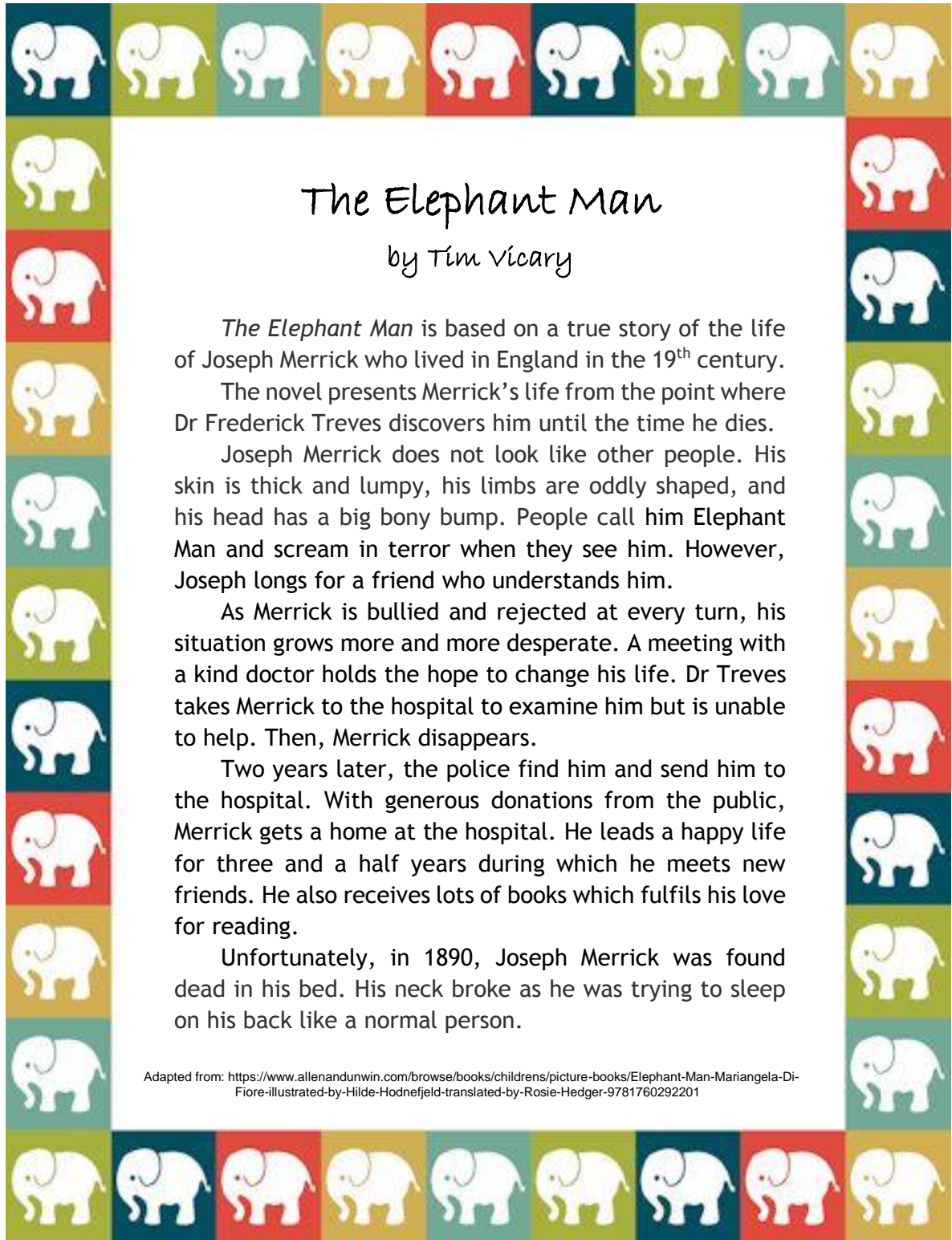


Synopsis



The Elephant Man

by Tim Vicary

The Elephant Man is based on a true story of the life of Joseph Merrick who lived in England in the 19th century.

The novel presents Merrick's life from the point where Dr Frederick Treves discovers him until the time he dies.

Joseph Merrick does not look like other people. His skin is thick and lumpy, his limbs are oddly shaped, and his head has a big bony bump. People call him Elephant Man and scream in terror when they see him. However, Joseph longs for a friend who understands him.

As Merrick is bullied and rejected at every turn, his situation grows more and more desperate. A meeting with a kind doctor holds the hope to change his life. Dr Treves takes Merrick to the hospital to examine him but is unable to help. Then, Merrick disappears.

Two years later, the police find him and send him to the hospital. With generous donations from the public, Merrick gets a home at the hospital. He leads a happy life for three and a half years during which he meets new friends. He also receives lots of books which fulfils his love for reading.

Unfortunately, in 1890, Joseph Merrick was found dead in his bed. His neck broke as he was trying to sleep on his back like a normal person.

Adapted from: <https://www.allenandunwin.com/browse/books/childrens/picture-books/Elephant-Man-Mariangela-Di-Fiore-illustrated-by-Hilde-Hodnefjeld-translated-by-Rosie-Hedger-9781760292201>

Image from: <http://pageborders.org/download/elephant-border/>