



## Ramona Forever

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### Introduction:

From the moment Howie Kemp's mysterious "rich" Uncle Hobart arrives from Saudi Arabia, everything around Ramona Quimby seems to be changing. Howie and his sister Willa Jean talk only about Uncle Hobart. Ramona's mother and Aunt Bea seem to be keeping secrets. Life for Ramona, now a grown-up third-grader, is full of beginnings and discoveries and surprises—one very big surprise and one very small, but just as special!

Through all the happiness and confusion, and some small amounts of sadness, too, Ramona tries hard to be pleasant and helpful. Whether she's pleasant or peisty, brave or blunderful, she's always wonderful Ramona—forever!

### Discussion Questions:

1. Ramona's disappointment with Howie's Uncle Hobart turns into actual dislike when he sings a song with her name in it to tease her. Is it just that Ramona doesn't like adults who tease, or is there something about the circumstances in which she meets Uncle Hobart that makes things awkward?
2. Why is it so disquieting for Ramona to realize that Howie's grandmother does not like her? Do you think Mrs. Quimby is right when she says that maybe Howie's grandmother would rather not be a sitter for Ramona or for her grandchildren? Why do you suppose Ramona hadn't thought of that?
3. When Ramona and Beezus try going home instead of to the Kemps' house after school, what happens to interrupt their two-day record of being good? How does it bring the sisters closer to one another? What is Mr. and Mrs. Quimby's reaction when they hear about what the girls have had to handle all by themselves?
4. Ramona thinks that maybe she would rather have another cat than a younger brother or sister, but then her mother explains the special place of the middle child. Do you remember where it is? Do you agree with Mrs. Quimby?
5. After some mysterious phone calls to Mrs. Quimby, Howie's Uncle Hobart starts seeing Aunt Beatrice. What is Ramona's reaction and why?
6. What do you think of Uncle Hobart's way of shopping for the wedding after he volunteers to take care of everything? Why is Ramona's opinion of him starting to change?
7. How does Ramona save the day during the wedding ceremony?
8. Even though she gets a slight case of siblingitis when the new baby is born, Ramona is definitely winning at the difficult job of growing up. How can we tell?