

Questions and Answers - The steadfast tin soldier – Set 1

1. Who are the main characters in the steadfast tin soldier?
 - The main characters in the story are a tin soldier with one leg and a paper ballerina toy.
2. Why is the story so significant to Anderson's work?
 - The steadfast tin soldier was actually the first original fairy story written by Andersen and its beauty and success set the trend for the many tales he would go on to write.
3. What is the meaning of the steadfast tin soldier?
 - The meaning of the steadfast tin soldier is quite simple: a tin soldier who is steadfast in his duty and honour as a soldier.
4. Is The Steadfast Tin Soldier a Christmas story?
 - Yes, it is a beloved Christmas story that was famous all over Europe and was compiled in the works of Hans Christian Anderson.
5. Why was the One Tin Soldier different from the rest of them?
 - The Steadfast Tin Soldier did not have one of his legs. It is assumed that the toymaker either ran out of metal to cast one more leg or just wanted to make a soldier special and different from the rest. The second is more likely as the soldier is able to stand very stable despite having only one leg.

Set 2 - Questions and Answers

1. Write a brief summary of tin soldier?
 - A one-legged tin soldier falls hopelessly in love with a paper toy ballerina. Through the cruel twist of fate, he encounters a hard journey only to perish in the end. Nevertheless he remains steadfast in his love and his duty until the very end.
2. Why did the tin soldier have one leg?
 - There are three possible explanations that can be inferred from the story although the last one is most likely. The first is that the toymaker missed making one leg. The second explanation is that the toymaker ran out of metal to cast one more leg while the third is that the toymaker just wanted to make a soldier special and different from the rest. The third is more likely as the soldier is able to stand very stable despite having only one leg.

3. What was the little boy's reaction when he was given the box of tin soldiers?
 - The boy was delighted. 'Tin soldiers!' shouted the little boy and he clapped his tony hands when he had been given them as a birthday present.
4. Why are the soldiers related to Christmas?
 - The steadfast tin soldier has its origins from the mid to late 17th century of the kingdom of what is now Germany. The tin soldiers were often given as gifts to children. Soon they would become associated with Christmas.

Set 3 - Questions and Answers

1. How had the tin soldiers been made out?
 - They had been cast out of metal and painted in the colours of a soldier
2. What is the moral of the story in the brave tin soldier?
 - The moral of the short story, the steadfast tin soldier, is that one must be steadfast to one's duty and honor. One must be as steadfast as the tin soldier was.
3. Explain the climax or the ending of the steadfast tin soldier?
 - One of the boys threw the tin soldier into the stove. He looked at the little lady, and she looked at him, and he felt himself melting. But till the very end he stood steadfast, with his musket held trim on his shoulder. A puff of wind carried the dancer straight into the fire with the soldier and they both perished.
4. What is the character analysis of the tin soldier?
 - The tin soldier chooses not to speak which would have altered his fate and hers as well. He is the major cause of his sufferings and his ultimate demise since he shows a blind acceptance to fate without putting in efforts or willingness to change in order to make fate kinder to him.
5. How did the tin soldier desire the dancing girl?
 - He sees her all the time but never says what he feels towards her as he feels soldiers should not do so.

Set 4 - Questions and Answers

1. How many tin soldiers were there?
 - There were 25 tin soldiers in the box.
2. What does the toy soldier symbolize?

- The toy soldier symbolizes a soldier's steadfast and unyielding love and also his perseverance to his duty as a soldier.
3. How does the tin soldier find his way back into the house?
- A fish swallows the soldier and is caught. In an unusual twist of fate, the fish is then purchased by his owner and then he finds the toy soldier there.
4. Explain the message conveyed by the steadfast tin soldier story convey?
- The message conveyed is that one must be steadfast to one's love and also be honourable and never falter in duty when faced with peril.