

**Characters:**

Family Under the Bridge by  
Natalie Savage Carlson  
Carlson

Armand Pouly- Elderly hobo who lived under the bridge somewhere in Paris.

Suzy Calcet - Oldest child in the family that befriends Armand.

Paul Calcet - The middle child & only boy in this small family.

Evelyne Calcet- The youngest child of this family.

Jojo- The Calcet family pet, Jojo is a shaggy dog that should have been white!

Madame Calcet- Mother of this small family.

Titi-The organ grinder & keeper of the small monkey who play music for money.

Mireli - A kind gypsy women, and friend of Armand, who spends her winters in the city.

Tinka - Little gypsy girl who befriends Suzy & is just about her same age.

Nikki - One of the gypsy men, and uncle of Tinka.

Father Christmas - The Santa Claus of France.

**Questions:**

1. What does Armand do that makes him feel as though he has eaten a large meal at midday? He positions himself so that he can smell all the cooking aromas coming from a nearby restaurant, and pretends to eat everything he smells.
2. Where does Armand keep his few belongings? In an old baby buggy without any hood.
3. Where does Armand encounter the children for the first time? Under the bridge beneath a gray canvas in the spot he thinks of as his own.
4. Why are the Calcet children under the bridge? The landlady put them out of their old home after the death of their father because they did not have enough money for rent.
5. What does Madame Calcet do during the day while her children are under the bridge? She works as a laundress.
6. Who does Armand take the children to see in the department store? Father Christmas, as played by his friend Camille.
7. Who is Father Christmas? He is the Santa Claus of France.
8. What do the Calcet children ask Father Christmas to bring them? A house to live in.
9. What do the Calcet children do that actually makes money? They sing to the people walking along the streets of Paris.
10. Why does this make Titi and his monkey mad? They are taking away his business.
11. Where do Mireli, Tinka, Nikki and the rest of the gypsies live? In houses on wheels & tents all clustered together.
12. When visiting the gypsies, where does the Calcet family stay? With the gypsies in their homes.
13. What does Madame Calcet think of the gypsies? At first she does not like them, but then after learning their customs & experiencing their generosity she changes her mind.
14. What is the Christmas gift that Madame Calcet gives to Armand? A piece of pink soap.
15. When not playing games & having fun, what do the gypsy boys do for work? They mend worn items with copper.
16. Why do the gypsies leave? They think Nikki has stolen something, and are afraid the police will arrest him.
17. What does Armand do before going to apply for the job as night watchman? He takes a bird bath & uses his new pink soap.
18. What does Jojo do that changes his color? He takes a bath as well!
19. Does Armand get the job as night watchman? No, he becomes a caretaker of a small apartment building.
20. Does it pay well? Not that well, but it provides a small apartment to live in.
21. What happens to the Calcet family & Armand? They all live & together as a family in the apartment.
22. What does Armand call children? Starlings
23. How do they children think of Armand? As their grandfather.