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Reading Response and Comprehension Questions

Chinese Cinderella

By

Adeline Yen Mah

Answer all 4 questions in full and complete sentences in the space provided. Stay within the text box, and write a one paragraph answer for each question. Make sure that you include specific details from the story to support your responses.

1) What can you tell about Adeline's family and how they live?

Did you answer this?

I can tell that Adeline's family is very strict. Maybe they are just strict to Adeline, but they treat Adeline's siblings with more respect. A quote that proves this would be on page three when Adeline says, "Please, Father. I asked boldly, thinking it was no or never. 'May I go to university in England too, just like my brothers?'" This shows that Adeline's brothers were allowed to go to England, whereas she wasn't, proving some kind of bias towards Adeline's siblings. I also think that Adeline's family have pretty much planned out Adeline's life. Her family doesn't care about her opinion, they only want her to do what they tell her. An example would be at the end of page three when Adeline's father says, "You will go to England with Third Brother this summer and you will go to medical school. After you graduate, you will specialize in obstetrics. Women will always be having babies. Women patients prefer women doctors. You will learn to deliver their babies. That's a foolproof profession for you. Don't you agree?" This proves that they have already decided what they want Adeline to do.

2) What sort of character does Adeline have? What kind of relationship does Adeline have with her family, especially with her father? How do you know this?

Adeline is used to tragic events occurring in her life, so she is always assuming the worst. An example of this would be on page one when Adeline says, "...Full of foreboding, I ran downstairs as in a a nightmare, wondering who had died this time."