

1. Madame Valermont vividly remembered the day when she first saw Desirée as a baby in her mind Desirée would always be her little girl. So, it was amusing for her to think that Desirée was all grown up and had become a mother herself.
2. L'Abri was the name of the villa where Armand and Desirée lived after getting married as we know from the story, L'Abri was not a looking place. The house looked gloomy and was surrounded by oak trees, the slaves of the house looked miserable under the strict rule of Armand. However, it was a livelier place under Armand's father, as he was an easy-going and indulgent master.
3. Madame Valmond was startled to see the baby because she instantly recognised the difference in the colour of its skin, she knew that the baby was black. Desirée, however, was unmindful of this fact. She loved the baby dearly and was overjoyed that it was healthy and was growing fast.
4. Desirée was certain that Armand was happy about the baby because she knew that he wanted a boy. Moreover, she had observed a great change in his behaviour towards the slaves ever since the time the baby was born. He had stopped punishing them and was lenient even to the ones who made up excuses to skip work.

5
Certain incidents made Desires realize that things were changing. There was a mysterious change among the slaves. Distant neighbours started paying visits to the house for no reason. However, Armand's behaviour worried Desires the most. He spoke to her with averted eyes and there was no love in his eyes, he would avoid Desires and her baby, and would often stay away from home. Moreover, he became harsh towards the slaves.

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This line tells us that the Aubignys were very impulsive and passionate in nature. At the end of the story, we find out that Armand's father had also fallen in love with a black woman and married her. He went to the extent of never letting his wife meet her own son to avoid social stigma, but that did not stop him from being with his beloved. Similarly, in the beginning, Armand had also not cared about Desires' obscure origin and married her.

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Marceline Valmande loved Desires and wanted the best for her. Due to Desires' obscure origin, he had to ensure that Armand would take care of his daughter and respect her the same. As a father, he didn't want her obscure origin affect her marriage and wanted to ensure that allowing Armand to marry her was the right thing to do.

3 Armand's father was a more indulgent and kind master as compare to Armand. Under him, L'Inferno was a happy place, in contrast, under Armand, the slaves hardly smiled and it turned into a gloomy and sad looking place.

4 Looking at the boy, the similarity between him and the baby became more apparent to Desiree, before that moment, her love for the baby had blinded her to the discrepancies that everyone else had noticed. For the first time, she saw him in a different light and was well shocked.

5 The story does not mention whether Desiree was aware of her origin or not. However, in her letter to Valmande, she asked him to tell Armand that she was indeed white. This probably indicated that even though she knew that the Valmandes were not her real parents, she was not too aware of her origin. In that case, Desiree's protest was understandably innocent and sincere. On the other hand, if we assume that Desiree ~~has~~ knew about the uncertainty regarding her birth, her protest was still most heartfelt. It was more out of her indignation at being questioned than out of uncertainty of the colour of her skin. She couldn't believe that Armand would doubt her honestly and desperately wanted him to believe her. Madame Valmande, on the other hand, was more practical and knew she could not vouch for her daughter's skin colour. However, that didn't change her love for Desiree and the baby, and she welcomed them with open arms.

6. During the time, the story is set in, white people considered black people inferior to them and employed them. We know that Armand, unlike his father, thought that blacks were beneath him and treated them harshly. Thus he thought that it was unfair that his own wife and child turned out to be black.

7. Armand's mother never left her own country because she didn't want anyone, especially her own son to know that she was black. She knew that if the secret were to come out, her son would be a subject of ridicule in the society and won't be able to lead a normal life.

8. Yes Armand wanted Desiree to leave him and go. There are many lines that support this. Firstly when Desiree asked him, he clearly said that he wanted her to leave. It is also mentioned that he didn't love her anymore. A close reading of the story reveals that Armand was aware of the pain he was causing her, but he still couldn't change his decision.