



# A Little Princess



*Retold from the Frances Hodgson Burnett  
original by Tania Zamorsky*

*Illustrated by Lucy Corvino*

## What Do *You* Think? Questions for Discussion



**H**ave you ever been around a toddler who keeps asking the question “Why?” Does your teacher call on you in class with questions from your homework? Do your parents ask you questions at the dinner table about your day? We are always surrounded by questions that need a specific response. But is it possible to have a question with no right answer?

The following questions are about the book you just read. But this is not a quiz! They are designed to help you look at the people, places,

## A LITTLE PRINCESS

and events in the story from different angles. These questions do not have specific answers. Instead, they might make you think of the story in a completely new way.

Think carefully about each question and enjoy discovering more about this classic story.

1. Sara tells her father, “If I have plenty of books, I guess I shall be all right.” Why does she say this? Do you have any books that make you feel that way? Which ones and why?

2. Sara is a very imaginative child. She believes that her doll, Emily, can hear her speaking and comes to life when no one is around. Do you believe that toys lead secret lives? Do you have a specific toy that you confide in?

3. Sara likes to pretend that she is a princess. Why has she chosen this particular fantasy? What do you like to pretend to be?

4. Neither Sara nor Lottie has a mother. In what ways has this shaped their personalities?

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

How do the two girls compare with orphan characters you have read about in other books?

5. Miss Minchin feels uneasy about Sara because “the little girl almost seemed to see right through her.” What do you think this means? Have you ever felt that way about someone?

6. Mariette calls Sara a “perfect little princess.” Is she paying Sara a compliment or is she teasing her?

7. No one seemed to take any notice of Sara after Miss Minchin made her a maid in the school. In fact, most of the girls seemed to deliberately avoid her. Why do you think this happened? Have you ever experienced something similar with your friends?

8. When Ermengarde finally admits Sara that she misses her best friend, Sara confesses that she misses Ermengarde, too, but was too proud to say anything first. Have you ever been in a similar situation with your best friend? How did it turn out?

A LITTLE PRINCESS

9. After finding some coins on the street, Sara buys four buns for herself, but then gives them to a beggar girl. Why does she do this? Have you ever given away something that you wanted for yourself? What was it?

10. Sara says that “everything is a story!” Do you believe this statement is true? If so, how could you show that everything in your life is a story?