

**Bleak House by Charles Dickens****1**

- 1 Jarndyce and Jarndyce.
- 2 It had been going on for many years. It had never done anyone any good.
- 3 At Bleak House.
- 4 Esther Summerson.
- 5 She was waiting for a judgement.
- 6 The High Court of Chancery.
- 7 A poor crossing-sweeper.

**2**

- 1 When death or disgrace were coming to the Dedlocks.
- 2 He was Sir Leicester Dedlock's lawyer. The case of Jarndyce and Jarndyce. Lady Dedlock was also a claimant.
- 3 'Who copied these papers?' And, 'Is that writing called law-hand?' She spoke quickly when she asked the first question. When she asked the second question, she spoke in her usual careless way.
- 4 Mr Tulkinghorn liked to know people's secrets so that he could have power over them. The writing on the papers had made Lady Dedlock faint, so Tulkinghorn thought that she might have a secret. To find out, he needed to find the man who had copied the papers.

**3**

- 1 The oldest and dirtiest rag and bottle shop in London.
- 2 Because nothing that came into his shop ever left it again. It was like the Lord Chancellor's court, where cases were argued over for years, and no judgements were ever given.
- 3 When she got her judgement.
- 4 It is the Latin word for 'no one'.
- 5 Her work for Africa took all her time; she thought of nothing else.
- 6 To find Nemo.
- 7 Because Nemo had written the papers which made Lady Dedlock faint. Tulkinghorn wanted to watch her face when he told her that Nemo was dead.

**4**

- 1 Because it meant that Mr Jarndyce trusted her to look after the house.
- 2 Because he had heard that she was a good little girl who was an orphan.
- 3 First it was about a will, made long ago by a man called Jarndyce. Now it was about nothing but money.
- 4 Because he was so unhappy. He was unhappy because he thought about the law case all the time.
- 5 The Jarndyce money.
- 6 Because the poor people hated Mrs Pardiggle.
- 7 Her handkerchief.

**5**

- 1 The oldest, dirtiest street in a dirty, dangerous part of London.
- 2 Because Nemo had sometimes spoken to him and given him money.
- 3 Because they did not help people like Jo. They did not help the poor people they could see all around them. They only helped people who were far away, people they could not see.

4 No.

5 The place where Nemo lived, and the place where he was buried.

**6**

- 1 Because Richard had no plans for the future. He believed that the case of Jarndyce and Jarndyce would soon make him rich.
- 2 It was to celebrate the engagement of Richard and Ada.
- 3 Allan Woodcourt.
- 4 He was going to study to be a doctor.
- 5 'And if the case does make us rich...'
- 6 They had heard that Richard had no interest in his studies and that he was spending far too much money.
- 7 To be a lawyer.
- 8 Her earliest memory was of the words: 'Your mother, Esther, was your disgrace and you are hers.'
- 9 The woman who had brought Esther up.
- 10 He was going to be a ship's doctor. He was going to sail to India and to China.
- 11 That she was pleased that Allan liked her.

**7**

- 1 They were visiting the house of John Jarndyce's friend, Lawrence Boythorn.
- 2 Because he would not leave his work in the lawyer's office. He spent all his time thinking about Jarndyce and Jarndyce.
- 3 She remembered her unhappy childhood and the face of the hard woman who had brought her up.
- 4 They were walking in the park of Chesney Wold, when there was a storm. They went inside a little cottage and Lady Dedlock was there too.
- 5 The Frenchwoman and the pretty young girl Esther had seen in church.
- 6 She said, 'I did not ask you to come. I sent for Rosa.'

**8**

- 1 The lady Jo had taken to Krook's shop and to the burial-ground had given him a gold coin. He had spent some of it. The two silver pieces were what he had left.
- 2 He told him about Jo.
- 3 To look for Jo. Mr Bucket wanted to ask him a few questions.
- 4 Because they knew he was a detective.
- 5 They had come to look for work.
- 6 He thought she was the lady he took to the burial-ground.
- 7 The 'other lady' must have been Lady Dedlock. 'This woman' was Hortense, the Frenchwoman.

**9**

- 1 He wanted to become a soldier.
- 2 No.
- 3 That he did not think they should be engaged to be married while Richard had no money.

**10**

- 1 The one he had taken to the burial-ground – Lady Dedlock.
- 2 It could kill, or it could take away a woman's beauty.

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- 3 So she could not see what the illness had done to her face.
- 4 Lawyers had told Richard that John Jarndyce wanted all the money for himself.
- 5 They were all dead.
- 6 Because she saw that he was being pulled towards the Court of Chancery. She knew the signs from seeing them in her own family. She knew that people who thought of nothing but waiting for a judgement became very unhappy.
- 7 He had been shipwrecked but he was safe.
- 8 She thought that no man would ever marry her. She thought that her illness had changed her too much.

**11**

- 1 The handkerchief which Esther had left in Jenny's cottage.
- 2 Because the disgrace would kill Sir Leicester.
- 3 Lady Dedlock's sister.
- 4 The sound of her footsteps made her think of the legend of the Ghost's Walk.

**12**

- 1 Lady Dedlock was the great lady. Rosa was the servant.
- 2 He would not allow his daughter to stay in the same house as a great lady who had disgraced her husband.
- 3 To frighten Lady Dedlock and to make her understand that he knew her secret.
- 4 To keep her secret.
- 5 Lady Dedlock.
- 6 'Mademoiselle. If you visit me once more, you will be locked up. You will go to prison.'

**13**

- 1 To marry him.
- 2 That she would marry him.
- 3 Because Richard said wicked things about John Jarndyce.
- 4 She thought he had noticed the loss of her beauty.
- 5 To be a true friend to Richard.
- 6 He was a poor man. He did not have enough money to get married yet.
- 7 Because it was Jo who had given the illness to Esther.
- 8 Because Esther was Lady Dedlock's daughter and she looked like her.

**14**

- 1 That she was married to Richard.
- 2 Perhaps it was because Allan Woodcourt came so often to Bleak House. Perhaps John Jarndyce knew that Esther really loved Allan.

**15**

- 1 She did not want her own disgrace to harm Rosa.
- 2 Because Lady Dedlock had promised not to change anything.
- 3 He did not say. 'Not tonight. It may be tomorrow. I do not know,' he says.
- 4 A shot.
- 5 LADY DEDLOCK.
- 6 That Lady Dedlock had killed Mr Tulkinghorn.
- 7 That perhaps she had killed Tulkinghorn.
- 8 Hortense.

- 9 Hortense.
- 10 He thought he saw Lady Dedlock in the room. He cried out her name and dropped to the ground.

**16**

- 1 She had wished to kill him herself.
- 2 That Mr Bucket thought she had killed Mr Tulkinghorn.
- 3 That Sir Leicester had forgiven Lady Dedlock and wanted him to find her.
- 4 It was Esther's handkerchief. He took it with him.
- 5 So that Lady Dedlock would know he was a friend. She would not be afraid of him.

**17**

- 1 Jenny's husband told him that Lady Dedlock and Jenny had both gone. He said one went to London, and one to the north. He did not say which woman went where. Mr Bucket decided that Lady Dedlock had gone to the north.
- 2 That Lady Dedlock had gone back to London.
- 3 Nemo – Esther's father.
- 4 On the steps of the burial-ground where Nemo was buried.

**18**

- 1 That Richard would not live to see his child.
- 2 Allan told her that he loved her. But Esther had promised to marry John Jarndyce. Esther thought Allan's words had come too late.
- 3 That she could not accept his love, because she had promised to marry John Jarndyce.

**19**

- 1 It was a will. It had the name of Jarndyce on it.
- 2 It could give them money.
- 3 To give advice about a little house he had found for Allan Woodcourt.
- 4 'Bleak House'.
- 5 He had arranged that Allan would marry her.
- 6 The Court of Chancery.

**20**

- 1 The money had all gone. It had all been taken by the costs of the case.
- 2 It made him ill. But it made him want to begin his life again.
- 3 She heard the news of Richard's death.

**21**

They had two daughters. They were not rich but they had enough money. They loved each other, and they loved John Jarndyce, who often came to stay with them.