

PARAGON CONVENT SCHOOL

CLASS-3

ENGLISH

NOVEL-MATILDA

PAGES-153-198

SUMMARY

Miss Trunchbull sits down at the teacher's desk and begins to pour herself a glass of water. When the newt that Lavender put in the jug falls out she shrieks and jumps around, then immediately blames Matilda even though the girl insists that she did not do it. Miss Trunchbull continues to shout at her and Matilda gets so angry, and she stares at the glass with the newt in it, feeling some kind of power brewing inside her. She wills the glass to tip over in her mind, and it wobbles, until it finally topples over and the newt spills right onto Miss Trunchbull. She blames Matilda again. Matilda confesses to Miss Honey that she is the one who knocked the glass. She invites Matilda back to her cottage to have tea and talk about it.

As Matilda and Miss Honey walk towards Miss Honey's cottage, Matilda becomes more and more animated, happily hopping along and chattering to Miss Honey about how powerful and happy she feels. Miss Honey warns her that they must tread carefully, since they do not know the implications of the mysterious forces they are dealing with.

Miss Honey's cottage is small and plain, hardly furnished. The sink does not work, so Matilda is sent to go fetch water outside from the well. When Matilda asks, Miss Honey tells her that she is very poor. They make tea and bread, and Matilda is careful not to say anything that would embarrass Miss Honey. They take their food to sitting room, which is so bare that it surprises Matilda: the only pieces of furniture are three overturned boxes, two serving as chairs and as a table.

Matilda carefully probes Miss Honey, asking if they pay her very little at school. Miss Honey says she makes the same as everyone else, but she is the only one who lives so poor and simply. She begins, talking about how she was born to a doctor father in a big house nearby in the village. Her mother died when she was two, so her father invited her mother's sister—her aunt—to come in and live with them to take care of her. Miss Honey hated her right from the start; she was very unkind, though she always hid her cruelty in front of Miss Honey's father. Then when Miss Honey was five, her father died very suddenly, having allegedly killed



himself, and she was left to live alone with her cruel aunt. Matilda wonders aloud if the aunt was actually the one who killed him.

Living with her aunt, Miss Honey's life was a nightmare. Anything her aunt demanded, she obeyed, and grew up doing all of her housework and cleaning. Though she was a bright student, she was forbidden from going to university. When Miss Honey got her teacher's job, her aunt told her she would have to give her every bit of her salary for the next ten years to pay her back for feeding and housing her all these years.

Miss Honey is proud of how she managed to escape her aunt's house and live in this tiny cottage. She has managed to live here since on the one pound per week she gets as allowance from her aunt. Matilda thinks Miss Honey is a heroine, but realizes she cannot live like this for an indefinite amount of time and needs help. Matilda insists that she hire a lawyer and fight for her father's house, since surely he left it to his daughter, but Miss Honey says that no one has ever been able to find her father's will. Besides, she says, her aunt is a much-respected figure in the community and has a lot of influence. Finally, she reveals exactly who her aunt is: Miss Trunchbull.

NOTEBOOK WORK

Word Meaning-

- 1.yell-shout
- 2.squirm-twist
- 3.curious-eager
- 4.unpleasant- not pleasant
- 5.furious-angry
- 6.peculiar- not common

State true or false.

1. Lavender put the newt in Miss Trunchbull's jug. False
2. Miss Trunchbull blamed Matilda for the newt prank. True
3. Matilda tipped the glass with her eyes. True
4. Matilda went to her mother to understand the meaning of that extraordinary happening. False
5. Miss Honey was rich. False
6. Miss Honey lived in a small cottage. True
7. Miss Trunchbull was Miss Honey's mother. False

Answer the following questions-



Q1. Why did Matilda pick up Miss Honey to tell about the magic incident?

Ans. Matilda picked up Miss Honey because she thought that Miss Honey is the only person who would trust Matilda.

Q2. Why did Matilda get so angry?

Ans. Matilda got so angry because she was falsely blamed for putting newt into Miss Trunchbull's jug.

Q3. Why does Miss Honey call Matilda a grown up child?

Ans. Miss Honey says that Matilda is a like an adult-child combo. Even though she is very little, she is mature.

Q4. How did Miss Honey's father die?

Ans. Miss Honey's father died mysteriously. But according to Matilda, Miss Honey's aunt killed him.

