



Amanda! – Revision Notes

Summary

- The poem shows a girl named Amanda, who is constantly nagged by an elder (probably her mother).
 - She is scolded for:
 - Biting her nails
 - Sitting with her shoulders hunched
 - Not paying attention
 - Eating chocolates (causing acne)
 - While being scolded, Amanda escapes into her imagination:
 - She dreams of being a mermaid, free in the sea.
 - She imagines herself as an orphan, roaming freely barefoot.
 - She wants to be like Rapunzel, living peacefully in a tower without responsibilities.
 - The poem highlights the clash between a child's imagination and parental discipline.
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Theme

- Childhood vs. Discipline → Constant restrictions make children long for freedom.
 - Imagination as Escape → Amanda uses fantasy to avoid harsh reality.
 - Need for Freedom → Every child desires space, independence, and respect.
 - Parental Care vs. Overprotection → Excessive control suppresses creativity.
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Characters / Symbols

- Amanda → Represents children's desire for freedom and imagination.
- Parent → Represents authority, discipline, and societal expectations.
- Mermaid → Symbol of peace, escape, and freedom.

- Orphan → Symbol of independence without restrictions.
 - Rapunzel → Symbol of isolation but also freedom from worldly rules.
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☀️ Message of the Poem

- Children should not be overburdened with rules and restrictions.
 - Imagination is important for emotional growth.
 - Balance between discipline and freedom is necessary for healthy childhood.
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🗨️ Literary Devices

- Allusion → Reference to Rapunzel.
 - Imagery → Descriptions of sea, tower, orphan's life.
 - Repetition → "Amanda!" (emphasizes constant scolding).
 - Contrast → Between reality (scolding) and fantasy (imagination).
 - Irony → Parents' care feels like imprisonment to Amanda.
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❓ Short Questions & Answers

1. Who is the poet of *Amanda!*?
👉 Robin Klein.
 2. Why is Amanda being scolded?
👉 For biting nails, hunching shoulders, eating chocolates, and not listening.
 3. What does Amanda imagine herself as?
👉 A mermaid, an orphan, and Rapunzel.
 4. Why does Amanda want to be Rapunzel?
👉 To live peacefully in a tower, away from rules and interference.
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☀️ Long Q&A

Q1. How does the poem *Amanda!* depict the conflict between a child and a parent?



Answer: The poem shows Amanda being scolded constantly for her behavior and habits. The parent's excessive control frustrates her, and she escapes into her imagination—

dreaming of being free like a mermaid, orphan, or Rapunzel. This highlights the tension between parental discipline and a child's natural desire for freedom and creativity.

Q2. What is the role of imagination in Amanda's life?

Answer: Imagination is Amanda's escape from the restrictions and scolding she faces in reality. In her fantasy, she enjoys freedom and peace—whether as a mermaid in the sea, an orphan walking freely, or Rapunzel in her tower. It gives her comfort and helps her cope with the lack of freedom in her real life.

Value-Based Q&A

1. What lesson does the poem give parents?
 To give children space, freedom, and respect instead of constant criticism.
2. What can students learn from Amanda?
 Imagination is a source of strength, but discipline should be balanced with independence.