

Class - x

Subject - English

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Name - Atoshi Sharma

The Hundred Dresses Part 2 Summary -

The Hundred Dresses Part 2 is the second instalment of the story written by Eleanor Estes. The lesson begins with a letter sent by Wanda's father to her school. In the letter, he informed the school authorities about their decision of re-settling to a big city. He also mentioned that nobody would tease Wanda for her unique name or appearance in the new city. After reading the letter, the teacher, Miss Mason was shocked when she realised that Wanda was teased with derogatory comments by her classmates.

Maddie felt guilty for being a coward as she never stopped Peggy from taunting Wanda. She was so upset that she couldn't focus on her studies and often had nightmares of mistreating the poor girl. Thus, she decided to meet Wanda and clarify all the misunderstandings and tell her that she never intended to hurt her feelings. She was determined to go to Wanda's place and inform her about winning the drawing competition. Soon after school was over, Maddie and Peggy decided to set off to Wanda's residence at Boggins Heights to meet her.

To their dismay, Wanda and her family had already vacated the house and their visit was rendered fruitless. Hence, both the girls wrote a friendly letter addressed to Wanda informing them about her win. Many days passed, however there was no reply from her to their letter. Soon, it was Christmas time and Miss Mason received a letter from Wanda. In it, Wanda sent Christmas greetings to all and mentioned the beautiful hundred dresses sketches that she drew for the colouring contest. She stated that the girls could keep those sketches of hundred dresses and she she gifted special drawings to Peggy and Maddie. They accepted the gifts and pinned them in their respective bedrooms.

Maddie would often gaze at the picture for a long time and noticed that the face in the drawing resembled her own face. She rushed to Peggy's house immediately to check if her drawing too looked like Peggy. Seeing this, Peggy felt sorry for teasing a talented girl like Wanda. She wondered that though she had passed derogatory remarks about her name and appearance, Wanda always remained quiet and never complained about it. Maddie wiped her tears and often thought of Wanda standing alone in that sunny spot in the school yard, rightfully claiming about her hundred dresses all lined up in her closet. Finally, they realised racial discrimination ruins personal lives and relationships.

In the chapter – The Hundred Dresses Part 2, there is a valuable lesson for students that they should not discriminate against anyone on the basis of their appearance, caste or ethnicity.

Being narrow-minded has an adverse effect on people and impacts relationships in a society, to a great extent.