

Hovis the Threadmaster

Hovis the Threadmaster first appears when the Mouse Council calls for him to tie the red thread around Despereaux's neck and mark him for death. Surprisingly, Hovis whispers words of encouragement to the condemned mouse. He speaks of fairy tales, of the princess, and of Despereaux's love for her. He does not explain how he knows such things.

When the two meet again, Hovis supplies Despereaux with a spool of thread and a needle for his second journey into the darkness. Then Hovis bites through and removes the very thread that once banished the tiny mouse to the dungeon, allowing our hero to embark upon his impossible quest of his own free will.

Though we know little about him, Hovis is obviously no ordinary mouse!

In the spaces below, identify some of the known facts about the threadmaster. Then exercise your imagination to create other "facts" about this unusual mouse. Write a character sketch of ***Hovis the Threadmaster***.

Hovis's Past

Is Hovis a "native" castle mouse?

How and why did he become threadmaster?

Hovis's Personality . . .

Find facts to prove that Hovis is a ***logical*** mouse,

a ***supportive*** mouse,

and an ***adventuresome*** mouse.

Hovis's Secrets . . .

How does Hovis know about fairy tales, the princess, and Despereaux's love for her? Why does he have insights that the Mouse Council does not possess?

