

# HOOK'S DAUGHTER: READERS GUIDE



## ABOUT THE BOOK

*Hook's Daughter: The Untold Tale of a Pirate Princess* follows 12-year-old Andromeda "Rommy" Cavendish as she discovers her father's secret life as the infamous Captain Hook. When he fails to show up for her birthday at Chattingham's School for Modern Girls, Rommy embarks on a dangerous journey that leads her to Neverland, where she must confront Peter Pan and discover the truth about her family.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Chapters 1-10: The Mystery Begins

1. Why do you think Rommy's father only visits twice a year? What does this tell us about their relationship?
2. How does Rommy's skill at fencing reflect her character? What does it show about her determination?
3. Discuss Francie's friendship with Rommy. How does a good friend help during difficult times?
4. What do you think about Rommy's decision to sneak out of school? Was it brave or foolish?
5. How does Primrose's treatment of Rommy reflect the social dynamics at Chattingham's School? What does this tell us about how wealth and status affected relationships in 1910?
6. Analyze Miss Watson's role in Rommy's life. How do the teachers at Chattingham's serve as substitute family members for Rommy? What does this suggest about boarding school life?
7. Examine Rommy's internal conflict about rule-following versus taking action. When she decides to sneak out, what factors push her to break the rules? How do you think her fencing training influences her willingness to take risks?
8. What role does food play in showing care and comfort throughout these chapters? Consider Mrs. Stackhouse's coconut cake, the tea service, and Francie sharing her provisions. How do small acts of kindness impact Rommy during her crisis?
9. Discuss the significance of Rommy's locket. Why do you think her father gave her a pearl from an oyster he found himself? What does this gift represent about their relationship, and how does it become important to the plot?

### Chapters 11-20: Journey to Neverland

1. How does Rommy show courage when helping Alice? What does this reveal about her values?
2. Why do you think Finn was following Rommy? Do you trust his motives?
3. Compare the mermaids in this story to other versions you know. How are they different?
4. What are your first impressions of Peter Pan? How do they compare to other stories about him?
5. Analyze the power dynamics between Danny's gang and Alice. How does this street conflict mirror larger themes of bullying and protection? What does Rommy's intervention tell us about her sense of justice?
6. Examine the concept of belief in Neverland. Why can children fly more easily than adults? What does this suggest about the differences between childhood and adulthood? How does Rommy's skepticism affect her ability to fly?

7. Compare the different authority figures Rommy encounters: Miss Watson, Mrs. Stackhouse, Chief Hawk Eye, and Little Owl. How do their different approaches to leadership and care influence Rommy's journey?
8. Discuss the moral complexity of the mermaids. How does Adrina's kindness contrast with her sisters' cruelty? What does this teach us about not judging entire groups by the actions of individuals?
9. Analyze Finn's character development through these chapters. At what point do you begin to suspect his true motives? What clues does the author give us about his deception? How does betrayal by someone you trust affect relationships?

### **Chapters 21-34: Truth and Consequences**

1. How does learning the truth about her father change Rommy?
2. Discuss the moral dilemma Chief Hawk Eye faces regarding Rommy and the Lost Boys.
3. Why do you think Captain Hook became a pirate? What might Pan have taken from him?
4. How has Rommy's relationship with her father changed by the end of the book?
5. Examine the theme of sacrifice throughout the final chapters. Who makes sacrifices and for whom? Consider Rommy's willingness to be bait, Chief Hawk Eye's difficult decision, and Hook's years of pursuing Pan. What do these sacrifices reveal about love and duty?
6. Analyze the battle scene and its aftermath. How does violence affect different characters? What does Rommy learn about herself during the fight with Pan? How does participating in battle change her relationship with her father?
7. Discuss the revelation about Rommy's mother through the hidden photograph. What questions does this discovery raise? How might learning that her father lied about her mother's death affect Rommy's ability to trust him going forward?
8. Examine the concept of justice versus revenge in Hook's motivations. What do you think Pan took from Hook that drives his quest for vengeance? Is Hook's pursuit of Pan justified, or has it become an unhealthy obsession? How might this affect Rommy's future?
9. Analyze the resolution and what it suggests about the future. How has the parent-child dynamic between Rommy and Hook changed? What challenges might they face as they try to build a new relationship? Do you think Rommy made the right choice to stay with her father rather than return to her old life?

## CHARACTER ANALYSIS QUESTIONS

- How does Rommy grow and change throughout the story?
- What are Peter Pan's true motivations? Is he a hero or a villain?
- Why might Captain Hook have hidden his true identity from Rommy?
- How do the secondary characters (Alice, Finn, Chief Hawk Eye) influence the main plot?
- How does Rommy's definition of strength and courage evolve throughout the story?
- What role does Alice play in helping Rommy understand her own values?
- How do Rommy's expectations about her father change, and what causes these shifts?

## THEME QUESTIONS

- What does the story teach us about truth versus lies?
- How does the theme of family loyalty play out in the story?
- What role does courage play in the characters' decisions?
- How do appearances deceive us throughout the story?
- How does the theme of "found family" play out through Rommy's relationships with Alice, the Indians, and even some of the pirates?
- What does the story suggest about the importance of knowing one's true identity?
- How do secrets and lies damage relationships, and is it possible to rebuild trust once it's broken?

## MORAL COMPLEXITY QUESTIONS:

- Are there any truly "good" or "evil" characters in this story? Explain your reasoning.
- How does the author challenge traditional fairy tale roles and expectations?
- What does the story suggest about the nature of truth and the reasons people lie?
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## WORLD-BUILDING QUESTIONS:

- How does the magic of Neverland work differently from other fantasy stories you know?
- What makes this version of Neverland feel dangerous rather than whimsical?
- How do the rules of the "real world" (1910 London) compare to the rules of Neverland?

Thanks for downloading the reader's guide for  
*Hook's Daughter*. Please feel free to make as  
many copies as needed for your classroom.

I hope you and your students enjoyed Rommy's  
adventure in Neverland.

R.V. Bowman