groups
12. stamped out – put out by stepping hard on it
13. cobble – street paved with small round stones
14. hedge – a row of bushes growing close together used as a border between yards
15. tiptoed – walked quietly and lightly on toes

Chapter 24 – The King of all kings

1. dawn – beginning of daylight
2. myrrh – a sticky brown substance used for making incense or perfume
3. frankincense – gum from trees that is burnt to give a sweet smell, especially at religious ceremonies (incense)
4. “were in for” – were about to get (a surprise)
5. turbans – long pieces of cloth that you wind tightly around your head

Chapter 25 – Heaven breaks through

1. scratchy – rough and uncomfortable
2. outfits – sets of clothes worn together
3. bushy – very thick
4. scraggly – growing in a way that looks uneven and not well taken care of
5. crunchy – food that is hard and makes a noise when you bite it
6. disguise (v.) – hide
7. baptized – put them in and out of water to show they wanted to follow God
8. plunged – pushed deeply and quickly into
9. drawn – pulled back

Chapter 26 – Let’s go!

1. shore – the land along the edge of a large area of water such as an ocean or lake
2. mending – fixing

Chapter 27 – A little girl and a poor frail lady

1. frail – thin and weak (especially because they are old)
2. pleaded – asked for something that you want very much in a sincere and emotional way
3. beg – ask for something in an anxious or urgent way because you want it very much
4. hustling – hurrying
5. bustling – moving around quickly, looking very busy (hustle and bustle = busy and noisy activity)
6. jostling – pushing and knocking against someone in a crowd
7. shoving – pushing in a rough or careless way
8. squashing – pressing into a flat shape, often breaking or damaging
9. shutters – wooden covers, fastened to the sides of a window
10. flooded – filled

Chapter 28 – How to pray

1. Pharisees – a group of Jews who believed in strictly obeying Jewish laws
2. pharisee – someone who pretends to be morally good or religious; a hypocrite
3. showing off – trying to make people admire your abilities, achievements, or possessions
4. stare – to look at something for a long time without moving your eyes
5. rude – not polite

Chapter 29 – The singer

1. sparrows – small brown birds
2. pecking – a bird making quick repeated movements with its beak
3. pantries – small rooms where food is kept
4. stocked up – filled with needed supplies (To stock up means to buy a lot of something to use when you need it)
5. cabinets – furniture with doors and shelves used for storing things
6. splendor – impressive beauty and richness
7. burden – a load that is carried; something difficult or worrying that you are responsible for

Chapter 30: The Captain of the storm

1. breeze – gentle wind
2. chatting – talking in a friendly, informal way
3. hurricane – a storm that forms over water and has very high winds
4. hurled – thrown violently with a lot of force
5. hurtling – moving or falling very fast
6. buffeted – hit with a lot of force by wind, rain or the ocean
7. shrieked – made a very high, loud sound
8. hush – “Be quiet”
9. lapped – when water moves and hits something in very small waves
10. bobbed – moved up and down when floating on the surface of the water
11. wind-torn – ripped or pulled apart by the wind

Chapter 31 – Filled full!

1. grumpy – easily annoyed and tending to complain
2. particular – the specific one only the one I’m talking about
3. panicked – suddenly became so frightened that you cannot think clearly
4. miracles – actions or events that are impossible according to the ordinary laws of nature
5. emptiness – the state of containing nothing

Chapter 32 – Treasure hunt!

1. parables – short stories that teach a moral or religious lesson
2. shovel – a tool used for digging – with a long handle and rounded blade
3. pries – forces something open
4. “takes his breath away” – is extremely beautiful or exciting

Chapter 33 – The Friend of little children

1. “be on your best behavior” – behave as well and politely as you can, especially in order to please someone

Chapter 34 – The man who didn’t have any friends (none)

1. one bit – at all, even a little

2. sycamore – a type of tree (in Middle East – a tree often planted by the roadside that was easy to climb)

3. “needless to say” – used when you are telling someone something they probably already know or expect

4. mumbled – said something too quietly or not clearly enough, so that other people cannot understand you

5. murmured – said something in a soft quiet voice that is difficult to hear clearly

6. muttered – spoke in a low voice, especially because you were annoyed about something, or you did not want people to hear you

7. scrambled – moved quickly (and awkwardly)

Chapter 35 – Running away

1. spoiling – ruining

2. desperate – willing to do anything to change a bad situation

3. sty – a place where pigs are kept

4. straining his eyes – trying very hard to see

5. frown (v.) – to make an angry, unhappy expression

6. gap – space, opening
Chapter 36 – Washed with tears

1. “How dare she?” – spoken to show you are angry and shocked about what someone has done
2. alabaster – a white stone used for making statues
3. “here’s the catch” – a hidden problem or difficulty
4. stopper – the thing you put in the top part of a bottle to close it
5. precious – rare and worth a lot of money
6. gasped – breathed in suddenly in a way that can be heard

Chapter 37 – The servant king

1. sandals – light, open shoes with straps
2. dreadful – extremely unpleasant
3. lowliest – lowest in rank, importance or social class
4. basin – large bowl (British = sink)
5. capture – catch a person to keep as a prisoner

Chapter 38 – A dark night in the garden

1. Gethsemane – an Aramaic word meaning “oil press”
2. “picking up” (the wind) – growing stronger
3. shrouding – covering or hiding
4. violent – (sobs) – very strong and difficult to control
5. sobs – loud crying
6. muffled – not able to be heard clearly
7. clanking – pieces of metal bumping together with a loud sound
8. torches – long stick with burning material on the end
9. lanterns – lamps you can carry
10. clubs – thick, heavy sticks
11. armor – metal or leather clothing to protect your body
12. crucify – to kill someone by fastening him to a cross

Chapter 39 – The sun stops shining

1. jeered – laughed or shouted in a way that shows you have no respect for someone
2. thorns – sharp points on the stem of a plant
3. legion – a large group (originally a group of 3000 to 6000 Roman soldiers)
4. frantically – in a way that shows you are so worried or frightened that you cannot control your feelings
5. trembled – shook
6. quaked – shook
7. bruise – a purple mark on your skin from a hit or fall (black and blue)
8. tomb – where a person is buried
9. hauled – pulled something heavy

Chapter 40 – God’s wonderful surprise

1. slanted – sloped in a particular direction
2. dew – the small drops of water that form on outdoor surfaces overnight
3. urgently – in a way showing that something needs immediate attention

4. thumping – beating very strongly because you are frightened or excited

5. cling – to hold very tightly

Chapter 41 – Going home

1. bolted – locked by sliding a bolt

2. hung back – stayed a short distance away and didn’t go too near (because you may be shy or afraid)

3. brand new – new and not yet used; completely new

4. shaded – protected from direct sunlight by holding up hand

Chapter 42 – God sends help

1. stuffy – not having enough fresh air

2. gloom – almost complete darkness

3. ablaze – burning strongly; very bright or colorful; feeling or showing strong emotion

4. surged – suddenly moved very quickly forward

5. antidote – something that stops the effects of a poison

Chapter 43 – A new way to see

1. shielded – protected from harm or danger

2. shipwrecked – in a boat or ship that was destroyed in an accident

Chapter 44 – A dream of heaven

1. cell – a small room in a prison
2. throne – a special chair for a king or queen

3. shimmering – shining with a soft light that looks like it shakes slightly

4. topaz – transparent yellow jewel

5. jasper – red, yellow, or brown stone

6. sapphire – transparent, light blue jewel

7. squeeze – to fit into a limited space

8. cram – to force something into a small space