

READING ACTIVITY

1/4

LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY

Read the excerpt from *LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY* and then do the activities.



‘I have some very important news for you, Mrs Errol,’ said Mr Havisham, with a cold voice. ‘You know that the Earl of Dorincourt had three sons. Your husband was the youngest son. The older sons were called Bevis and Maurice. They both died a few months ago—one died in an accident and the other from an illness. They weren’t married and they had no children. Your husband is dead too, and so his son Cedric Errol is now the heir.’

Mrs Errol’s face became white and she was silent for a moment.

‘What do you mean, Mr Havisham?’ she asked, softly.

‘Your son Cedric is now Lord Fauntleroy,’ said Mr Havisham, ‘and he is the next Earl of Dorincourt after his grandfather dies.’

‘Oh,’ said Mrs Errol, worried, ‘will the Earl take Cedric away from me? We’re so happy together and I try to be a good mother to him.’

Mr Havisham didn’t have a family. He was a lawyer and a cold businessman. But he saw that Mrs Errol was a good mother and she loved her son dearly. Now, he had to tell her some very unpleasant things.

‘Mrs Errol,’ said Mr Havisham, ‘I must tell you that the Earl doesn’t like you. He doesn’t like America or Americans. He was very angry when his son married you. I’m sorry to say this, Mrs Errol, but the Earl doesn’t want to see you. Lord Fauntleroy must live with him at Dorincourt Castle and he will have everything he needs. However, you can live in another house near the castle. The Earl is giving you a house called Court Lodge, and Lord Fauntleroy can visit you every day. But you cannot go to the castle to visit him.’

Mr Havisham looked at Mrs Errol and was worried. ‘Is she going to cry?’ he thought. ‘What is she going to do?’

Mrs Errol got up and went to the window. She stood there for a few minutes and then turned around and said, ‘My husband loved England and everything English. He especially loved Dorincourt Castle. He was very sad to leave it. I think Cedric must go back and learn all about England, his father’s country. It is the best thing for him and his future. I hope that the Earl will love Cedric. He’s only a little boy and he needs love.’

Mr Havisham thought about the old Earl who didn’t love anyone. But he didn’t say this.

‘Mrs Errol,’ said Mr Havisham, ‘your son will be happy at Dorincourt Castle. The Earl will give him the best education in the world, because there are a lot of excellent schools in England. Cedric will have a very good life.’

Suddenly Cedric ran into the living room and said, ‘I’m home, Dearest! I was at the grocery store talking to my friend, Mr Hobbs.’

‘Cedric, we have a visitor today,’ said Mrs Errol, trying to smile.

Mr Havisham stood up and said, ‘So this is little Lord Fauntleroy.’

He looked at Cedric and thought. ‘What a good-looking boy! He has a strong body and a friendly smile.’

Mrs Errol and Mr Havisham told Cedric about his English grandfather, his new home in England and his new name. It was a lot of news for a young boy! At first, he didn’t understand all of it. But when he did, he wasn’t very happy.

(From Chapter Two)



READING ACTIVITY

2/4

ACTIVITIES

1 Choose the correct answer—a, b or c.

1. The Earl of Dorincourt had

- a. three sons.
- b. two sons.
- c. no children.

2. Cedric Errol was the heir

- a. of Mr Havisham.
- b. of Bevis and Maurice.
- c. of the Earl of Dorincourt.

3. Mrs Errol will

- a. live at Court Lodge.
- b. live at Dorincourt Castle.
- c. stay in New York City.

4. Cedric Errol was talking to his friend

- a. at the park.
- b. at school.
- c. at the grocery store.

5. Mrs Errol and Mr Havisham told Cedric about his new home in England

- a. and he started to cry.
- b. and he wasn't very happy.
- c. and he was angry.



READING ACTIVITY

3/4



2 Are the following sentences true (T) or false (F)?

1. Mr Havisham was an Earl. T F
2. Mrs Errol's husband was the Earl of Dorincourt's oldest son. T F
3. The old Earl of Dorincourt didn't like America or Americans. T F
4. Cedric will go and live in Court Lodge. T F
5. Cedric will have a very good education in England. T F

