

DAVID COPPERFIELD

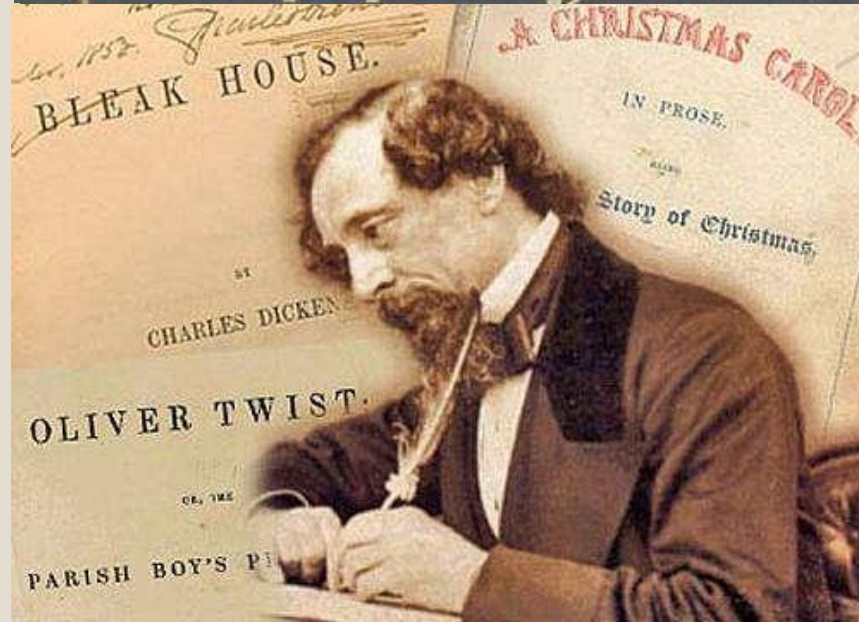
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查尔斯·狄更斯 200 周年诞辰



David
Copperfield



Chapter 4

Working in the Warehouse

IV. Chapter 4: Working in the warehouse

I howled the cry of an orphan. It felt as if my whole world had just been shattered. But Mrs Creakle was very kind to me that day. She let me stay in the parlour. I cried and slept and cried and slept...

1. How did I react to my mom's death?

I **wailed** miserably.

to make long, loud noise to express sorrow or pain
e.g. The women began to wail in mourning.

2. Why did I **grieve** over my mom's death?

Maybe my mom was the only one in this world for me to depend on, and now I was left a **orphan**.

to feel very sad for/over sb.'s death
e.g. They are still grieving for/over their dead child.

3. How did Mr. and Miss. Stone treat Peggotty and me?

① Peggotty was sacked (fired) from our house.

② I was sent to work in a warehouse in London.

4. Why was I sent to work in London?

5. Up to now, what kind of changes have taken place in my family?

a **happy,**
harmonious
family

Change



an **unhappy,**
broken
family

6. What led to such tragic change of our family?

Then one day, some weeks later, Mr. Murdstone called for me. “You are a difficult boy,” he said coldly, “and you need a good deal of correcting.”

“He needs to be *crushed*,” chipped in Miss Murdstone.

“I am sending you to London...”

6. What led to such tragic change of my family?

a **happy,**
harmonious
family

Change

an **unhappy,**
broken
family

my father's
death

my mother's
character

Mr. and Miss
Murdstone's
cruelty

weak and easily hurt
physically or emotionally
e.g. to be vulnerable to attack

Our family **is vulnerable to** risks

kind, loving but innocent and
weak, typical image of woman at
that time

crushing my mother and me
physically and mentally

8. How was the workplace and my work?

The warehouse was by the River Thames in Blackfriars. The whole house stank of dirt and smoke. Its floors and staircases were in ruins and there were **swarms of rats in the cellar. (para. 10)**

move somewhere in large numbers

e.g. Students swarm into the canteen everyday.

The days were very long and the work was **mind-numbing. (para. 11)**

extremely boring or dull
e.g. This was a mind-numbing conversation.

My jobs were to wash empty wine bottles, paste labels on full ones, put corks in bottles, place seals on the corks and pack the finished bottles into boxes.

I was paid seven shillings a week. I had a penny loaf and a pennyworth of milk for breakfast, and another loaf and a tiny bit of cheese for supper. We were only allowed half an hour for a break...

9. What kind of trouble were the Micawber couple in?

They were **in heavy debt**.

10. Why were the couple in heavy debt?

Mainly because Mr. Micawber wasn't **shrewd in money matters**.

11. What kind of people are the couple?

They are **good-hearted, kind and generous**, but also very **short-sighted, indulging themselves in the present**.

12. What happened to the family eventually?

They were **put into prison** and later moved to **Plymouth**.

clever at understanding and making judgements about a situation

e.g. He's a shrewd businessman and hard as nails.

to allow yourself to have or do something that you like, especially something that is considered bad for you

indulge (oneself) in sth.

e.g. Only rarely will she indulge in a glass of wine.

e.g. I indulge myself in a long hot bath.

When the Micawbers had gone, I realized I'd reached a major crossroads in my life. I could either stay in London, working at the filthy warehouse and spending my days alone, or I could run away in search of a better life.

13. What decision did I make in face of the crossroads?

I **ventured** to turn to Great-Aunt Betsey for help.

14. What happened to me on my way to aunt Betsey's?

I was **robbed of** my money and belongings by a stranger.

15. Can you come up with some proverbs to describe my situation?

It never rains but pours.

Misfortune never comes singly.

**in total despair
(desperate)**

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

unhappy

I felt very low. (para. 25)

It felt as if my whole world had just been shattered. (para. 1)

desperate

“Give me my things, you thief!” I yelled, running after the cart and choking back sobs of fury and desperation. (para. 33)

I was now in a pit of total despair. (para. 34)

frightened

I was horrified. (para. 5)

Chapter 5

It's me, Aunt Betsey

V. Chapter 5: It's me, Aunt Betsey

It took me ages to get back to my feet and start walking out of London on the Dover road. I was tired and penniless.

The next few days and nights were a blur. I slept on haystacks, lived on scraps, and sold my jacket to earn a little money. I was constantly freezing and hungry and my feet were covered in blisters.

1. What can you infer about my trip to Dover?

It was a long, arduous trip.

difficult and tiring, involving a lot of effort
e.g. The work was arduous.

2. What does Aunt Betsey look like?

She had grey hair and quick, bright eyes, and had a handkerchief tied over her head. She was wearing gardening gloves and held a knife.

3. What can you infer Aunt Betsey's character?

4. What was Aunt Betsey's initial (first) reaction on seeing me?

She demanded I go away immediately.

5. Why did Aunt Betsey reacted that way?

① **She didn't like boys.**

② **She didn't recognize me.**

6. What was Aunt Betsey's reaction after recognizing me?

"Go away!"
she **shouted**
firmly at me...
"We don't want
any boys round
here"

Change



① She **cried**, "Oh my goodness!" and sat flat down on the garden path.

② She **led** me straight into...She **poured** all kinds of **medicines** down me...Then she made me have **a long hot bath** and gave me **a hot meal**.

I knew I looked terrible—my shoes were full of holes, and my shirt and trousers were filthy and ragged...

7. What can you infer Aunt Betsey's character?

8. How did my feelings change from Para. 14~22?

...that gave me the hope that she might do the same for me.

I felt like my entire future rested on his reply

A wave of relief flooded over me.

I fell into the bed and instantly sank into the world of dreams

hopeful

anxious

relieved

contented

9. Who played a key role in Aunt Betsey allowing me to stay?

Mr. Dick.

A man with cherry face **bounded** into the room, laughing...**childlike**...

10 .Why do you think Aunt Betsey trusted Mr. Dick on all matters even if she was strong-willed and shrewd?

9. How was the talk between the Murdstones and Aunt Betsey?

“My sister and I did our best to correct him...He is the worst behaved boy...”



“Absolutely nothing,” he replied.



Mr. Murdstone’s expression hardened.
“I’m here to take the boy back...”



Mr. Murdstone eyed her coldly but...



“B...but,” uttered Mr. Murdstone.



...stood in shock, unsure what to do...



“Now, look here,” said Mr. Murdstone



“I...I,” Mr. Murdstone tried to protest.

“That’s a bit strong!” declared my aunt...



“Well ,what do you want to *do* with David?” demanded Aunt Betsey.



“Dispose of him!” Aunt Betsey cried with a horrible expression. “Do you mean ...?”



...looking sternly at the Murdstones, “I don’t believe a word of what you’ve said...”



“But, nothing.” snapped Aunt Betsey.



“No, you look here!” Aunt Betsey cried, her eyes shining like balls of fire.



“GET OUT.” commanded Aunt Betsey, bustling towards the door.

9. How was the talk between the Murdstones and Aunt Betsey?

“My sister and I did our best to correct him...He is the worst behaved boy...”



“Absolutely nothing,” he **replied**.



Mr. Murdstone’s **expression hardened**.
“I’m here to take the boy back...”



Mr. Murdstone **eyed her coldly** but...



“B...but,” **uttered** Mr. Murdstone.



...**stood in shock**, unsure what to do...



“Now, look here,” said Mr. Murdstone



“I...I,” Mr. Murdstone **tried to protest**.

“That’s a bit strong!” **declared** my aunt...



“Well ,what do you want to *do* with David?” **demanded** Aunt Betsey.



“Dispose of him!” Aunt Betsey **cried with a horrible expression**. “Do you mean ...?”



...**looking sternly** at the Murdstones, “I don’t believe a word of what you’ve said...”



“But, nothing.” **snapped** Aunt Betsey.



“No, you look here!” Aunt Betsey cried, **her eyes shining like balls of fire**.



“GET OUT.” **commanded** Aunt Betsey, bustling towards the door.

11. How did my feelings change during the talk?

My spirits sank.

My whole body shook with anxiety.

...I felt all of the fear and fury returning.

I stared at the Murdstones with hatred.

My fists clenched with rage.

I held my breath anxiously...

My heart leaped with joy...

downhearted

anxious

terrified

furious

anxious

delighted

12. What kind of people is Aunt Betsey?

independent

She didn't start another marriage after being abandoned by her ex-husband.

**kind
merciful**

She adopted David when he was hopeless, and she also .

bald

She argued with the Murdstones over how to deal with David.

manly

shrewd

She is planned her property well and grasped many commercial activities.

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

surprised

When I'd finished, she looked at me with **disbelief**.

hopeful

And this gave me **a glimmer of hope** that she might do the same to me.

relieved

A wave of relief flooded over me.

frightened

“Will I have to go back?” I asked **in dread**.

anxious

My whole body shook with anxiety.

I held my breath anxiously as she thought everything...

serious

Mr. Murdstone's **expression hardened**.

happy

My heart leaped with joy as she shoved the confused...

...I felt all of the fear and fury returning.

I stared at Mr. Murdstone with hatred.

angry

A flush of anger and embarrassment spread across Mr. Murdstone's cheeks.

"No," I blurted out, my fists clenched with rage.

"No, you look here!" Aunt Betsey cried, her eyes shining like balls of fire.

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

say

“You’re my...my ...aunt”, I **said in a quivering voice**.

cry

At this ,she **cried**, “Oh, my goodness!” and sat...

cut in

“He is the worst behaved boy...” **cut in** Miss Murdstone.

blurt out

“No,” I **blurted out**, my fists clenched with rage.

announce

“This is what I think,” she **announced**, looking sternly...

utter

“B...but,” **uttered** Mr. Murdstone.

snap

“But, nothing!” **snapped** Aunt Betsey.

demand

“Well, what do you want to with David?” **demanded** Aunt Betsey.