

In *Desiree's Baby* by Kate Chopin, Desiree is left as a baby to Madame Valmont who has no children. She takes her in and loves her dearly. Armand Aubigny falls in love with Desiree when she is 18, and they are married. They have a baby whom they both adore. When he is a few months old, Madame Valmont notices that the baby's skin appears darker than when he was first born. Eventually, Armand realizes this too, and assumes that Desiree must be to blame, as her parentage is unknown. He is devastated and rejects both Desiree and the baby because he believes they are not white. Desiree takes the baby and walks into the bayou, never to return. At the end of the story, Armand finds a letter that says his mother, who died when he was 8 years old, was actually black, so it is Armand who is of black heritage.