

# The Little Girl – Important Questions

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## Q. Why did Kezia avoid her father?

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**Ans.** Kezia avoided her father because according to her, her father was an emotionless person. He never spoke to Kezia lovingly and calmly. He scolded Kezia and reprimanded her for making mistakes. Kezia stammered in front of her father since he was a very huge and giant like figure too far-fetched from the image of a father full of warmth and affection.

## Q. Why did Kezia stammer in front of her father?

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**Ans.** Kezia's father always scolded her and never spoke to her in a loving manner. So, Kezia stammered in front of her father because she was afraid of him and found it difficult to speak in front of him.

## Q. Why was Kezia afraid of her father?

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**Ans.** Kezia was a little sensitive girl. Her father was aggressive and always spoke loudly. He always scolded her. He used to beat her, even when she had accepted her mistakes. He never played with her. This made her afraid of her father.

## Q. What orders were passed to Kezia in the evening when father returned home from office?

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**Ans.** When Kezia's father returned home from office she was supposed to come down, take off her father's shoes and put them outside. She was also to put her father's tea cup on the tea table.

## Q. What gave a sense of relief to Kezia and why?

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**Ans.** The noise of the carriage growing fainter and fainter down the long road gave her a sense of relief because it meant that her father had left the house. She was extremely scared of her father and wanted to avoid him.

## Q. What kind of a person was Kezia's father?

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**Ans.** Kezia's father was a hard working man but short tempered. He was a strict disciplinarian too. When Kezia's mother was hospitalized, Kezia realized that her father loved her but didn't have the art of expressing his love.

## Q. Why did Kezia's grandmother send her to the drawing room every Sunday afternoon?

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**Ans.** Kezia's grandmother knew that she was afraid of her father and she felt that if she spoke to him more often, she would get rid of that fear. So, every Sunday afternoon she used to send her to the drawing room to have a nice talk with her father.

**Q. What did Kezia find whenever on Sunday afternoons her grandmother sent her down to have a talk with her parents?**

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**Ans.** Whenever Kezia was sent by her grandmother to talk to her parents on Sunday afternoons, she always found her mother reading and her father stretched out on the sofa, sleeping soundly and snoring.

**Q. What made Kezia's father punish her?**

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**Ans.** Kezia tore important papers of her father to stuff into the pin cushion because she was making a gift to present to her father. Since the papers had her father's speech written on them, she was punished for tearing them.

**Q. How did the father comfort the little girl, Kezia, when she got scared in her sleep?**

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**Ans.** Father came to Kezia's room with a candle, lifted her up in his strong arms, lay beside her and made her stay close to him. She held his shirt and snuggled herself close to her father. This comforted Kezia when she got scared in her sleep.

**Q. 'Father's great speech for the Port Authority had been lost.' What had happened to father's speech?**

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**Ans.** Father's speech had been torn to pieces by Kezia, the little girl. She was making a pin cushion as a gift for her father for his birthday. As she was not able to find anything to stuff it with, she tore the speech and stuffed it in her cushion.

**Q. How was Kezia's father different from Mr. McDonalds?**

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**Ans.** Mr. McDonalds played with his children. The girls would hang on to his coat, they would laugh together. Kezia's father had no time for such things. He really worked very hard for the family.

**Q. How did Kezia feel in presence of her father?**

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**Ans.** Kezia was scared of her father as he looked like a giant. Every morning he used to give her a good bye kiss. She used to feel uncomfortable till her father was at home. She even stammered while answering him. He scolded her one day and even beat her for tearing some of his important papers. But when Kezia used to cry during the night, he would carry her to his room. She then realized that her father was actually tender and affectionate and this changed her perception towards him.

**Q. Why was Kezia scared of her father and how did she get over her fear?**

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**Ans.** Kezia's father was big like a giant and was very strict. He punished Kezia when she tore his important speech. One day, when Kezia's mother fell ill, her mother and grandmother were in the hospital. Kezia was left alone with her father at home. She had a nightmare and screamed with fright. Her father then carried Kezia in his lap to comfort and solace her. That closeness with her father during those days made her forget all fears.

**Q. How did Kezia's efforts to please her father resulted in displeasing him very much? How did this happen?**

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**Ans.** Kezia was very scared of her father and stuttered while talking to him. This annoyed him a lot. When she waited and stared at him to have a nice long chat, he did not like it. She unknowingly destroyed some of his important papers while stuffing a cushion which she wanted to present to him on his birthday. This made him very angry and he beat her up badly. Therefore, Kezia's efforts to please her father resulted in displeasing him very much.

**Q. Who did Kezia compare her father with? What made Kezia think that there were different sorts of fathers ?**

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**Ans.** Kezia compared her father with a giant. She thought that there were different sorts of fathers when she saw the father of the Macdonalds family playing 'tag' with his children happily. But her father always spoke angrily with her and chided her for stuttering.

**Q. How did Kezia's negative attitude towards her father change?**

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**Ans.** When her mother was hospitalized, her grandmother went to stay with her. Kezia used to sleep alone at night. She was so scared that she started shouting at night. She had nightmares and trembled a lot with fear. Then her father came to her room and took her into his arms to comfort her. She felt secure with her father near her. Then, she realized that her father was busy with work and had no time to play. She even realized that her father loved her but didn't have the art of expressing it. Thus, her attitude towards her father changed from negative to positive.