

**Lesson : 3**

**The Little Girl**

**By**

**Katherine Mansfield**

The  
Little  
girl



# Katherine Mansfield



- **Katherine Mansfield**, was born on October 14, 1888, [Wellington](#), New Zealand and died on January 9, 1923, in France.

Her delicate stories, focused upon psychological conflicts and have a strong influence of [Anton Chekhov](#).

She, in turn, had much influence on the development of the short story as a form of [literature](#).

## The Message:

**Parents are the well-wishers of their children, though they appear strict, like teachers.**

**Kezia's father belongs to the wrong set of parents who punish their children more out of anger than out of their matured will.**

Kezia was a little girl who lived with her mother, father and grand-mother. She was afraid of her father and used to avoid him.

But every morning, before going to business her father came to her and gave her a perfunctory kiss, to which she responded with “Good-bye, father.”



In the evenings she used to wait near the staircase for her father to arrive.

But once her father arrives home, she listens to his loud manly voice in the drawing room and feels stifled and intimidated by him.

She would walk slowly  
to her father because  
she was afraid of her  
father's serious look at  
her through his  
spectacles.

His way of conversation  
always made Kezia  
nervous and she  
stuttered in front of him.  
He appeared to her  
harsh, rude and critical.

**To Kazia, “he was so big” - his hands, his mouth and his neck.**