

The Borrowers by Mary Norton

Characters:

Arrietty – a Borrower girl who longs for the freedom to explore the world

Pod – Arrietty's father, a skilled Borrower

Homily – Arrietty's mother, very anxious about Pod and Arrietty

Great-Aunt Sophy – the bedridden mistress of the old house where Arrietty lives

Mrs. Driver – Aunt Sophy's cook, a bossy woman who runs the household

Crampfurl – the gardener, takes orders from Mrs. Driver

The boy – Great-Aunt Sophy's nephew, staying in the house while he recovers from a long illness

Uncle Hendreary – a Borrower who "emigrated" from the house after being Seen

Egglestina – Uncle Hendreary's daughter, who disappeared after going out to explore the house alone; believed to have been eaten by a cat

Mrs. May – sister of the boy; many years later, tells the story of the Borrowers to a little girl named Kate

What do Borrowers call the big people? **human beans**

What is the last name of Arrietty's family? **Clock**

Where is Arrietty's home located? **under the kitchen**

What does Arrietty see through the grating? **birds and the garden**

How many brothers and sisters does Arrietty have? **none**

Where did Uncle Hendreary's family emigrate to? **a badger's set, two fields away**

Where does the boy sleep? **in the night nursery**

How did Arrietty learn to read? **from a set of miniature books**

Where is Arrietty first "seen" by the boy? **on the grassy bank of the garden**

Who often talks with Pod while watching him borrow? **Great-Aunt Sophy**

Why doesn't anyone believe Aunt Sophy if she says that she sees a little man in her room? **because she drinks a decanter of Fine Old Madeira (wine) every night**

What does the boy first do for Arrietty? **takes her letter to the badger's set where Uncle Hendreary lives**

What does Arrietty do for the boy in return? **reads books to him**

Why does Pod have gates all along the passageways? **to prevent Arrietty from leaving home**

What does Homily insist she will never do? **emigrate from the house**

Why does Homily want Arrietty to go borrowing? **so Arrietty will learn to take care of herself**

What does the boy bring to Arrietty's family? **furniture and other things from the dollhouse**

Why does Mrs. Driver become suspicious that there is a thief in the house? **because so many things from the drawing-room cabinet are missing**

How does Mrs. Driver try to get rid of the Borrowers? **she hires a rat-catcher to put poison gas down the holes**

Who drinks Fine Old Madeira with Mrs. Driver in the evenings? **Crampfurl**

What does Mrs. Driver do to the boy after she discovers the Borrowers? **locks him in his room for three days**

Where does Mrs. May think that Arrietty's family moved to? **the badger's set where Uncle Hendreary lives**

How does the boy save Arrietty's family from the rat catcher?

- A) he carries them to a dry sandy place in the woods
- B) he places them on the mantel
- C) **he uses a pick-ax to break the wall and the grating**
- D) he hides them in the dollhouse

Of what is Arrietty's bedroom made?

- A) a shoebox
- B) a sewing box
- C) sheets of blotting paper
- D) **two cigar boxes**

What is Pod borrowing when he is "seen" by the boy?

- A) a watch
- B) bread
- C) **a teacup**
- D) candles

What does the boy use to open up Arrietty's roof?

- A) **screwdriver**
- B) hammer
- C) saw
- D) hatchet

Where did the boy live before coming to Aunt Sophy's house?

- A) Africa
- B) China
- C) France
- D) **India**

Where is the entrance to Arrietty's home?

- A) **under the grandfather clock**
- B) behind the portrait
- C) next to the grating
- D) through a mousehole in the night-nursery

Who destroys Arrietty's home?

- A) Crampfurl
- B) Mrs. May
- C) **Mrs. Driver**
- D) the boy