

THE LITTLE PEOPLE

"Whose child is that?" she asked, pointing towards the little person.

"That's not a child; that's a full grown man. Look how small he is!" exclaimed Ty.

"Jiminy-Willie-Peppers, I've never seen anyone that small!" cried Parker.

"Look, he's dressed in Caribou clothing, the traditional dress of the People, just like the Old One," Amy squealed.

"Where did he come from?" Ty wanted to know.

"Who are you?" Amy asked through her Inua.

"How come you're so small?" Ty asked.

"How come you're so big?" David, the little person, replied.

"Ty, don't be rude!" Amy scolded her brother.

"I'm not being rude; I just asked a question," Ty replied.

"It's okay; I'm sure Ty is just curious," said the little person. *"It doesn't hurt to ask questions. And you were probably wondering the same thing. I doubt you've seen many people my size. I'm David of the Little People. You must be the Old One's friends, the ones he's training to be shamans. Otherwise we wouldn't be able to communicate through our Inuas,"* the little person replied.

WHO ARE YOU

"Yes, we are the Old One's friends. You must also be a shaman or we wouldn't be able to talk to each other," Amy replied, looking at the small man before her.

"How come the Old One told you about us?" Parker asked.

"He didn't. I've heard the spirits sing your praises. They tell me you will help the People in their time of need; is this not so?" David looked intently at each of the kids.

"Yes, we will help anyone we can when they're in trouble, if we can," Amy replied.

"Then I've come to the right place. My journey has been long and not without peril," David informed the kids.

"How can we help?" Amy inquired.

"Be careful, Amy; you don't know what you're getting into," cautioned Ty.

"He hasn't told us anything yet, Ty," Amy shot back.

"I'll bet it's going to be a good adventure," Parker enthusiastically offered.

"Amayersuk, the old lady who steals misbehaving children, has taken all the children from our village and we don't know where they are. The women are sad without their children to look after and teach. The mood