



The Man in the Iron Mask



*Retold from the Alexandre Dumas
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STERLING CHILDREN'S BOOKS
New York

What Do *You* Think? Questions for Discussion



Have 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 about your day at the dinner table? 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

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

designed to help you look at the people, places, 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. Aramis tells Phillip that he risked everything to find him. What is the riskiest thing you've ever done?

2. Why is it so impressive that Porthos was invited to the party at Vaux? What is the best party you've ever attended?

3. Why does Aramis talk to the tailor in front of D'Artagnan? Have you ever kept secrets from a friend or thought someone was keeping secrets from you?

4. Aramis offers to either make Phillip king or to give him money to live in the country. Why do

you suppose Phillip chooses as he does? Which would you prefer?

5. Why does Colbert think Fouquet is stealing the king's money? Have you ever been accused of something you didn't do?

6. Why does Raoul wish to join the Duke's regiment? How does Athos take the news? Have you ever traveled without your parents?

7. D'Artagnan says that Phillip deserved to be king more than Louis. What makes him think that? Who do you think deserves to be king?

8. Where do Aramis and Porthos go to hide from Louis? Where would you go if you needed to hide out?

9. Why do Aramis and Porthos blow up the grotto? Do you think this was brave or foolish? What is the bravest thing you've ever done?

10. Why does D'Artagnan hesitate to take back his resignation? Do you think he makes the right decision? What would you have done in his place?