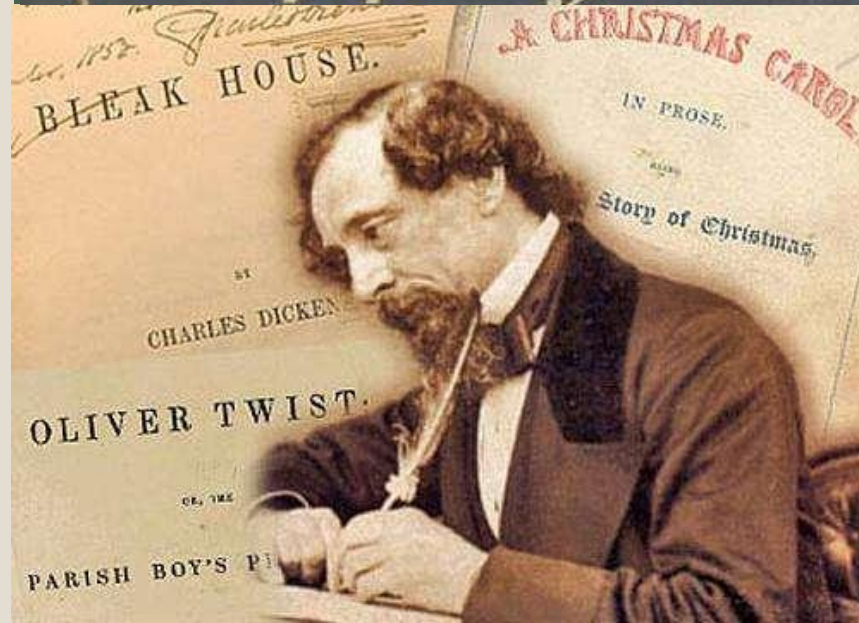


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## **Chapter 3**

# **Banished to Boarding School**

### III. Chapter 3: Banished to Boarding School

“They’re sending you to a boarding school in London,” she whispered through my door.

“When am I going?” I asked.

“Tomorrow,” she answered, “first thing in the morning.”

1. How did Mr. Murdstone do with me after the fighting?

**I was banished to a boarding school.**

2. Why does the writer use “banish” instead of “send”?

send someone away from a country or place as an official punishment  
e.g. The children were banished from the dining room

2. How does the writer describe the boarding school?

① Salem House was a **shabby**, square, brick building. (para. 2)

(of buildings, clothes, objects, etc.)  
**in poor condition** because they  
have been used a lot  
e.g. She wore shabby old jeans  
and a T-shirt.

/'fɪlθi/ ① very **dirty** and unpleasant  
e.g. It's absolutely filthy in here!  
② very rude and offensive and usually  
connected with sex  
e.g. That's enough of your filthy  
language!

② The classrooms had long rows of desks, and their floors were **filthy** and  
littered with old scraps of paper. The dormitory where I was to sleep was  
bare and unwelcoming . (para. 2)

3. How did I feel about the boarding school?

Everything I saw **dragged my spirits down** further.



#### 4. Who did I meet in the boarding school?

Name	What	appearance	character
Mr. Mell	teacher	/	/
Tungay	assistant	wooden-legged, a horrible man with booming voice	evil, harsh, stern, cruel, unpleasant
Mr. Creakle	headmaster	scary, with thick veins in his forehead, mean, small eyes and a large chin	
Tommy Traddles	student	/	cheerful, friendly, pleasant
Steerforth	student	a handsome boy, about six years older than me	

5. What did Mr. Mell, Tungay and Mr. Creakle do to me?

① Mr. Mell ordered me to wear a horrible sign that wrote “*Take care of him. He bites*”. (para. 7)

② Mr. Creakle grabbed my ear, pinching it tightly, and warned me that if I didn't behave well I will get into serious trouble . (para. 11~12)

6. What can you infer about the way the boarding school treat students?

The boarding school didn't treat students **in a humane way**. What it did **crushed** students both **physically and mentally**.



'What trouble has he got up to?' rasped Creakle, in a terrifying whisper.

Tungay looked disappointed. 'Nothing yet,' he bellowed.

Creakle beckoned me towards him. 'Mr Murdstone has told me all about you.' **At that second** Mr Creakle's hand

suddenly shot out and grabbed my ear, pinching it tightly. Terror gripped me. Was this going to be another beating?

'You will behave in my school,' he hissed, 'because if you don't, you will be in very serious trouble.'

'Very serious trouble,' shouted Tungay, making my ear throb even more.

Although I was scared, I was even more scared of meeting the other boys. 'Can I take off this sign?' I whispered.

**As soon as** I'd said this, the dreadful man leaped out of his chair with a roar. I sprang out of the way and ran up to my dorm where I hid for two hours. But Mr Creakle didn't follow me.



7. Try to find the phrases indicating time.

**at that second**→**as soon as...**

8. How does the writer show Mr. Creakle's cruelty?

**By actions**

beckon→shoot out→grab→pinch→leap out→roar

**By language**

...**rasped** Creakle, in a terrifying whisper;  
...he **hissed**;

9. How did I feel about Mr. Creakle?

I was **terrified/scared/frightened**.

10. How did Tommy Traddles and Steerforth help me?

① Tommy helped me avoid much trouble by claiming the horrible sign was just a game I was playing. (para. 18~20)

② Tommy introduced me to Steerforth. (para. 21)

③ Steerforth helped me buy many treats with the seven shillings. (para. 34)

④ Steerforth protected me from other boys' bullying and teachers' punishment. (para. 40)

11. How did I felt about Steerforth?

I was **grateful** to his help and protection and sometimes told him stories.



12. What happened to my mom during my stay in the boarding school?

① My mother **gave birth to** a new boy baby. (para. 46)

My mother started crying and reached out toward me. My mother fell silent as Mr. Murdstone turned his steely gaze on me.

I heard my mother and Peggotty screaming on the stairs outside my room, begging Mr. Murdstone to stop.

**Change**



“You will NEVER touch it again,” yelled Miss Murdstone. “Do you understand me?”

Instead of standing up for me, my mother took the baby back. “You are right, my dear Jane,” she nodded **Dead** at Miss Murdstone. David won’t hold the baby again.”

② My mother was made **pale** and **weak**, and **fearful**. She was **crushed** both **physically and mentally**. (para. 54)

### 13. How did my feelings change in Chapter 2?

When I arrived  
at the school...

When I meet  
Mr. Creakle...

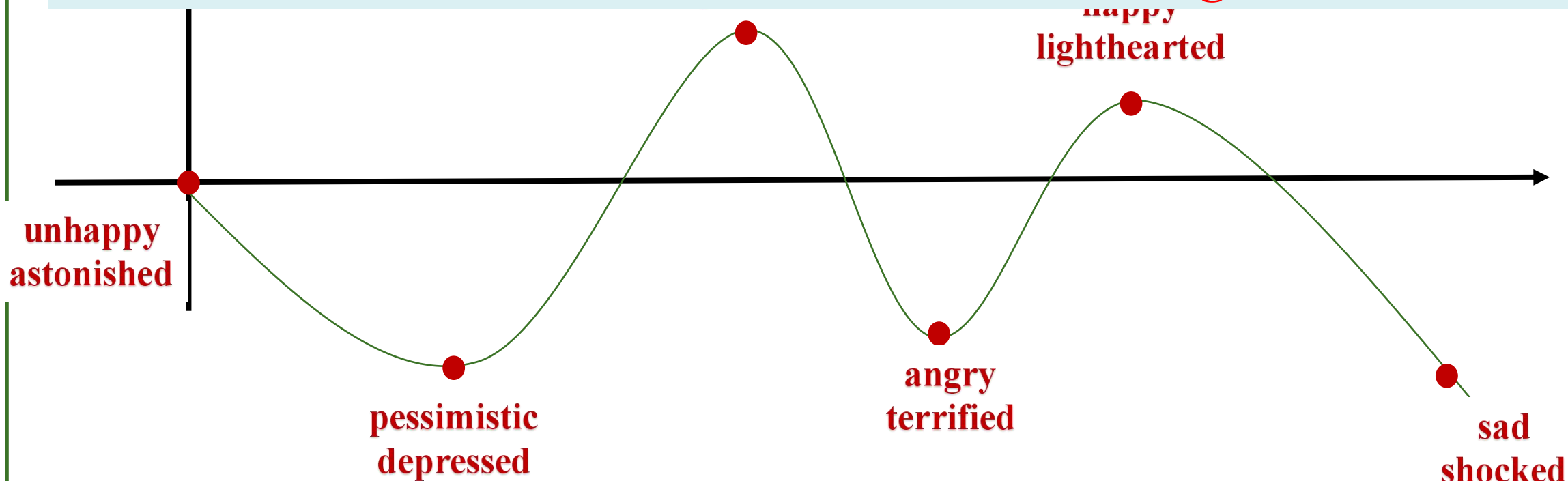
When I meet  
Steerforth...

When I returned  
home...

When I returned  
to the school...

When I heard my  
mom's death...

My life has been full of **ups and downs**, and during my childhood the **downs** seemed to rain on me like **a never-ending storm**.



14. Try to find the sentence describing the following feelings.

**unhappy**

Everything I saw **dragged my spirits down** further. (para. 2)

**surprised**

I **couldn't believe it**. (para. 7)

**frightened**

Terror **gripped me**. (para. 11)

**happy**

Traddles frowned, but then his face slowly **broke into a smile**. (para. 18)

Sometimes I **laughed till my sides ached**. (para. 68)

**worried**

My **stomach tightened with anxiety**. (para. 20)

Living with Mr. Creakle lurking round every corner was a **nerve-racking** experience. (para. 20)

17. Try to find the words indicating “say sth”.

**rasp**

“What trouble...?” **rasped** Mr. Creakle, in a terrifying voice.

**bellow**

“Nothing yet,” he **bellowed**.

**hiss**

“You will behave in my school,” he **hissed**...

**greet**

“I’m J Steerforth,” the boy **greeted** me.

**insist**

“You must come down Yarmouth...,” **insisted** Dan Peggotty.

**scream**

“He’s got it.” She **screamed**.

**shriek**

“Give it back.” she **shrieked**.

**snap**

“How long do we have to put up with you,” **snapped** Miss Mur.

**falter**

“A month,” I **faltered**.



15. Appreciate the following sentences.

keep talking in a very boring way  
e.g. Chambers droned on,  
maddening as an insect around his  
head.

School began the next day. The teachers **droned** on and on...Living with Mr. Creakle **lurking** round every corner was a nerve-racking experience.

to wait somewhere secretly,  
especially to do sth. bad or illegal  
e.g. A crocodile was lurking just  
below the surface

*figurative* amaze or overwhelm  
with an impressive quality  
e.g. He was dazzled by the  
warmth of her smile.

And they did like him. They were both **dazzled** by his gentleman's appearance and by the way he spoke.