

# FIRST FLIGHT

STD-X

**SUBJECT : ENGLISH**

**CHAPTER NUMBER: 4**

**CHAPTER NAME : AMANDA**

**By Robin Klein**

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**CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW**

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# ABOUT THE POET



**Born:** 28 February 1936 (age 85 years), Kempsey, Australia

**Nationality:** Australian

**Genre:** Children's and young adult fiction

**Movies:** Hating Alison Ashley, Say a Little Prayer

**Robin McMaugh Klein** is an Australian author of books for children. She was born on 28 February 1936, in Kempsey, New South Wales, Australia and now resides near Melbourne.

## **Awards-**

- 1.Special mention – Critici in Erba Prize at Bologna for *The Giraffe in Pepperell Street* (1978)
- 2.Won – CBCA Children's Book of the Year Award: Younger Readers for *Thing* (1983)
- 3.Won – Human Rights Literature and Awards (1989)
- 4.Won – CBCA Children's Book of the Year Award: Older Readers for *Came Back to Show You I Could Fly* (1990)
- 5.Won – Canberra's Own Outstanding List: Fiction for Older Readers Award for *People Might Hear You*(1991),Dromkeen Medal (1991)
- 6.Won – Canberra's Own Outstanding List: Fiction for Older Readers Award for *Came Back to Show You I Could Fly* (1992)

## ABOUT THE POEM

Robin Klein has expressed the views of a little girl, Amanda who is constantly pointed out by her mother for making mistakes. Mistakes which she considers so as they are not part of the code of good conduct laid out by the society in which we live.



<https://youtu.be/9VdKhIsDRvo>

VIDEO

# CENTRAL IDEA OF THE POEM

- The greatest wealth that a child wants to possess is his/her freedom. And the thing he/she never likes is the constant nagging, unwanted instructions and even overprotection of the parents.
- The central idea of the poem Amanda is that the parents who do not understand the nature of their children. They keep giving commands to their children. They want them (their children) adopt the norms of society.
- Every child just like Amanda wants to enjoy the dreamy and romantic world of his/her childhood. Any kind of instructions or interference curtails their freedom.
- This has adverse impact on the upbringing of the children. Amanda seems to be escaping in the beginning, however in the end she stops imagining and rather becomes short-tempered, moody and angry.

Poem 6

# Amanda!

by Robin Klein



# CHILDHOOD –A PERIOD OF FANTASIES

Childhood is a period when children indulge in fantasies. But when they start growing up, their parents expect them to behave more responsibly. Parents start nagging and giving instructions at every step. Children don't want to be instructed and guided the way their parents want. They feel that their freedom is being curtailed. If parents keep on nagging, their children escape to the dreamy world of fantasies. They don't want to come out of this fanciful world so early.



# AMANDA IS BITING HER NAILS

Her mother asks her not to do so. Nor does the mother want that she should hunch her shoulders down. She wants her to sit straight. Amanda seems to be drooping her body towards one side. Her mother wants her to adopt the right posture and sit up straight.



**SCOLDED BY MOTHER**

# HOME ASSIGNMENT (POETIC DEVICES USED)

**Anaphora:** Repeated use of a word at start of two or more lines (did you finish....did you tidy)

**Assonance:** use of vowel sound 'o' (Thought, told, you, your, shoes)

use of vowel sound 'e' and 'o' (Will you please look at me when I'm speaking to you)

**Repetition:** use of word 'Amanda'

**Metaphor:** silence is golden - silence is said to be glorious like golden colour

freedom is sweet - freedom is said to be sweet in taste.

**Allusion:** use of famous fairy tale character Rapunzel

**Consonance:** use of sound 'r' (I am Rapunzel; I have not a care .....Bright hair)

**Alliteration:** 'Stop that sulking' - 's' sound is repeated at the start of closely placed words

**Repetition:** use of word 'Amanda'



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