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The Flower

Some people do things for their own satisfaction, whereas others will fight to please their lovers in fear of losing them. Sometimes they don't realize that they are both doing it for exactly same purpose. The flower in, *The Little Prince*, represents responsibility and love. The flower cannot live or survive properly without the support of the little prince. Her melodramatic and proud nature causes the little prince to leave, but her memory is the only thing that's making him insane.

The flower loves nothing more than hearing her beauty praised. She announces, "Let the tigers come with their claws" (page 20). Her small thorns are defenseless. It wouldn't protect her from anything yet, she puts on a superior attitude. She only seems to do this because she is naive and arrogant. The flower says, "If you would have the kindness to think of my needs" (page 20), making the little prince find her some fresh water. The flower goes on to say, "At night I want you to put me under a glass globe. It is very cold where you live" (Page 20). The little prince simply does what she tells him to do. She begins to cough just so the little prince can feel guilty. The flower is so vain and immodest that she doesn't want to get her feelings hurt, so she fills the little prince up with remorse. It seems as if her way of not getting hurt is by hurting the prince.

All of this caused the little prince to leave her, but the prince still loves her deeply because of the time he has spent taking care of her and giving her what she needed. The last sentence states, "But I was too young to know how to

love...” (page 21). The more time he spends without the flower, the more he starts appreciating their love and how he wouldn't have run away. He realizes that the flower depends on him for her satisfaction, but he just did not understand her back then calling her “inconsistent.” The flower represents love universally. A person doesn't realize how much something is worth, until they become distant from it. That is where responsibility come through. In relationships, two people are responsible to make each other the happiest. Similarly, caring for the flower and spending time with her would bring the little prince joy. The flower doesn't seem to expose her love for the little prince the way it is expected. Unlike the little prince, the flower likes to earn her happiness through her beauty. The little prince was too young to take all that responsibility to love her the way she wanted him to. Now as a grown-up, he comes to understand that love requires responsibility and comprehension.