

*Doll People* by Ann Martin and Laura Godwin

Discussion Questions:

1. How did the illustrations affect your understanding and enjoyment of the story?
2. If you could, how would you change the illustrations?
3. In what ways is Annabelle's life similar to a human girl?
4. At the beginning of the story, Annabelle feels restless and as if something was missing from her life. She asks, "Was it possible to miss something you never had?" How would you answer and why?
5. How is Annabelle and Bobby's relationship similar to human siblings?
6. How is Annabelle and Tiffany's relationship similar to human friends?
7. Who was your favorite character and why?
8. Pretend you are the editor. The authors ask you for advice. How could they improve the story?
9. Was it a quick read? Why or why not?
10. Did anything in the story surprise or impress you?
11. Were the authors trying to teach you anything? If so, what?
12. Annabelle said she would rather know the truth than go on guessing. How about you? Would you like to know about things sooner, even bad things?
13. Could you please explain the Doll Code of Honor? If you were Annabelle, what would be the hardest thing about it for you?
14. What was your first impression of the Funcrafts? Did your opinion change as you read the story?
15. Annabelle complains to Nanny that her life is so boring. I wonder if anyone in our group has ever made the same complaint. Now that we can compare our freedoms to those of dollhouse dolls, would we change our minds?

16. How would you feel if you, like Annabelle on page 32, had to sit still while a spider crawled over your arms and face? Or do you like spiders and something else crawling over you would creep you out?
17. When Annabelle announced on page 42 that she was going to search for Auntie Sarah, she thought about Amelia Earhart, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Nancy Drew. If you were facing a huge challenge, who would inspire you?
18. At the end of the story, Grandma Katherine tells Kate that she used to believe that the dolls were alive and that she still wonders. Would you like to tell us about anything you used to believe about your dolls or stuffed animals? How have you changed?
19. On page 96, Annabelle realizes that adults can be afraid. When I was young, I thought my mother was fearless. When I was grown, I was very surprised to learn that she was afraid of dogs and tornados, just as I am. Have you had a similar experience?
20. Congratulations! This is the hardest question. On page 134, Tiffany explains what integrity means. Can you help us to understand it more clearly?