

Questions

Part I

1. Why did the Velveteen Rabbit feel insignificant around the other toys in the nursery?
2. Who was the wisest toy in the nursery? Why was he the wisest? What made the Skin Horse different from the others?
3. Why did the Velveteen Rabbit like having the Skin Horse as a friend? How do you think the Velveteen Rabbit and the Skin Horse felt about each other and about other animals? Support your answer.
4. Why did the Skin Horse act differently towards the Velveteen Horse?
5. What was the Velveteen Rabbit's greatest wish? Why do you think becoming real was so important to the Velveteen Rabbit?
6. "Real isn't how you are made. It's a thing that happens to you." What did the Skin Horse mean when he said that?
7. Relate some of the Velveteen Rabbit's feelings about becoming real.

8. How did the nursery magic happen to the Velveteen Rabbit?

9. When did the Velveteen Rabbit become real to the Boy?

10. What do you think the Skin Horse meant when he said, “Because once you become real, you can’t be ugly except to people who don’t understand”?

11. What would “hurt” about becoming real?

12. Have you ever had a toy that seemed real to you? What made it seem real?

13. After learning that he was real, what changes happened to the Velveteen Rabbit?

14. Think of an unfortunate event, which led to something good for the Boy and the Velveteen Rabbit.

15. What type of person do you think Nana was? Give reasons for your answers.

16. If you were the boy, how would you feel about the Velveteen Rabbit?

Part II

1. In what ways did the Boy show that he considered the Velveteen Rabbit to be real?
2. Is there a difference between being real and being alive?
3. Do you think the Velveteen Rabbit ever doubted being real? Support your answers.
4. How did the Velveteen Rabbit feel about his encounter with the live rabbits?
5. In what manner did the live rabbits first show their fear of the Velveteen Rabbit?
6. Why did the Velveteen Rabbit seem real to the Boy but not the live rabbits?
7. Give reasons why you think the Velveteen Rabbit wouldn't admit to the live rabbits that he didn't have hind legs?

8. Why didn't the live rabbits return to the Velveteen Rabbit? Why did he want them to return?

Part III

1. Explain the following: "When you are Real, shabbiness doesn't matter."
2. How was the Velveteen Rabbit's life affected by the boy's illness? What feelings did the Velveteen Rabbit have about the boy being ill?
3. What illness did the Boy have?
4. To what event was the Boy looking forward?
5. Was being thrown with the garbage behind the fowl house a good or bad experience for the Velveteen Rabbit? Explain why.
6. What might have happened to the Velveteen Rabbit if the gardener hadn't been busy?
7. How was the Velveteen Rabbit's sadness transformed into happiness?

8. Why did the author emphasize that the tear cried by the rabbit was real?
9. When did the Velveteen Rabbit have his wish granted?
10. How had the Boy helped the Velveteen Rabbit become real?
11. Was the Velveteen Rabbit's life happier before or after he was thrown out of the nursery? Why do you think that?
12. Would you prefer to stay as the Velveteen Rabbit or become live as he did? Why?
13. How important was the Velveteen Rabbit to the Boy?
14. What would the Velveteen Rabbit need to learn to survive in Rabbitland?
15. How do you know this story does not take place in modern times?
16. What does it mean to you to be loved?