

## The Hundred Dresses-II



by Elenor ruth Rosenfeld

## ABOUT THE WRITER –

**Eleanor Ruth Rosenfeld (Estes)** was an American children's author. She was born in West Haven, Connecticut as Eleanor Ruth Rosenfield. Originally a librarian, Estes' writing career began following a case of tuberculosis. Bedridden while recovering, Estes began writing down some of her childhood memories, which would later turn into full-length children's books.

Estes's book *Ginger Pye* (1951) won the **Newbery Medal**, and three of her other books (*The Middle Moffat*, *Rufus M.*, and *The Hundred Dresses*) were chosen as Newbery Honor books. She also received the Certificate of Award for Outstanding Contribution to Children's Literature and was nominated for the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award. By the time of her death at age 82, Estes had written 19 children's books and one novel for adults.

### Introduction of the chapter in English -

In this Lesson, the author teaches us a lesson not to hurt anybody's feelings. All the girls in the school made fun of Wanda, a Polish girl. As a result, she left the school. Then the feeling of repentance arose among the students who teased Wanda. Peggy and Maddie even go to her house to stop her from leaving that place but they could not meet her as she had already left. They write a letter to her accepting their fault. Wanda sends a letter to Miss Mason

on the eve of Christmas. She greets everybody 'Merry Christmas' and gives them the gifts of her paintings.

### Introduction of the chapter in Hindi -

इस पाठ में लेखक हमें किसी की भावनाओं को ठेस न पहुँचाने का पाठ पढ़ाते हैं। स्कूल की सभी लड़कियों ने पोलिश लड़की वांडा का मजाक उड़ाया। नतीजतन, उसने स्कूल छोड़ दिया। तभी वांडा को चिढ़ाने वाले छात्रों में पश्चाताप की भावना पैदा हो गई। पैगी और मैडी उसे उस जगह से जाने से रोकने के लिए उसके घर भी जाते हैं लेकिन वे उससे नहीं मिल सके क्योंकि वह पहले ही जा चुकी थी। वे अपनी गलती स्वीकार करते हुए उसे एक पत्र लिखते हैं। क्रिसमस की पूर्व संध्या पर वांडा मिस मैसन को एक पत्र भेजती है। वह सभी को 'मेरी क्रिसमस' की बधाई देती हैं और उन्हें अपने चित्रों का उपहार देती हैं।

### The Hundred Dresses II Summary in English -

The lesson begins with all the students of Room no. 13 Having a look at the wonderful drawings of Wanda Petronski. Only then, a note is received by Miss Mason from Wanda's father informing that none of his two children will attend the school as they are moving to a big city where no one would judge them for their names. Miss Mason was left shocked and conveyed her disappointment to the class. Maddie was affected by this letter of Wanda's father. She instantly developed an urge to apologise to Wanda. Peggy and Maddie, the two best friends, rush to Boggins Heights hoping that the family hadn't moved yet. But to their dismay, there was no sign

of life in and around the house. Maddie lost her sleep thinking what a coward she is who couldn't stand against the wrong. That day she decided that she'll never let anyone tease someone like that again. That weekend Peggy and Maddie decided to write a letter to Wanda that was originally meant to be apologetic but they ended up writing a friendly note asking her how she liked the new place. Weeks passed by and there was no reply until one day near Christmas, Miss Mason announced that she heard from Wanda. In that letter, Wanda wrote she misses everyone and conveyed her intention of gifting one dress each to Maddie and Peggy because she has a whole new lot of dresses lined up in her new house. Both of them were happy to receive it and later realized that it was their faces she had drawn along with the dresses. Thus, they both concluded that Wanda did like them.

### **The Hundred Dresses II Summary in Hindi -**

पाठ की शुरुआत कमरा नं. 13 के सभी छात्रों से होती है। वांडा पेट्रोन्स्की के अद्भुत चित्रों पर एक नज़र डालते हुए। तभी, वांडा के पिता से मिस मेसन को एक नोट प्राप्त होता है जिसमें बताया गया है कि उनके दो बच्चों में से कोई भी स्कूल नहीं जाएगा क्योंकि वे एक बड़े शहर में जा रहे हैं जहां कोई भी उनके नाम के लिए उनका मजाक नहीं बनेगा। मिस मेसन हैरान रह गई और उन्होंने कक्षा में अपनी निराशा

व्यक्त की। वांडा के पिता के इस पत्र से मैडी प्रभावित हुई। उसने तुरंत वांडा से माफी मांगने का आग्रह किया। पैगी और मैडी, दो सबसे अच्छे दोस्त बोगिन्स हाइट्स की ओर दौड़ते हैं, इस उम्मीद में कि पोलैन्स्की परिवार अभी तक गया नहीं होगा। लेकिन उन्हें निराशा हुई कि घर में और उसके आसपास जीवन का कोई निशान नहीं था। मैडी ने यह सोचकर अपनी नींद खो दी कि वह कितनी कायर है जो गलत के खिलाफ खड़ी नहीं हो सकती। उस दिन उसने फैसला किया कि वह फिर कभी किसी को इस तरह चिढ़ाने नहीं देगी। उस सप्ताह के अंत में पैगी और मैडी ने वांडा को एक पत्र लिखने का फैसला किया जो मूल रूप से क्षमाप्रार्थी था, लेकिन उन्होंने एक दोस्ताना नोट लिखकर उससे पूछा कि उसे नई जगह कैसी लगी। सप्ताह बीत गए और क्रिसमस के दिन तक कोई जवाब नहीं आया, मिस मेसन ने घोषणा की कि उन्हें वांडा का पत्र आया है। उस पत्र में, वांडा ने लिखा था कि वह सभी को याद करती है और मैडी और पैगी को एक-एक पोशाक उपहार में देने के अपने इरादे से अवगत कराती है क्योंकि उसके पास अपने नए घर में सैकड़ों नए कपड़े हैं। वे दोनों पोशाक के चित्रों का उपहार पाकर खुश होती है और महसूस करती है कि चित्रों में उन्हीं के चेहरे बने हैं। इस प्रकार, वे दोनों इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचे कि वांडा उन्हें पसंद करती थी।

### 1. TITLE JUSTIFICATION -

The title 'The Hundred Dresses-II' is an apt one as it refers to the hundred dresses that Wanda Petronski had made quietly. The story revolves around the hundred dresses that Wanda created and the events that unfolded after her winning the contest. Her dresses come to symbolize not only her great talent in drawing but also her humble and tolerant and noble nature which was far superior to the those who teased her.

### 2. THEME of the story -

The story explores the theme of repentance and forgiveness. Although the girls teased Wanda every single day, Wanda forgives Maddie and Peggy and demonstrates this by giving them each one of the beautiful dresses she has painted. The chapter highlights through the character of Wanda how forgiveness is a nobler virtue.

### 3. MESSAGE of the story -

The message of the story is that repentance for a wrong doing is good for the soul as it cleanses it. Peggy and Maddie repent for their cruel and mean behavior towards Wanda and wish to make amends. They are unable to meet her but correspond with her who shows a lot of good will towards them.

## CHARACTER SKETCH-

### 1. Peggy

In the chapter Peggy feels rather guilty about Wanda leaving and is worried that her teasing has driven Wanda away. She realizes how large-hearted Wanda was compared to her. Peggy thinks that she never considered that Wanda did not take her teasing as a joke.

### 2. Maddie

Maddie is Peggy's best friend and also teases Wanda but knows in her heart that this is wrong. In the chapter she is seen as one who suffers the most after the letter of Wanda's father is read out in the class. She feels extremely guilty for her mean and callous behavior towards Wanda.

## The Hundred Dresses-II Key Points From the Chapter

1. The teacher makes the classroom fully attentive before reading out the letter written by Wanda's father informing them about the absence of Wanda and Jack from their school for good. The Petronski family decides to settle in a big city so that their children don't suffer from funny pranks played by their classmates.

2. The whole class along with the teacher got shocked with the content of the letter sent by Mr. Petronski. The entire class got tense and they felt bad about Wanda. Maddie could concentrate on her studies.

3. She felt that she was a coward and never stopped Peggy from making fun of Wanda. She wanted to meet Wanda. She made up her mind to go to her house and tell her that she has won the prize.

4. When the school was over Peggy and Maddie went to Boggin's Heights. Both the girls found her house but they could not meet her as they had already left the place.

5. Peggy tried to defend her behavior but Maddie is not satisfied. On Saturday both Peggy and Maddie wrote a letter to Wanda telling her she had won the contest.

6. Days passed but there was no answer from Wanda. It was Christmas time when Miss Mason received a letter from Wanda. Wanda had written a letter that the girls could keep those hundred dresses because in her new house she had hundred new ones.

7. She had gifted a special drawing to Peggy and Maddie. Maddie found that the face in the drawing looked like her.

8. She went to Peggy's house and saw her drawing too.

9. She made up her mind to go to her house and tell her that found that the face and head of the drawing looked like their face and head.

## WORD –MEANINGS

Word	Meaning
1. Circling-	moving round (आसपास घूमना)
2. thoughtfully-	thinking deeply (गहरा सोचना);
3. shuffling-	making sound of feet while walking (चलते समय पैरों से आवाज करना)
4. tense-	serious (गंभीर),
5. deliberately-	intentionally (जान-बूझकर)
6. Indicated-	showed (दिखाया)
7. listened closely-	heard attentively (ध्यान से सुना);
8. holler-	cry loudly (जोर-से चीखना)
9. Pollack-	a word suggesting anger (गुस्सा दर्शाने वाला शब्द)
10. plenty-	enough (काफी);
11. unfamiliar-	unacquainted (अपरिचित)।
12. Thoughtlessness-	without thinking (बिना सोचे)
13. unfortunate-	unlucky (अभागा)
14. stood by-	supported (सहारा दिया)
15. coward-	lacking courage (कायर)
16. mean-	with bad mentality (कमीना)
17. stole a glance-	looked secretly (चोरी से देखा)।
18. Pretended-	showy (दिखावापूर्ण);
19. casualness-	carelessness (लापरवाही)
20. glowed-	became hopeful (आशावान)
21. forbidding-	bad (बुरा)
22. drizzly-	rainy (बरसात वाला)
23. damp-	wet (गीला)
24. dismal-	sad (उदास)
25. gruffly-	roughly (कठोरता से)
26. dumb-	unfeeling (बिना भावना के)

27. gee-	exclamation of joy (खुशी की अभिव्यक्ति)
28. wisps-	pieces (टुकड़े)
29. pathway-	footpath (फुटपाथ)
30. kittens-	young ones of cats (बिल्ली के बच्चे)
31. shabby-	simple and cheap (सादा एवं सस्ता) ।
32. Make amends-	patch up (समझौता करना)
33. probably-	perhaps (शायद)
34. glowing-	beautiful (सुंदर)
35. conclusion-	result (परिणाम)
36. picking on someone -teasing someone	(किसी को तंग करना) ।
37. Mailed-	sent by post (डाक से भेजना)
38. defending-	protecting (बचाना)
39. tease-	trouble someone (किसी को तंग करना)
40. decorated-	beautiful (सुंदर)
41. Gifted-	talented (गुणा)
42. intently-	switch attention (ध्यान से)
43. trimming-	decorating (सजना)
44. wreaths-	garlands (मालाएँ)
45. holly-	a plant (एक पौधा)
46. grocery-	a provisions shop (किरयाने की दुकान)
47. stacked-	kept (रखा)
48. candy-	a sweet (मिठाई)
49. cornucopias-	decorative containers (सजावटी डिब्बे)
50. shiny-	bright (चमकीला)
51. reflected-	shown back (परावर्तित किया)
52. brilliancy-	brightness (चमक)
53. Blurred-	unclear (धुंधला)
54. gazed-	looked intently (ध्यान से देखा)
55. vivid-	clear (स्पष्ट)
56. stolidly-	without any feeling (बिना सोचे)

## MCQ'S THE HUNDRED DRESSES - II -

1. Who wrote the letter received by Miss Mason?
  - A) Wanda
  - B) Wanda's mother
  - C) Wanda's father
  - D) Wanda's brother
2. What did the letter convey?
  - A) Wanda wasn't well
  - B) Wanda won't be attending school
  - C) they have moved to the big city
  - D) both 2 and 3
3. what else was mentioned in the letter?
  - A) her drawings
  - B) her medal
  - C) the school
  - D) her funny name
4. How did Miss Mason feel about whatever happened with Wanda?
  - A) unfortunate
  - B) sad
  - C) cruel
  - D) both 1 and 2
5. How would you describe Miss Mason's feelings towards the class?
  - A) Angry
  - B) Upset
  - C) Happy
  - D) Cheerful
6. What was just as bad as what Peggy had done?
  - A) Maddie staying silent while Peggy teased Wanda
  - B) Maddie not stopping Peggy
  - C) Maddie teasing Wanda
  - D) None of the above
7. What did Maddie think of herself after the letter was read out loud?
  - A) Grateful
  - B) Lucky
  - C) Hero
  - D) Coward
8. "So Peggy had the same idea! Maddie glowed" What was the idea?
  - A) To tease Wanda one more time
  - B) To go and look for Wanda at Boggins Height
  - C) To apologise to Wanda
  - D) Both 2 and 3

9. What was Maddie reminded of by the Petronski's house?
- how they teased her
  - how she could stop all of it
  - Wanda's drawings
  - Wanda's dress; unironed but clean
10. What excuses does Peggy think of for her behaviour?
- Wanda didn't know she was being made fun of
  - she got the idea of hundred drawings only when Peggy asked her
  - None of these
  - Both A and B
11. What important decision does Maddie take?
- Unfriending Peggy
  - visiting Wanda
  - stop others from bullying
  - all of the above
12. How did they contact Wanda?
- Letter
  - Phone call
  - Email
  - They visited her
13. What did they write in the letter?
- apology
  - Her drawings and that she won
  - asked about new city
  - both 2 and 3
14. What was used to decorate the classroom on Christmas?
- bells
  - tree
  - both
  - None of the above
15. What was the colour of the dress in Peggy's drawing?
- red
  - green
  - blue
  - white

1	C	2	D	3	D	4	D	5	B
6	A	7	D	8	D	9	D	10	D
11	C	12	A	13	D	14		15	

## SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS (30-40 WORDS EACH)

**Answer the following questions:**

1. 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?

Ans. Wanda family moved to a different city because her father felt bad about the bad behaviour of girls towards Wanda.

No. because some kind of persons are living Everywhere.

2. Maddie thought her silence was as bad as Peggy's teasing. Was she right?

Ans. 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 committing the offence. Maddie was too afraid to say anything because she did not want to lose Peggy's friendship. Also, she was poor herself, so she feared that everybody would make fun of her too.

3. 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?

Ans. Peggy believed that Wanda was dumb as she could not understand why Wanda said she had a hundred dresses, even when everybody knew that she was poor. She knew everybody 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 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.

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

Ans. 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.

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

Ans. Yes, Wanda knew that girls were teasing her. She would have known that the children intended to make fun of her poverty, and would have laughed at her whatever she might have said. This could have been the reason for her exaggerating everything whenever she answered their questions.

6. State the reason behind the letter of Mr Petronski, Wanda's father?

Ans. Mr Petronski, Wanda's father wrote the letter because

He was upset to know about what all his daughter had to go through because of her strange name.

7. What do you think about Wanda's action of not coming to school anymore?

Ans. Wanda never replied to anyone against their misbehaviour. But due to the insults she faced, she decided not to come to school anymore. It was very mature of her age to teach them lessons without any argument.

8. How did Peggy and Maddie try to amend their behaviour towards Wanda?

Ans. Both Peggy and Maddie decided to change their behaviour as Peggy had tried to justify that it was not her dress for which she teased her. Maddie decided not to be a mute spectator and promised herself that she would try to protect if anyone would be mocked.

9. What impression do you form of Wanda Petronski on the basis of reading the lesson 'The Hundred Dresses-II'?

Ans. Wanda Petronski was a Polish girl who was very simple. She used to keep herself calm and silent in every condition and never reacted when Peggy teased her and took it lightly. She always replied to everyone with a smile. She even gifted her drawings to Peggy and Maddie which showed her innocent and loving behaviour.

10. Why did Maddie rush to Peggy's house while gazing at the drawing?

Ans. Maddie rushed to Peggy's house while gazing at the drawing because she had seen her face in the drawing and wanted to confirm about Peggy for the same.

## LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS (100-120 WORDS EACH)

1. What important decision did Maddie make? Why did she have to think hard to do so?

Ans. The important decision that Maddie made was that she would never stand by and say nothing again. If she ever heard anybody picking on someone because they were funny-looking or because they had strange names, she would speak up. She did not even mind losing Peggy's friendship over it. She knew she could not make things right with Wanda. However, she had decided that in the future, she would never make anybody else unhappy again.

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 also 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.

2. What did Maddie and Peggy write in the letter to Wanda? What happened to it? How did Maddie behave even though Peggy

had begun to forget the whole business?

Ans. Peggy and Maddie wrote a friendly letter to Wanda. Rather than being sorry they asked her about her new school and new teacher. They told her about the result of a drawing contest which she had won and that her drawings were very beautiful. They meant to say sorry indirectly. They signed it with lots of X's for love and didn't say anything to tease her. But they did not get any reply from her. After sometime Peggy had begun to forget the whole business. But Maddie was surrounded by the thoughts of Wanda and everything that happened to Wanda. She felt guilty and decided not to be silent anymore so that others might not feel ashamed like her.

3. Justify the title of the story. The Hundred Dresses.

Ans. The title The Hundred Dresses- It is an apt one as it refers to the drawings of the hundred dresses that Wanda Petronski had made quietly. Wanda was a Polish immigrant in America and studied in a school where all teased her for being a poor girl with an odd name. Peggy and Maddie always teased her about her clothes and she always said that she had a hundred dresses. The girls found it ridiculous and would tease her often. Then

Wanda wins a contest in which she designed sketches of a hundred dresses and was much admired for her talent. The story revolves around the hundred dresses that Wanda created and the events that unfolded after her winning the contest. Her dresses come to symbolize not only her great talent in drawing but also her humble, tolerant and noble nature which was far superior to those who teased her.

4. Write a character sketch of Wanda Petronski.

Ans. Wanda Petronskia, a Polish girl has shifted to America with her parents and younger brother. She is very kind and simple-hearted. She never behaves badly with anyone. She feels disturbed when Peggy teases her. But she replies confidently and courageously to what Peggy says to her. She wears the same blue faded dress everyday but she never complains about anything. She is very talented and has a good hand at drawing. She also wins the drawing contest and thus shows her creative side.

She is forgiving and generous as she forgives Peggy and Maddie by gifting them two of her drawings in which she draws their faces. So, it can be said that she is a mature, loving girl who cares about everyone.

5. How can you say that Maddie is an emotional girl? How is she different from Peggy?

Ans. By a close reading of the lesson it can be said that Maddie is an emotional girl. Being a close friend of Peggy she remains by her side when Peggy teases Wanda but she feels bad for her. She decides to write a note to Peggy to stop teasing Wanda but tears it up as she doesn't want to be the next target of fun. In the end she decides to stand against anyone who teases others even if she has to lose her friend, which shows her emotional attribute.

As compared to Maddie, Peggy is an arrogant girl. She teases Wanda by asking her about dresses, but she is not cruel as she helps children from bullies and cries when she sees an animal being hurt. But she tries to make fun of Wanda everytime and defends herself.

So, both the girls have different personalities and attributes which can be directed by their actions.