

My Cousin Rachel by Daphne du Maurier**1**

- 1 He was Philip's cousin. Philip's parents both died before he was two years old, so Ambrose became Philip's guardian.
- 2 A large old house near the sea. The house was surrounded by farms which belonged to the estate.
- 3 Philip.
- 4 Because he thinks it will be good for him to share his thoughts.
- 5 To decide how Ambrose died, and to be the judge of Rachel and Philip's story.

2

- 1 (a) Spend the winter in another country with a drier climate. (b) He would get well and live to be a healthy old man.
- 2 (a) Her family and his were related. (b) He had died. (c) The Villa Sangalotti. (d) He was pleased that Ambrose had found a friend who loved gardens as much as he did.
- 3 (a) Business affairs. (b) He was surprised that Ambrose, who disliked women, was friendly with his cousin Rachel.
- 4 (a) That Ambrose and Rachel had got married. (b) Angry, jealous, lonely and unhappy. (c) The neighbours seemed pleased at the news.
- 5 (a) All their lives. (b) To start looking for his own home. (c) That he hated Rachel for making him leave his home.
- 6 Ambrose had never had headaches before.
- 7 (a) His words explaining his fear of Italian doctors, of someone called Rainaldi, and of Rachel herself. (b) He thought Ambrose might have a brain tumour like his father. (c) That he must go to Italy to find out what was happening.
- 8 (a) To come at once. (b) His 'torment'.

3

- 1 That Ambrose had died three weeks ago.
- 2 Laburnum.
- 3 (a) Under the tree in the courtyard. (b) 'Tisana'.
- 4 He had shouted like a madman.
- 5 (a) That the contessa (Rachel) had taken them away with her. (b) The servants do not know. She has left Florence. (c) In Florence. (d) Ambrose's straw hat.

4

- 1 (a) That he had become mad because of a brain tumour. (b) Nick Kendall had suggested it.
- 2 It was in Ambrose's will.
- 3 'That is not true. No one could do anything for him.'
- 4 (a) That Rachel had caused it. (b) To bring pain and unhappiness to Rachel, to punish her.

5

- 1 (a) 25 (b) 7 (c) Ask Nick Kendall for it. (d) Get married.
- 2 Ambrose's property would have become Rachel's.
- 3 That Ambrose might not have died from the brain tumour, and that Rachel might have caused his death.
- 4 (a) It was dusty and untidy. (b) That it had been good enough for Ambrose, and that he did not want to please Rachel. (c) To clean up the house. (d) Philip.
- 5 (a) When Ambrose was a young man. (b) Like Philip.

- 6 To avoid Rachel when she arrived.
- 7 (a) In the Blue Room. (b) Ambrose's possessions. (c) In Philip's room.

6

- 1 'Home'.
- 2 He asked himself if Rachel was laughing at him because he had avoided her when she arrived.
- 3 (a) Because he made her think of Ambrose. (b) He was not so sure that she had killed Ambrose.

7

- 1 Plants which Rachel had brought from Italy.
- 2 Because he thought that Rachel knew he had visited her villa.
- 3 (a) Ambrose's last letters to Philip. (b) Understood what he had felt about her. (c) He no longer hated her. (d) He had been jealous that Ambrose loved someone else.
- 4 (a) She agreed that in some way she was responsible for Ambrose's death. He might have been alive if he had not met her. (b) Ambrose had talked about Philip all the time.
- 5 She kissed Philip.

8

- 1 (a) Louise. (b) That he would never marry. (c) To stay with him and get to know the neighbours.
- 2 (a) Because she had no money to live on. (b) That she should 'marry or sell her rings'. (c) Because he was ashamed of his rudeness to Rachel. (d) That he would arrange for some money to be paid to Rachel by Nick Kendall.
- 3 He did not want Rachel to know he had arranged her allowance.
- 4 That Philip made decisions and did things without much thought.
- 5 (a) That Rachel was going to get money from Ambrose's estate. (b) Angry and ashamed. (c) That he would be ashamed if she had to become a teacher. (d) That she was sorry for her rudeness to Philip.
- 6 That he would like her to stay and plan the garden.
- 7 (a) To thank him for his letter. (b) Signor Rainaldi in Florence. (c) Because he wondered what Rachel might want to tell Rainaldi.

9

- 1 Medicines made from herbs.
- 2 (a) In a gardening book. (b) Boxes from London, addressed to Rachel. (c) That 'she cannot stop spending money. It is like an illness'. (d) He threw it on the fire.
- 3 (a) He had become angry about Rachel's spending money and did not trust any one. (b) Rainaldi. (c) That it was all over now. She could not bring Ambrose back, and she was now at home with him.
- 4 Ambrose.

10

- 1 She made the room happier, and more interesting.
- 2 (a) On their wedding days. (b) To take them away with him. (c) That the pearls were not yet Philip's property and Mr Kendall would not like him to take them. (d) To give them to Rachel as a Christmas present.

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- 3 (a) That Rachel had overdrawn on her account.
 (b) That she must be paying off debts in Italy, and must be given more money. (c) That they were known to lead 'bad lives', and to spend money carelessly.
- 4 (a) Because he was still Philip's guardian. (b) She agreed to give back the pearls.
- 5 Philip was thinking that he might marry Rachel.

11

- 1 (a) On 1st April. (b) He would spend money on the house and gardens. (c) Work had begun on a sunken water garden.
- 2 (a) Because Rachel had started to spend money carelessly. He suspected that she was planning something with Rainaldi and guessed Rainaldi was in love with her. (b) To find out if Rachel and Rainaldi were trying to poison him. (c) He hid it under a stone.
- 3 (a) That all his property should be left to Rachel. (b) She said she didn't know. Perhaps his feeling might have changed because she couldn't have children. Or perhaps it was because he suspected her of terrible things.
- 4 (a) All Philip's property would be given to Rachel. (b) No. (c) It would come back to Philip.
- 5 Philip started to hate Rainaldi.
- 6 He said that it was All Fools' Day.

12

- 1 (a) To make everything right. (b) Rainaldi had mentioned Rachel's carelessness with money to Kendall. (c) If he were in love with Rachel. (d) He did not answer it.
- 2 He gave Rachel the family jewels.
- 3 That Rachel loved him and would marry him.
- 4 To see if Philip's document did give her all the property.
- 5 (a) There was no love in them. (b) He did not know of any plan to visit London.
- 6 (a) Her 'face was hard and cold'. (b) That Philip must be drunk and would apologize later. (c) To thank him for the jewels.
- 7 (a) That it was 'hard and cold' again. (b) Rachel. (c) He put his hands round her neck.

13

- 1 (a) The family property would come back to Philip. (b) She had said she would not marry again. (c) She would not be able to move money to Italy and to live there.
- 2 He got caught in a rainstorm, and became wet and cold.
- 3 To protect her from Philip's violence.
- 4 (a) Five weeks. (b) His own strength and Rachel's herbal medicine. (c) That Rachel had married him secretly.
- 5 (a) Digging the sunken water garden. (b) The laburnum.
- 6 (a) Because she now had enough money to keep it. (b) He thought she was married to him. (c) That the marriage had been a dream. (d) To stay with him for a few weeks instead of going to Italy.

14

- 1 Because of the pains in his head.
- 2 (a) 'Because he is my friend'. (b) Because Rainaldi was in love with Rachel. (c) To ask Rainaldi to come to the house and not meet him in secret.
- 3 It tasted bitter.
- 4 (a) The letter from Rainaldi that he had seen there earlier. (b) An envelope containing laburnum seeds. (c) 'Are they trying to poison me?'
- 5 That the bridge over the sunken water garden was not safe to walk on, and would break if he tried.
- 6 He suspected he was being poisoned.
- 7 (a) The bridge in the garden had broken under her. (b) Philip because he did not warn her.
- 8 *Student's own answer.*