

# MILLIONS

What would you do if you found a million dollars? Find out what two brothers decide when a bag of money literally falls out of the sky and into their complex lives.

BASED ON THE PRIZE-WINNING YA NOVEL BY FRANK COTTRELL BOYCE AND THE NEW MOVIE, IN THEATERS THIS MONTH. ADAPTED FOR *SCOPE* BY JONATHAN BLUM

## Characters

Write your initials next to the character you're going to read.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Narrator 1  | <input type="checkbox"/> *Dorothy, a charity worker                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Narrator 2  | <input type="checkbox"/> Graham, a student                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Damian, a young English boy                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Headmaster, the head of Damian and Anthony's school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Anthony, his older brother                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Bank teller   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Dad, their father, Ronnie                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Cop   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher, Damian's teacher  | <input type="checkbox"/> Skinny girl   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Candy store owner  | <input type="checkbox"/> Scruffy guy   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maria, a student   | <input type="checkbox"/> *Mother, Damian and Anthony's mother                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gonzaga [gohn-ZAH-gah], a saint who lived in Uganda in the 1800s |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mysterious man   |  |

\*Starred characters are major roles.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Have you ever heard of pounds or euros? **Pounds** are the currency in Great Britain, and **euros** are the currency in 14 other European countries. (Dollars are the currency in the U.S.)

This play is set in the near future in Britain, when the author imagines the country switching from pounds to euros. This hasn't happened yet in real life, but the people of Great Britain are likely to vote on it soon.



### SCENE 1

**NARRATOR 1:** Anthony and Damian are brothers living in Manchester, England. Their mother has died, and they've moved with their father to a new neighborhood.

**NARRATOR 2:** Near the new house, in a field by the railroad tracks, Damian builds himself a clubhouse out of cardboard moving boxes. In it, he hangs one of his mother's dresses.

**NARRATOR 1:** Damian reads a lot about saints. He wonders if his mother is now a saint in heaven.

**NARRATOR 2:** On the boys' first day at their new school, their father, Ronnie, walks them to class.

**DAD:** Now remember: It's no good just being clever, boys. Be the cleverest.

**NARRATOR 1:** In class, Damian's teacher pins up a poster of Nelson Mandela.

**TEACHER:** We're talking today about people we admire. So, whom do you admire, students?

**NARRATOR 2:** The boys all name soccer players.

**TEACHER:** And you, Damian?

**DAMIAN:** Saint Roch [ROK].

**TEACHER:** Who does he play for?

**DAMIAN:** No one, sir. He's a saint.

**TEACHER:** That's better. Go on.

**DAMIAN:** He helped the sick. But he was so worried that he might say something bad that he said nothing for 20 years.

**NARRATOR 1:** The other students think Damian is strange. After school, Anthony tells Damian how to fit in.

**ANTHONY:** Be careful what you talk about. Keep off the weird stuff. Don't attract attention.

**NARRATOR 2:** They walk to a candy store. The owner greets them.

**OWNER:** Never seen you two before.

**ANTHONY:** We just moved here. Our mom's dead.

**NARRATOR 1:** The owner gives Anthony a handful of free candy. Anthony and Damian leave.

**ANTHONY:** If you tell them your mom's dead, they always give you stuff.

### SCENE 2

**NARRATOR 2:** One morning while Damian is reading in his club-

Do you think finding a million dollars would solve all your problems? For these two brothers, it causes all kinds of trouble!

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Anthony (left) and Damian have different ideas about what to do with their huge pile of cash (below).



house, a train roars past. Someone flings a bag off the train and through the air. It crashes through the roof of the clubhouse. Damian opens the bag—it's full of money!

**NARRATOR 1:** He fetches Anthony and shows him the bag.

**ANTHONY (excitedly):** Where did you get that?

**DAMIAN:** Maybe it came from God.

**NARRATOR 2:** Anthony touches the money.

**ANTHONY:** It's real! It's real! Thousands and thousands of pounds!

**DAMIAN:** I can't wait to tell Dad.

**ANTHONY:** No! You can't tell anyone.

**NARRATOR 1:** They go home and put the bag under Anthony's bed.

### SCENE 3

**NARRATOR 2:** That day after school, Damian decides he wants to give all the money to the poor. But Anthony wants to spend it.

**NARRATOR 1:** Anthony starts buying things for himself, Damian, and kids from school. He buys pizza, ice cream, fancy shoes, and bicycles. He quickly becomes



### PLAY POINT:

Countries that now use the euro for their money include France, Germany, Greece, Italy, and Ireland.

popular.

**NARRATOR 2:** At one shop he buys a soda for a pretty girl, Maria. **MARIA:** How about one for my friend?

**NARRATOR 1:** Anthony buys Maria's friend a soda, too.

Maria wonders how he spends so freely.

**MARIA:** How much money do you actually have, anyway?

**ANTHONY (acting like a bigshot):** Plenty.

### SCENE 4

**NARRATOR 2:** One afternoon in his clubhouse, Damian has a vision. A Ugandan saint named Gonzaga appears to him. The saint is staring at the sky.

**DAMIAN:** What are you doing?

**GONZAGA:** Praying for rain. Where I come from, water is so expensive, people can't afford to wash their hands. So they get diseases.

**NARRATOR 1:** Damian looks at the sky too.

**GONZAGA:** To build a well costs only a hundred pounds. But the people don't have it.

**NARRATOR 2:** Suddenly, the vision ends. A mysterious man peers into the clubhouse. He is anxiously searching for something.

**DAMIAN:** What are you looking for?

**MYSTERIOUS MAN (staring at Damian):** Money. Know anything about that?

**DAMIAN (eager to help):** Are you poor?

**NARRATOR 1:** The man looks confused.

**DAMIAN:** Wait there! I'll come back. I've got loads of money.

**NARRATOR 2:** At home, Damian runs into Anthony.

**DAMIAN:** A poor person is waiting at the clubhouse for money. I told him we had tons.

**ANTHONY:** Don't do that! Leave all this to me.

**NARRATOR 1:** Anthony brings the man a quart bottle filled with change.

**ANTHONY:** We've been saving up for ages. You can have it if you need it.

**MAN (disappointed):** Um, thank you.

**NARRATOR 2:** The man leaves with the change, thinking that's all the kids have.

### SCENE 5

**NARRATOR 1:** The next day, a guest speaker, Dorothy, from an organization called "Change for Change," passes around a collection bin at a school assembly.

**DOROTHY:** Help give hungry villagers around the world seeds to grow their own crops. Give them money to dig wells for water.

**NARRATOR 2:** Damian is thrilled to

help the poor. The other children put a few pennies in the bin. Damian puts in a thousand pounds. Afterward, he tells Anthony.

**ANTHONY:** A thousand pounds! Are you nuts? People will be suspicious.

**DAMIAN:** Why? It's our money. We should give Dorothy everything we have.

**NARRATOR 1:** Anthony looks at Damian as if he's crazy.

**NARRATOR 2:** Meanwhile, on the playground, a group of children is listening to a boy, Graham, tell an exciting story about a big bank robbery. Anthony and Damian join them.

**GRAHAM:** So the robbers get away on a train. Then at a bend in the tracks, they chuck the sack of money out.

**ANTHONY:** How do they know someone won't find it?

**GRAHAM:** They've planned it all out. They've got people waiting to pick it up. The question is: How are they going to get rid of all that money?

**ANTHONY:** What do you mean?

**GRAHAM:** Next week, England changes over from the pound to the euro. After that, the old currency will be worthless. So they've got to spend the money fast, or else change it at a bank where nobody will know it was stolen.

**NARRATOR 1:** Damian realizes where his bag of money came from. Distraught, he runs off.

Anthony follows him.

**ANTHONY:** Damian, it's all right. No one knows we have it.

**DAMIAN:** We have to give it back. I thought it was from God.

**ANTHONY:** What?

**DAMIAN:** You know how when you tell people about Mom, they give you money or sweets? Well, I told God and then ... Who else would have that kind of money?

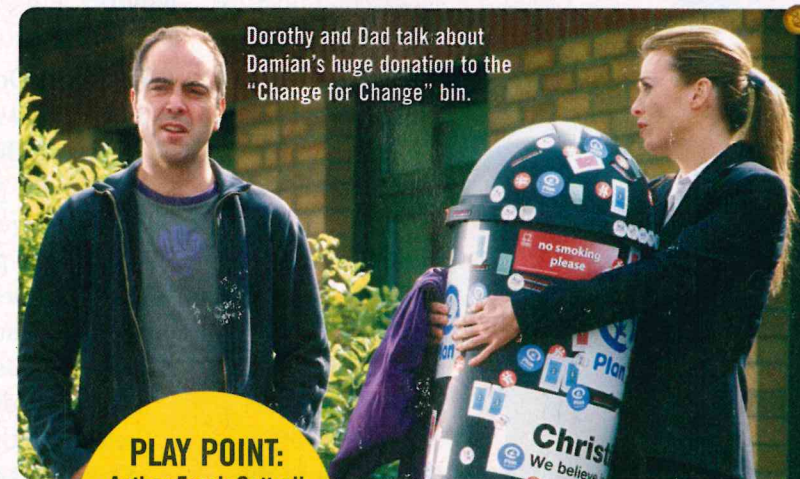
**NARRATOR 2:** Damian's teacher approaches the boys.

**TEACHER:** The headmaster wants to see you both immediately.

### SCENE 6

**NARRATOR 1:** The boys sit nervously in the headmaster's office.

**HEADMASTER (looking at Damian):** We appreciate your  **motive**  in giving money for "Change."



Dorothy and Dad talk about Damian's huge donation to the "Change for Change" bin.

### PLAY POINT:

Author Frank Cottrell Boyce wrote the YA novel *Millions*—and he wrote the screenplay for this movie!

But we need to know where you got it.

**NARRATOR 2:** Dad bursts in the door.

**DAD (to the boys):** Where did you get a thousand pounds?

**ANTHONY (inventing a story):** I stole it.

**DAD:** You stole it? From where?

Why would you do that?

**NARRATOR 1:** Anthony starts to wail.

**ANTHONY:** My mom's dead!

**NARRATOR 2:** The boys are excused from the office. In the parking lot Anthony is still wailing.

**DAD (upset):** It's very sad what happened to your mother. But she would not want you to stand around crying. Or to steal things. She wants you to live your lives the best you can.

**NARRATOR 1:** Dorothy appears next to the car.

**DOROTHY:** Are these the boys who—

**DAD:** Stole money? Yes.

**DOROTHY:** They did give it to a good cause. I wouldn't have done that at their age. You must have done a good job raising them.

**DAD:** Thank you.

**NARRATOR 2:** From the backseat, Anthony angrily watches his dad talk and laugh with this woman who is not his mother.

### SCENE 7

**NARRATOR 1:** Anthony and Damian fear the robbers will come to their house to steal the money back.

**NARRATOR 2:** After school the next day, Damian goes to his old house to hide the bag of money. The house is so empty, it scares him.

**NARRATOR 1:** Upstairs, Damian climbs a ladder to a dark attic. Moments later, he hears the front door open.

**NARRATOR 2:** He hears footsteps on the stairs. His heart pounds. He prays to the saints for help. Suddenly a voice calls out.

**DAD:** What are you doing up there?

**NARRATOR 1:** Dad reaches up and gently lifts Damian down from the attic. Anthony is with Dad.

**SAY IT!** Ugandan — yoo-GAHN-duhn

**SAY IT!** currency — KUR-uhn-see



**DAD:** What were you doing?  
**NARRATOR 2:** Damian hesitates, then points up toward the bag. Dad brings it down and opens it.  
**ANTHONY** (*pointing at Damian*): He found it. There's over 229,000 pounds in there.  
**DAMIAN:** It just fell out of the sky. I thought it was from God. I was going to give it to the poor but—  
**DAD:** Why didn't you tell me?  
**NARRATOR 1:** They all look at each other.  
**DAD:** We have to hand it in. It's not our money.

**SCENE 9**

**NARRATOR 2:** Back home, Dad and the boys find their house has been **ransacked**. Dorothy is

**PLAY POINT:**

Three countries make up Great Britain: England, Scotland, and Wales. Damian and Anthony live in England.

**DAMIAN:** But it's not ours!  
**DAD** (*angry*): It is ours now. In this world, no one's looking out for us but us.

**NARRATOR 1:** Damian goes to bed very upset.

**SCENE 10**

**NARRATOR 2:** The next day is the last day before the pound must be changed to the euro. Dad, Dorothy, and the boys drive into the city to change the stolen money.  
**BANK TELLER:** You can only change 5,000 pounds at one time.

**NARRATOR 1:** They split up and wait in several long bank lines, but they're only able

inside with a cop.  
**DOROTHY:** The door was open when I came by. I called the police.  
**DAD** (*angrily*): Who would do this?  
**COP:** Someone looking for stolen bank money. Do you know anything about that?  
**NARRATOR 1:** The boys and Ronnie fake **ignorance**. After the cop leaves, Dad shows Dorothy the bag of money.  
**DAD:** This is what they want.  
**NARRATOR 2:** Dorothy is amazed. Dad decides not to turn it in, after all.  
**DAD** (*upset*): Our house has just been wrecked. We're *owed* this money!

to change half of the pounds to euros before the deadline. Back home, they discuss how to spend their euros.

**ANTHONY:** I want to buy a big house.  
**DAD:** I want to take time off work, so I can be home to play with you boys.  
**NARRATOR 2:** Damian is silent.  
**DAD:** Damian, I know you want to give the money to the poor.  
**DOROTHY** (*smiling*): Of course, they won't be poor anymore if you give it all to them.

**NARRATOR 1:** Everyone laughs except Damian.  
**DOROTHY:** Do you know what I heard someone say once? The only wealth is love. What do you think of that?

**NARRATOR 2:** She picks up a wad of the leftover pounds.  
**DOROTHY:** Let's do something with these.

**NARRATOR 1:** Dorothy makes a bucket of wallpaper paste. She, Dad, and the boys wallpaper the room with pound notes.

**DOROTHY** (*laughing*): I'm getting covered in paste here!  
**DAD:** There's a box of old dresses under the stairs.

**NARRATOR 2:** Dorothy comes back wearing a dress that used to belong to the boys' mother. The boys suddenly become very upset. They go to Damian's bedroom.

**ANTHONY** (*hissing*): This is all your fault. *You* brought her here by giving a thousand pounds to "Change for Change." Do you think Mom would like this?

**DAMIAN:** Why are you mad at *me*?  
**ANTHONY:** Because you did it. You and your weird ways. Chucking money away, talking to yourself, seeing saints. You're a looney!

**SAY IT!** ransacked — RAN-sakt



Those pound notes make great wallpaper!

**NARRATOR 1:** Anthony storms out. Damian is devastated.

**SCENE 11**

**NARRATOR 2:** Late that night, the doorbell rings. A large crowd is outside, asking Dad for money.

**SKINNY GIRL:** Please give me some. My sister and I need bus fare.

**SCRUFFY GUY:** I need money fast. Can you help me out? I know you have it.

**NARRATOR 1:** A police officer arrives. He and Dad go inside.

**COP:** You'd better tell me how this got started.

**DAD:** I have no idea. Someone must have been saying strange things.

**NARRATOR 2:** Outside, the crowd grows. Meanwhile, Damian sneaks out the back door with their bag of euros.

**NARRATOR 1:** Soon after, Anthony tries to leave too, but he runs right into the mysterious man they'd seen at the clubhouse.

**MAN** (*fiercely*): You tried to be clever with me before. Now, where's the money?

**ANTHONY** (*frightened*): Upstairs.

**NARRATOR 2:** In Anthony's room, the man runs into the cop, who arrests him.

**NARRATOR 1:** Meanwhile, Damian arrives at the railroad tracks. He

empties the bag of euros, and sets the money on fire. He smiles as flames **engulf** the bank notes, and has another vision. He sees his mother.

**DAMIAN:** I know you're only a dream. But it's nice to see you.

**NARRATOR 2:** She looks at the fire with him.  
**MOTHER:** I only have 5 minutes, so listen carefully. I'm dead. I know what I'm talking about.

**NARRATOR 1:** Damian listens.  
**MOTHER:** Be kind to your brother. My death hasn't hit him yet and when it does, make sure you're there for him. Use good dental **hygiene**. It's no good saying your prayers and forgetting to brush your teeth.

**DAMIAN:** What about Dad?  
**MOTHER:** The new woman? He just wants someone to talk to. Wait and see, OK?  
**NARRATOR 2:** Anthony is running across the field toward Damian.  
**DAMIAN:** Are you going to be in the book of saints, too?  
**MOTHER:** Well, the standards for sainthood are very strict. It's not just a matter of being good. You

**SAY IT!** hygiene — HYE-jeen • disperse — DISS-PURSS

have to do an actual miracle.  
**DAMIAN:** So?  
**MOTHER:** Oh, I'm in there. Of course I am.  
**DAMIAN:** What was your miracle?  
**MOTHER** (*softly*): Don't you know? It was you.

**PLAY POINT:** An organization called The Uganda Village Project plans to build 20 new wells this year.

**NARRATOR 1:** She kisses him and disappears. Anthony arrives.

**DAMIAN:** Did you see her?  
**NARRATOR 2:** Anthony nods.

**ANTHONY:** Did she say anything?

**DAMIAN:** She said not to worry. Everything's going to be all right.

**SCENE 12**

**NARRATOR 1:** At home, Anthony tells Dad that Damian burned the money.

**DAD:** He WHAT?  
**NARRATOR 2:** At last, the crowds outside **disperse**. In the living room Dad, Dorothy, and

Anthony admit that they each set aside a few wads of cash for themselves.

**DAMIAN:** Well, I didn't.

**ANTHONY** (*kinder than usual*): Damian, you decide what we should do with the money we have left.

**NARRATOR 1:** Damian decides they should send the money to Uganda to build wells for children who can't afford water. And that's just what they do. ■



Mother has a message for Damian.

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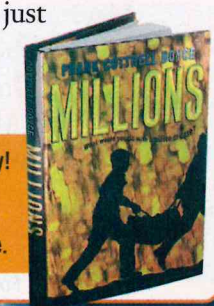
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There's more to the story! Check out *Millions* by Frank Cottrell Boyce at your library or bookstore.





# Play Skills

How well did you understand the play? Put your knowledge to the test with these exercises.

## NO-SWEAT TEST PREP

STRATEGY: Notice which *type of question* is asked (see parentheses)—so you'll be ready to tackle all questions on the big tests!

- Why does Damian burn the cash? (*understanding characters' motivations*)
  - It is worthless.
  - He's afraid of the mysterious man.
  - He thinks the money is causing a lot of trouble.
  - He doesn't want to be arrested for stealing.
- Which of the following happens first in this play? (*sequencing*)
  - Britain switches from the pound to the euro.
  - Anthony spends money on his friends.
  - Damian burns the bag of euros.
  - Damian builds a clubhouse.
- Which of the following is true? (*factual information*)
  - Italy and Germany have switched to the euro.
  - The euro is the currency of Great Britain.
  - The U.S. government plans to switch from the dollar to the euro.
  - Every country in Europe now uses the euro.
- How does the mysterious man know about the money that Damian found? (*inference*)
  - He's a member of the gang of robbers that stole the money.
  - He works for the railroad.
  - He is a saint from Uganda.
  - He sees Anthony buying new sneakers.
- What would make a good alternate title for this play? (*main idea*)
  - Take the Money and Run
  - The Only True Wealth is Love
  - Show Me the Money
  - How to Make Your First Million
- Why does Anthony get angry with Damian? (*understanding characters' motivations*)
  - Damian introduced Dorothy to their dad.
  - Damian isn't exactly the same as the other kids at school.
  - Damian wants to give away the money.
  - All of the above.
- Where and when is the play set? (*identifying setting*)
  - in London, England, in 2004
  - in Dublin, Ireland, 10 years ago
  - in Manchester, England, in the near future
  - in Paris, France, last year
- What does the word *devastated* mean at the end of Scene 10? (*word meaning*)
  - overwhelmed with grief
  - relieved
  - calm, but very angry
  - overjoyed
- How are Anthony and Damian different? (*compare & contrast*)
  - Damian does not care about being popular or rich.
  - Anthony wants to give money to the poor.
  - Damian sometimes tells lies.
  - Anthony cries whenever he thinks about his mother.
- How does Anthony change by the end of the play? (*making inferences about character*)
  - He no longer cares about money.
  - He has more respect for Damian and becomes less selfish.
  - He has lots of money but no friends.
  - He cares about money more than love.

TEACHERS: For a lesson on the play, see the Teacher's Edition.

## IN THE NEWS: Reading for information

# TEENS Respond to Tsunami Tragedy

When disaster struck halfway across the world, teens rushed to send relief  
BY SEAN PRICE

Aaron Walton, 16, couldn't believe the devastation caused by the tsunami that lashed countries bordering the Indian Ocean on December 26. How could waves—even ones that reached 30 feet high—kill more than 200,000 people?

"When I heard how many people had died, it shocked me," said the junior at Santa Cruz High School in Santa Cruz, California.

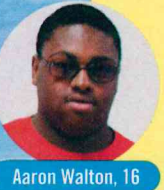
Students in Aaron's class wanted to help the 5 million survivors left without homes or businesses after the tsunami. They decided to raise money for the massive relief efforts. But none of Aaron's classmates felt comfortable asking other students for money directly. So they created their own commercial.

"We decided to make a video telling them how we're raising the money and how we're coming to classes asking for money," Aaron said. "Mostly we were trying to tell them, 'Put yourself in their shoes.'"

Santa Cruz High School's fundraiser became one of thousands held by schools all over the United States



Elephants help workers retrieve useful timber in Banda Aceh, Indonesia.



Aaron Walton, 16



Olivia Lobdell, 16



in January. At Indian Hill Middle School in Cincinnati, Ohio, students passed around empty milk jugs at lunch.

"We didn't want anybody to feel left out," says seventh-grader Noah Kleiman, 13, who helped organize the Indian Hill fund-raising. "So we decided to do something called a dollar drive. That's where everyone can just donate a dollar and it all adds up and helps out." Even so, Indian Hill more than doubled its goal of raising one dollar per person from about 600 students and staff. In all, people donated \$2,000.

One relief effort, at Franklin Central High School in Indianapolis, Indiana, took on a life of its own.

"It started off as just a fund-raiser," says organizer Olivia Lobdell, 16, a junior. "And then the science department got involved and they decided to do a presentation on how the tsunami happened—not just the devastation of

it, but the science of it. After that, the foreign-language department got involved and decided to bring in the emotional part of the disaster, and how we're connected and how we can help."

After all the presentations, Franklin Central had raised \$6,100. As with the other two schools, Franklin Central's money went to the American Red Cross. "It was a really big deal," Olivia says. "I think all the students got involved." ■

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

Tsunami victims will need help for some time to come. To see how you can help too, visit [www.scholastic.com/tsunami](http://www.scholastic.com/tsunami)

WALLY SANTANA/AP WIDE WORLD