Miss Karen Language Nov 5, 2018

The Phantom Tollbooth

The Phantom Tollbooth was written by Norton Juster and illustrated by Jules Feiffer. This fiction book was set in the imaginary Kingdom of Wisdom. Its two main cities, Dictionopolis and Digitopolis, sat between the Sea of Knowledge and the Mountains of Ignorance.

Milo, a boy who was always bored and did not think anything was worth learning, found a mysterious tollbooth in his room one afternoon. Driving through the tollbooth set Milo on the adventure of his lifetime, during which he discovered just how much he did not know yet. He drove through the chaotic Kingdom of Wisdom, learning on the way that many of the confusing problems he met could vanish upon the return of two banished princesses, Rhyme and Reason. Somehow, he and his two companions, Tock and the Humbug, received the commission to bumble through the dark Mountains of Ignorance in search of the two princesses and attempt to rescue them from the clutches of monsters determined to protect themselves from wisdom. How will they accomplish this impossible feat?

The Phantom Tollbooth is a captivating story full of action and suspense. It is packed with allegories of real life that teach many important lessons. I especially enjoyed when Milo and his two companions jumped to the Island of Conclusions and had to swim back through the Sea of Knowledge. Those who are bored or disinterested in learning should read this book to remind themselves why the pursuit of knowledge is so important or simply to enjoy a good laugh.