

MILTON IN PURGATORY

by Edward Vass

- What did you expect from the novella based on its title, *Milton in Purgatory*? Were your expectations met or did the story take a completely different turn?
- What do you make of Milton? Is he a hero or an anti-hero?
- The narrative could be described as circular. Would you agree? Why (not)? What effect does that have on you as a reader?
- What functions do the different characters – Narration, Annie, Tracey – have? What does each of them bring to your understanding of the story?
- How has Milton evolved during his adventure in the afterlife? Has his outlook on life changed?
- Could Milton's adventure be interpreted simply as a dream? Why (not)? Find examples in the text to support your argument.
- What do you think the overall message of the novella is?
- What literary influences can you spot in the novella? How were they used and what do they bring to the narrative?