Ch6. The Hundred Dresses -II (First Flight)

Q1: What did Mr. Petronski’s letter say?

A: Mr.Petronski’s letter said that Wanda would not come to school from next day onwards as they were shifting to another city. He further said that there were plenty of names like Wanda in the city and so nobody would care to make fun of her there.

Q2: Is Miss Mason angry with the class, or is she unhappy and upset?

A: Wanda had been illtreated by the class. Miss Mason was disturbed when she came to know it by the letter from Wanda’s father. She was unhappy and upset. She did not like the humiliation of Wanda just because of her name, dresses and house.

Q3: How does Maddie feel after listening to the note from Wanda’s fther?

A: Maddie was feeling very guilty after listening the note from Wanda’s father. She could not concentrate at her studies. She did not enjoy listening to Peggy ask Wanda how many dresses she had in her closet.

Q4: What does Maddie want to do?

A: Maddie wanted to tell Wanda that she did not want to hurt her feelings.

Q5: What excuses does Peggy think up her behaviour? Why?

A: Peggy thought that she was satisfied that she never called Wanda a foreigner or made fun of her name. She also said that she never thought Wanda had even the sense to know that they were making fun of her. She realised her mistake of thinking that Wanda was not bright enough to understand her insult.

Q6: What were Maddie’s thoughts as they go to Boggins Heights?

A: Maddie is feeling bad about Wanda and herself. She is feeling very sad for not even getting a chance to say sorry to Wanda.

Q7: why does Wanda’s house remind Maddie of wanda’s blue dress?

A: Wanda’s blue dress was old, faded but neat and clean. Similarly her house was small and makeshift but clean.In this way it reminded Maddie of Wanda’s blue dress.

Q8: What does Maddie think hard about? What important decision does she come to?

A: Maddie thinks that she she will not let happen injustice to anyone in future. She makes vow that she will protest if anybody misbehaves with anyone. She would not be a mute spectatorthe way she had been earlier. In this way the episode of Wanda’s family leaving that city works as major change agent for Maddie’s personality.

Q9: What did the girls write to Wanda?

A: The girls wrote a letter to Wanda informing her that she had won the contest. They told her that her drawings were very pretty. They asked her if she liked the place where she was living and her new teacher. They wanted to say that they were sorry. It was a friendly letter. They signed it with lots of X’s for love.

Q10: Did they get a reply? Who was more anxious for a reply, Peggy or Maddie? How do you know?

A:No, they did not get a reply. Maddie was more anxious for a reply as she thought a lot about it. She would put herself to sleep making speeches about Wanda and defending her from girls who were trying to tease her. Before Wanda could press her lips together in a tight line, which she did before answering , Maddie would cry out and ask everybody to stop and then, every body would feel ashamed the way she felt. Peggy on the other hand, had begun to forget about the whole affair. This shows that Maddie was more anxious for a reply than Peggy.

Q11: how did the girls know that wanda liked them even though they had teased her?

A: Wanda had asked Miss Mason to give the green dress with red timming to Peggy and the blue one to Maddie. Later when Maddie looked at the drawing very carefully, she realized that the dress had a face and a head, which looked like her own self. The head and face in the drawing given to Peggy looked just like Peggy. That is why the girls knew that Wanda liked them even though they had teased her.

Q12: Why do you think Wanda’s family moved to a different city? Do you think life there was going to be different for their family?

A: Wanda’s father felt bad for the bad behaviour of girls of her school towards her. They made fun of her name and her poverty. Every day she was asked how many dresses she had and how many pair of shoes she had. So the family moved to a different city. Yes, the life was going to be different in the city because there were many people like them in the city and nobody cared to make fun of others there.

Q14: Maddie thought her silence was as bad as Peggy’s teasing. Was she right?

A: Yes, Maddie was right when she thought that her silence was as bad as Peggy’s teasing because her silence encouraged Peggy to tease her. A person who sees something wrong happening in front of him/her is as much an offender as the person doing the offence. Maddie was so afraid of Paggy that she could be next target of her(Paggy) because she wore the dresses given to her by Paggy which had already been used by her. Maddie was also a poor girl.

Q15: Peggy says, “ I never thought she had the sense to know we were making fun of her anyway. I thought she was too dumb. And gee, look how she can draw!” What led Peggy to believe that Wanda was dumb? Did she change her opinion later?

A: Peggy believed that Wanda was dumb as she could not understand why Wanda said she had a hundred dresses, even when every body knew she was poor. She knew every body was laughing at her. Even then she kept giving the same answer. She even described the dresses she said she had. That is why Peggy thought that Wanda was dumb. She changed her opinion later when she saw the hundred dresses Wanda had talked about. She saw the drawings and was highly impressed by their beauty. She realized that Wanda was a very good artist.

Q16: What important decision did Maddie make? Why did she have to think hard to do so?

A: Maddie made the important decision that she would never stand by and say nothing again. If she ever heard anybody making fun of some one because of strange name, she would protest. She did not even mind losing Peggy’s friendship over it. She knew she could not make things right with Wanda. But she had decided that in the future, she would not make fun of anyone else.

She was unhappy that she could not find Wanda at her home. She could not sleep that night. She thought about wanda, her faded blue dress, and the little house she lived in. She thought about the hundred glowing pictures, which were all lined up in the classroom. She was feeling guilty of not having said anything when everybody else was teasing Wanda. It was her guilt that made her think very hard and arrive at the important decision.

Q17: Why do you think Wanda gave Maddie and Peggy the drawings of the dresses? Why are they surprised?

A: Wanda gave Maddie and Peggy the drawings of dresses because they made fun of her hundred dresses. They believe her to be a liar. They were surprised because they always made fun of her dresses and insulted her, but she had gifted them with those beautiful designs.

Q18:Do you think Wanda really thought the girls were teasing her? Why or why not?

A: yes, Wanda knew that the girls were teasing her. She knew that the children intended to make fun of her poverty, and laughed at her whatever she said. This could have been the reason of her exaggerating everything whenever she answered their questions.