

# **THE SNOW QUEEN**

## **by Hans Christian Andersen**

### **A Homeschool Radio Shows Listening Guide**

#### **SUMMARY**

The Snow Queen was a fairy tale first published in 1845, and centers on the struggle between good and evil as experienced by a little boy and girl, Kai and Gerda.

The story is one of Andersen's longest. It is regularly included in selected tales and collections of his work and is frequently reprinted in illustrated storybook editions for children.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Hans Christian Andersen (April 2, 1805 – August 4, 1875) was a Danish author and poet. Although a prolific writer of plays, travelogues, novels, and poems, Andersen is best remembered for his fairy tales, a literary genre he so mastered that his works have been immortalized in children's world literature. Andersen's popularity was not limited to children, as his fairy tales—called eventyrs, or "fantastic tales"—express universal themes that transcend age and nationality.

During his lifetime he was acclaimed for having delighted children worldwide, and was feted by royalty. Andersen's fairy tales, which have been translated into more than 125 languages, have become culturally embedded in the West's collective consciousness, readily accessible to children, but presenting lessons of virtue and resilience in the face of adversity for mature readers as well.

The full-length text version of “The Snow Queen” is available for free download onto your Kindle. Just search for it and look for the free version.

For more information about Hans Christian Andersen, check these links:

[http://www.andersen.sdu.dk/index\\_e.html](http://www.andersen.sdu.dk/index_e.html)

<http://www.endicott-studio.com/jMA03Summer/hans.html>

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

What effect does the Snow Queen's mirror have on those who look into it?

How did Kai get under the spell of the mirror?

Where does Gerda have to travel to find her friend Kai?

What dangers does Gerda face in her journey?

How does Gerda find out where the Snow Queen lives and how does she get there?

What word is Kai unable to spell in the Snow Queen's palace? Why is he unable to do it?

Grandma said "Only love can save him". What is love? Does Gerda love Kai? How can you tell? How did Edward & Queen Millicent demonstrate love to Gerda? How does love finally save Kai from the Snow Queen?

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