

Student Activities for *The Birdman* by Veronika Martenova Charles

This story's universal appeal and message of hope is suitable for any grade level.

I. In "Resource Links", Adriane Pettier suggests that

* **The Birdman book could be used for a group discussion on what truly brings happiness.**

She continues by saying that because the author (Charles) imparts her strong connection with the tale and links it to her own background as a child in Prague,

* **The Birdman book could open up a discussion on "story":**

- **Where does "story" come from?**
- **What motivates a storyteller to impart it?**

II. On the author's website, www.veronikacharles.com, under **Books**, in The Birdman section, the students can look up the link: "About the Book." There, they will see some of the author's own illustrations of the Birdman's story, (which are different than the illustrator's). That can lead-up to" a class-discussion of how different people can have their own interpretation of the same story. It can also lead-up to further discussion among the students about their own individual visualizations of some other stories they know.

III. Thematic Links:

- * Death and Grief
- * Making the world a better place
- * Birds
- * Activism
- * Calcutta, India
- * Tailors