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SARA CREWE

BY MRS. F. H. BURNETT

AUTHOR OF LITTLE LORD FAUNTLER

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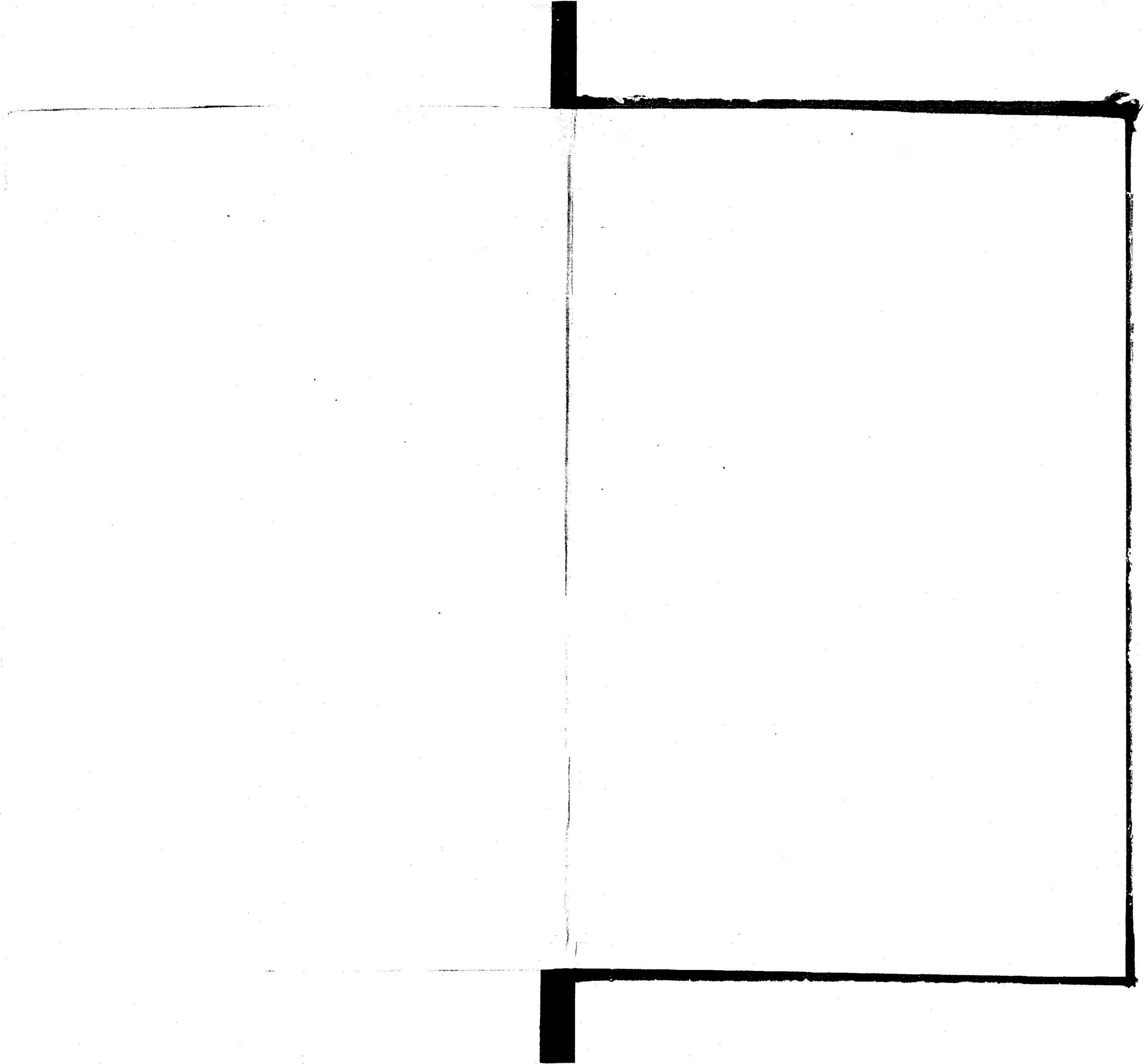
英和
對譯

セーラ、クルー物語

著小公子
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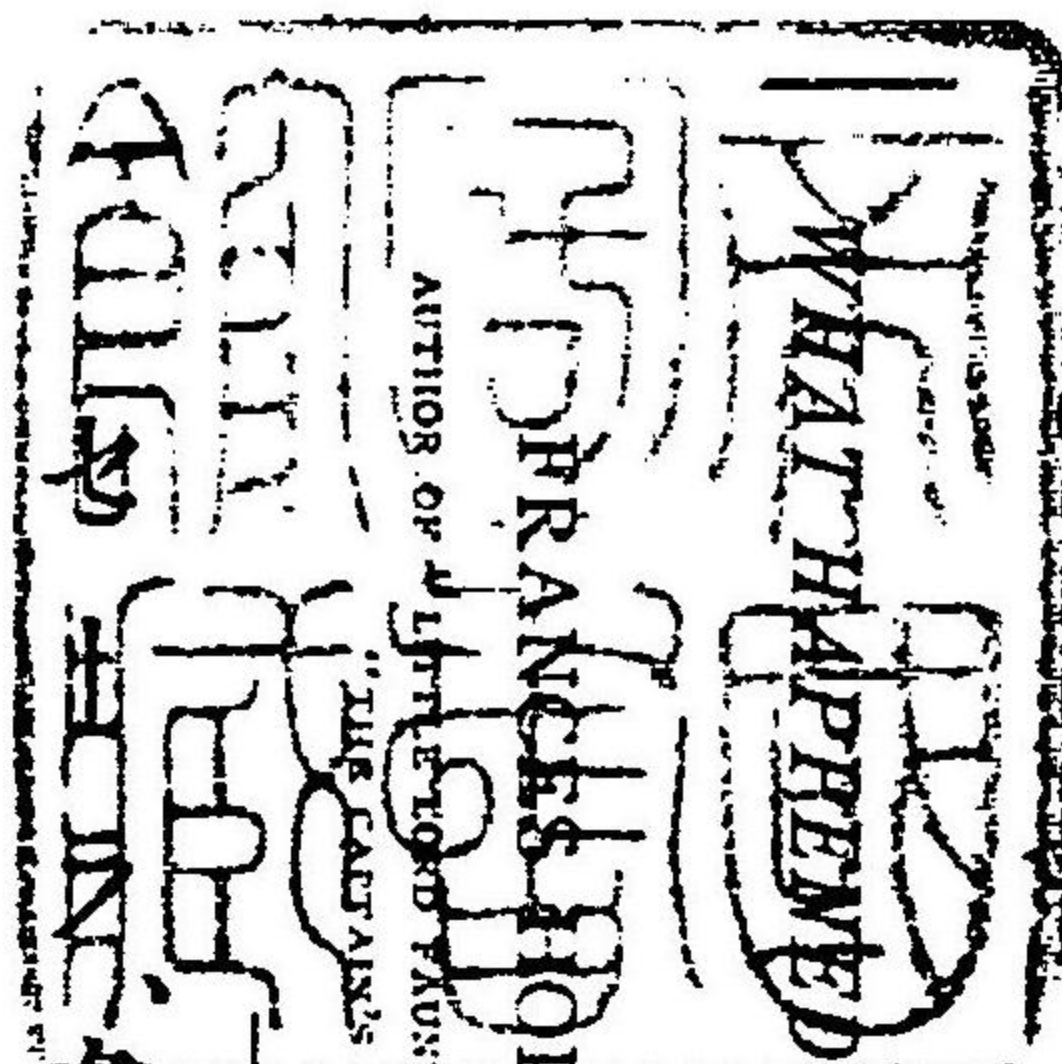
著小公子
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バーネット女史著
若松賤子譯

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SARA CREWE

OR,
AT MISS MINCHIN'S.

BY
FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT
AUTHOR OF "LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY," "LITTLE SAINT ELIZABETH,"
"THE CALYPSO BOONEST," ETC. ETC.

ルー物語

ミンチン女史の出来事

若松賤子譯

PART I.

In the first place, Miss Minchin lived in London. Her home was a large, dull, tall one, in a large, dull square, where all the houses were alike, and all the sparrows were alike, and where all the door-knockers made the same heavy sound, and

on still days—and nearly all the days were still —seemed to resound through the entire row in which the knock was knocked. On Miss Minchin's door there was a brass plate. On the brass plate there was inscribed in black letters

MISS MINCHIN'S
SELECT SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES

第一回

抑もの初めから話しをしますと、ミンチン女史といふは、ロンドン府に住居をした人として、其住宅は東京といふと、銀座通りの様な、大きな趣味の無い建並の中でも、尤も大きくて高く、趣味の至つて無い家でした。尤も此界限の家は、どれもこれも同じ様で、軒の雀さへ殊さら揃へたかの如く同じ型でした。門に案内を請ふ爲の木鐘さへ同じドツシツした音に響き、静かなる日に——はと申した處が静かて無い日は至つて稀でしたが——一軒に案内呼ぶ音がすれば、建並の家中へ悉く反響する位でした。ミンチン女史の住居の戸には黄

明治
27 10 22
内交

銅の板が張つて有つて、其板の上に、黒や文字

ミンチン女塾

特別女子の塾に應ず

Little Sara Crewe

Little Sara Crewe never went in or out of the house without reading that door-plate and reflecting upon it. By the time she was twelve, she had decided that all her trouble arose because, in the first place, she was not "Select," and in the second, she was not a "Young Lady." When she was eight years old, she had been brought to Miss Minchin as a pupil, and left with her. Her papa had brought her all the way from India. Her mamma had died when she was a baby, and her papa had kept her with him as long as he could. And then, finding the hot climate was making her very delicate, he had brought her to

England and left her with Miss Minchin, to be part of the Select Seminary for Young Ladies. Sara, who had always been a sharp little child, who remembered things, recollected hearing him say that he had not a relative in the world whom he knew of, and so he was obliged to place her at a boarding-school, and he had heard Miss Minchin's establishment spoken of very highly. The same day he took Sara out and bought her a great many beautiful clothes,—clothes so grand and rich that only a very young inexperienced man would have bought them for a mite of a child who was to be brought up in a boarding-school. But the fact was that he was a rash, innocent young man, and very sad at the thought of parting with his little girl, who was all he had left to remind him of her beautiful mother, whom he had dearly loved. And he wished her to have everything the most fortunate little girl could have; and so, when the polite saleswoman in the shops said, "Here is our very latest thing in hats, the plumes are exactly the same as those we sold to Lady Diana Sinclair yesterday," he immediately bought what was offered to him, and paid

whatever was asked. The consequence was that Sara had a most extraordinary wardrobe. Her dresses were silk and velvet and India cashmere, her hats and bonnets were covered with bows and plumes, her small undergarments were adorned with real lace, and she returned in the cab to Miss Minchin's with a doll almost as large as herself, dressed quite as grandly as herself, too.

セーラは此家に入出入する度毎、必ず此掛札を讀み、色々想像を廻らしましたが、十二才の頃に、身に降りかゝつて來た困難は、つまり自分が『特別』と書いてある、その特別の者で無いと、第二に、貴女らしく無いものゝ爲に起つたことを覺り始めました。セーラが、ミンチン女史の許へ弟子入して、置いて行かれました時は、丁度八才の時、父がはるく、印度から連れて來たのでした。母はセーラが赤兒の時、世を去りまして、其あとで父は、置かれる丈けは手元に置いたのでした。然るに熱帯地方の氣候がセーラをひどく虚弱にする様子を見て、程なくイギリスへ連れて參り、ミンチンの塾へ入學をさせたのでした。セーラは

鋭敏な見て、物覺えの好む質でしたから、父の申したとなどは、一々よくおぼえて居りました。父は世に親族、一類といふものが、ただの一人も無いによつて、據なく、善いと評判に聞いた、ミンチンの塾へ入れるより外は無いつて居たのでした。

入塾させた其日、セーラの父は、セーラを外へつれて出まして、立派な着物を澤山買つて遣りましたが、實際セーラは、極く小さくつて、殊に塾などへはいるのでしたから、そんな美しい立派な着物などは餘計なとてした。併し父といふのがまだ若くつて、經驗のない人ではあり、殊に深い思慮もなく、氣樂な性質でしたから、いとしい亡き妻が唯一の忘れ形見と愛てたセーラに別れるが、何より悲しく、凡そ世に幸福だといはれる子供の持つものは、どんなものでもセーラに遣り度いとおもひ、呉服屋の番頭が慇懃に、「へい、帽子は、これが流行の骨頂といふ處で、へいそれに着けませ駝鳥の羽は、ツイ昨日何某様のお姫様へ願ひましたと同様なもので」と頻りに取り入りますと、

見せられた物は何によらず、残らず買あげ、云ふがまに、價をとらせました。斯様な次第故、セーラの着料と云つては、非常な物でした。先づ上着の品をいへば、綾、羽二重、天鵞絨、印度製の細カシミヤ、帽子はリボンと羽毛をも飾りたてた華やかなもの、下着の縁には、高價なレースを飾つてありました。そして、馬車に乗つて、塾へ歸りました時は、自分と同じ様な、はなやかな着物を着せた、我丈ほどある人形を抱いて居りました。

Then her papa gave Miss Minchin some money and went away, and for several days Sara would neither touch the doll, nor her breakfast, nor her dinner, nor her tea, and would do nothing but crouch in a small corner by the window and cry. She cried so much, indeed, that she made herself ill. She was a queer little child, with old-fashioned ways and strong feelings, and she had adored her papa, and could not be made to think that India and an interesting bungalow were not better for her than London and Miss Minchin's

Select Seminary. The instant she had entered the house, she had begun promptly to hate Miss Minchin, and to think little of Miss Amelia Minchin, who was smooth and dumpy, and lisped, and was evidently afraid of her older sister. Miss Minchin was tall, and had large, cold, fishy eyes, and large, cold hands, which seemed fishy, too, because they were damp and made chills run down Sara's back when they touched her, as Miss Minchin pushed her hair off her forehead and said:

"A most beautiful and promising little girl, Captain Crewe. She will be a favourite pupil; quite a favourite pupil, I see."

それから父はミンチン女史に若干の金子を預けて行つてしまひました。それから四五日と云ふものは、セーラは人形も抱かず、三度の食事にも手もつけず、窓際に蹲まつて、泣くより外は、せん術も有せなかつた。餘り泣きまじつて、どうも病氣を起す候まつた。セーラは全體、一風變つた見て、仕たり言ひたりする事の中に、當世向て無事と多くありました。感情は極く強い方で、父

ほど好い人は無いと思つて居りました。又印度での面白い平屋住居は、ロンドンのミンチンの塾より、いくら勝かと思ふ者が、どうしてもとれなかつた。此の塾の敷居を跨ぐと直ぐから、ミンチン女史といふ人が嫌てくたまらず。又その妹のエミリーヤといふ女は太ッちよつて、人好しで、舌足らずで、姉を恐がつて居る様でしたが、セーラは此人も、何だか好かない人だと思つて居りました。

ミンチン女史といはれた人は、丈高く、眼大きく、冷やかで、どこか魚の眼に似て居りました。手も同様、大きく冷たくつて、何と無く魚じみた所が有ました。最初来た時、ミンチン女史が、セーラの額に振りかゝつた後毛を後へ撫で揚げて、ほんにクルー様、お美しいお嬢さまで、私は前途を楽しみに存じますよ。どんなにか、珍重される生徒におなり遊ばしますか、必ずみんなが珍重するでういませう。

といひました時などは、其手がジミ／＼して居て、セーラは背からソツト寒くなりました。

For the first year she was favourite pupil; at least, she was indulged a great deal more than was good for her. And when the Select Seminary went walking, two by two, she was always decked out in her grandest clothes, and led by the hand, at the head of the genteel procession, by Miss Minchin herself. And when the parents of any of the pupils came, she was always dressed and called into the parlour with her doll; and she used to hear Miss Minchin say that her father was a distinguished Indian officer, and she would be heiress to a great fortune. That her father had inherited a great deal of money, Sara had heard before; and also that some day it would be hers, and that he would not remain long in the army, but would come to live in London. And every time a letter came, she hoped it would say he was coming, and they were to live together again.

セーラはミンチン女史が最初云つた通り、始めの一年はいかにも氣に入りの生徒でした。そしてセーラの身の爲に宜くないまで氣儘にされて居

りました。そして、塾の生徒が、二人づゝ行列を揃へて散歩に出かける時、セーラは、いつても勢一杯飾りたてられて、ち上品な行列の頭に、ミンチン女史に親しく手を引いて歩かされました。生徒の両親が来た時などは、セーラには、いつても着物を着替へさせ、人形を抱かせて、座敷へ呼び出しました。左様な折には、ミンチン女史が、セーラの事を客に吹聴して、これは印度に住はれる名高き陸軍士官の令嬢で、聽て大した資産を受嗣ぐ可きお人だといひ／＼しました。父が大した親譲りの財産を受嗣いで居ると云ふことは、セーラが以前から聞いて居るとでした。それに、いつかは、それが自分のものになるといふと、父が永く印度に居られ無いと云ふこと、其中ロンドンへ来て永住する積りといふことも承知して居りました。それ故、手紙の來る度に、もうイギリスへ來る、おまへも、これからは父と一處に住むのだと云つて來たかしらとおもひ、さうだと好がなと考へて居ました。

But about the middle of the third year a letter came bringing very different news. Because he was not a business man himself, her papa had given his affairs into the hands of a friend he trusted. The friend had deceived and robbed him. All the money was gone, no one knew exactly where, and the shock was so great to the poor, rash young officer, that, being attacked by jungle fever shortly afterwards, he had no strength to rally, and so died, leaving Sara with no one to take care of her.

然るに、三年目の中頃に、それとは大違ひの音信がありました。父は自分が事務に慣れて居ない處から、兼て去る朋友に財産を監督する權利を任せ置きました。然る處、其朋友が父を欺き、其金子を奪ひまして、父の財産は何處へどうなつたものか、兎に角、みんな無くなつてしまひました。可哀ならに、まだ年の若い上に、チト輕卒な質な父は事の意外なるに驚く餘り、間もなく煩つたマラリヤ熱のために、氣力の薄い處から、回復するところが出來ず、セーラを委ねる人もないに、とうと

う亡くなつてしまひました。

Miss Minchin's cold and fishy eyes had never looked so cold and fishy as they did when Sara went into the parlour, on being sent for, a few days after the letter was received.

其手紙が届いて、數日たつてから、セーラは呼ばれて、客座敷へ行きましたが、此時ほど、ミンチン女史の眼が冷つて、魚じみて見たことはおもひませんでした。

No one had said anything to the child about mourning, so, in her old-fashioned way, she had decided to find a black dress for herself, and had picked out a black velvet she had outgrown, and came into the room in it, looking the queerest little figure in the world, and a sad little figure, too. The dress was too short and too tight, her face was white, her eyes had dark rings around them, and her doll, wrapped in a piece of old black crape, was held under her arm. She was not a pretty child. She was thin, and had a

weird, interesting little face, short black hair, and very large green-grey eyes fringed all around with heavy black lashes.

"I am the ugliest child in the school," she had said once, after staring at herself in the glass for some minutes.

But there had been a clever, good-natured little French teacher who had said to the music-master:

"Zat leetle Crew. Vat a child! A so ogly beauty! Ze so large eyes; ze so little spirituelle face. Vaid till she grow up. You shall see!"

誰もセーラに喪服の事を兎や角と云つたものは有せませんが、例の昔風な考から、黒の喪服を自分で探し出さうとおもひ、先に着古して、モウ小さくしてしまつた、黒天鵝絨の着物をとり出し、それを身に纏うて立現はれた容姿は、哀ッばいやうでもあり、世にまたと有まじさほど奇妙、不思議な装でした。着物は短くつて狭くつて、顔は青白く眼の周圍には黒づんだ環が出來て居て、古い黒紗の布の巻をつけてある人形を腋に抱へて居り

ました。セーラは器量好しと云ふ見では有ませんかつた。一體瘠せぎすで、凄味のある思ひつきな顔で、真黒な髪は短く缺んで有つて、鳩羽鼠色の際だつて大きい眼は濃く長い睫毛で縁どられてゐました。セーラはある時、自分の姿を暫らく鏡に映して、

あたしの様に醜い兒は學校中に有りはしない。と申したとが有りましたが、併しフランス語の教師で、才子風な、氣立の優しい婦人が、ある時、音楽の教師に、片言雜りの英語で、かう申したとがりました。

あの、クルーついでいふ小さいのネ、あれはママ、なんといふ見でせう！美人の相を持ちながら、あんな醜いのが有ますからネ、あのママ、大きな眼、そして、あの精神的な顔付、年頃になるまで見て居て御覽なさいまし、キット大したものになりませうよ。

This morning, however, in the tight, small black frock, she looked thinner and odder than ever.

mination, under which Miss Minchin had always felt secretly uncomfortable. And that lady felt even now that perhaps it would be as well not to insist on her point. So she looked at her as severely as possible.

"You will have no time for dolls in future," she said; "you will have to work and improve yourself, and make yourself useful."

セーラは決して柔順な兒でありませんでした。生れた時から氣儘一杯をさせつけられて居りましたし、沈着いて居る中に、なんとなく、氣丈な處が有りましたから、流石のミンチン女史さへ、内心、薄氣味わるく感じて居りました。さし當り此場合に、自分の云條を立通さない方が結局勝しかともおもひ、たゞ恐ろしく厳しい顔をして見せて居りました。

あまへも、モウ、これからは、人形などを捨くつて遊んで居る暇はない。一生懸命勉強して、相應な役に立つ仕度をせねばならんよ。

Sara kept the big odd eyes fixed on her teach-

and her eyes were fixed on Miss Minchin with a queer steadiness as she slowly advanced into the parlour, clutching her doll.

"Put your doll down!" said Miss Minchin.

"No," said the child, "I won't put her down; I want her with me. She is all I have. She has stayed with me all the time since my papa died."

併し今朝は小ぢ過ぎる黒の喪服などをつけて居りましたから、平生より、尙のこと瘠せて妙に見えました。そして人形を抱いたまへ、ソロソロと客座敷へはいりながら、なんとも云へない、妙な眼つきで、ミンチン女史を睨んで居りました。ミンチン女史は命令して、

其人形を下にお置きなさい！

否、下へ置くのは。からして一處に居るんです。此人形はどうさまが死んでも、いつても、一處に居て呉れるんですもの。

She had never been an obedient child. She had had her own way ever since she was born, and there was about her an air of silent deter-

er, and said nothing.

"Everything will be very different now," Miss Minchin went on. "I sent for you to talk to you and make you understand. Your father is dead, you have no friends, you have no money, you have no home, and no one to take care of you."

セーラは例の大きな圓やかな眼を見張つて、先生を見詰めて、何とも口を開きませんかつた。ミンチン女史は尙言葉をつき、

萬事、これまでもとは違ひます。よくあまへに云つて聞かせやうと思つて、呼んだんです。あまへのお父さんは死んでしまつて、あまへは親類といふものば少しもありません。あまへは金も無ければ、歸る家もなし、あまへを引とつて、世話する人といつたら、一人も有りません。

The little pale olive face twitched nervously, but the green-grey eyes did not move from Miss Minchin's, and still Sara said nothing.

"What are you staring at?" demanded Miss Minchin sharply. "Are you so stupid you don't

understand what I mean? I tell you that you are quite alone in the world, and have no one to do anything for you, unless I choose to keep you here."

小さな青ざめた橄欖色の顔は神経的作用で、ピリ／＼と引釣りました。鳩羽ねずみの眼は、ミンチン女史と離れませんでした。併しセーラは、まだ何とも答へをいたしませんかった。ミンチン女史は鋭く突ッ込んで來まして、

「あなたは、なぜなうアツケラカンとして居るのだ。わたしの云ふとが分らないほどなギンヤリなのか。わたしの云つたとはネ、此廣し世界に、あなたを構つて貰ふ人は一人も無い。わたしでも、あなたをこの／＼置つて上げる氣にならなければ、あなたは、どうにも、仕方がないことなのだよ。」

The truth was, Miss Minchin was in her worst mood. To be suddenly deprived of a large sum of money yearly and a show pupil, and to find herself with a little beggar on her hands, was

"Don't be impudent, or you will be punished," she said. "You will have to improve your manners if you expect to earn your bread. You are not a parlour boarder now. Remember, that if you don't please me, and I send you away, you have no home but the street. You can go now."

實を申しますと、ミンチン女史は、此時、大不機嫌で居たのでした。年々送り越して來た、少なからぬ金額を一時に止められるといふとから、お飾り生徒の無くなるとから、乞食同様の厄介者が手元に残るといふとなどが、實に黙して泳へるとの出來ぬ事柄でした。それで、またあとをつぎ、サア、よろしく、わたしのいふとを聞いて覚えてあつてなさい。あなたへがこゝで、一ツ奮發をして、二三年の中に、相應な役に立つものになれば、とならば、わたしも枉げて、あなたを家へ置いて上る積りだ。あなたへはまだ子供には違ひないが、中々鋭い見だから、碌に教はらないでも、可なり物事を聞覚えの方です。今でさへ、フランス語はよく話せるから、其割でいつたら、一

more than she could bear with any degree of calmness.

"Now listen to me," she went on, "and remember what I say. If you work hard and prepare to make yourself useful in a few years, I shall let you stay here. You are only a child, but you are a sharp child, and you pick up things almost without being taught. You speak French very well, and in a year or so you can begin to help with the younger pupils. By the time you are fifteen, you ought to be able to do that much at least."

"I can speak French better than you now," said Sara; "I always spoke it with my papa in India." Which was not at all polite, but was painfully true, because Miss Minchin could not speak French at all, and, indeed, was not in the least a clever person. But she was a hard, grasping business woman, and, after the first shock of disappointment, had seen that at very little expense to herself she might prepare this clever, determined child to be very useful to her, and save her the necessity of paying large salaries to teachers of languages.

年かそこらの中には、乙級の方は教へ始められるだらう。兎に角、あなたへが、十五歳位になるまでには、それ丈はキツト出來やうと思ふから。

此時セーラは、
今だつて、フランス語なんか、先生より、よく出來ますは。印度に居た時、あとうさまと、いつでも話して居たんですもの。

といひました。餘り禮儀に應つた申分では有りませんかつたが、それが實際なのでした。ミンチン女史は本當にフランス語は出來ず、一體、不器用な質の人間でした。併し、至て薄情で、慾張りて世才に長けた女でしたから、大さに當が外れると見てから、早速に一思索しました。此利發で、氣丈な子供を仕立て、未始終、一廉の役に立てるには、實際大した失費をしないで済む。さうなれば、語學教師に拂つて居る莫大な給料も省ける都合と、チャンと胸算用がついたのでした。それで、コレ、長者に無禮をいつてはならんよ。罰をあてるから、さう思ひなさい。萬事、萬端、人の

厄介にならうといふ者は、別して禮儀作法に氣をつけなければなりません。それから、あまへはもうこれから、客分にはして置けないから、あ心得なさい。あまへが私の氣に入らないとすると、ここから追ひ出す、追ひ出せば、宿なしになるより外は無いのだから、そこを忘れない様に、氣をつけるが宜しい。サマ、モウあちちへあさつー。

Sara turned away.

"Stay!" commanded Miss Minchin. "Don't you intend to thank me?"

Sara turned towards her. The nervous twitch was to be seen again in her face, and she seemed to be trying to control it.

"What for?" she said.

"For my kindness to you," replied Miss Minchin. "For my kindness in giving you a home."

Sara went two or three steps nearer to her. Her thin little chest was heaving up and down, and she spoke in a strange, unchildish voice.

あなたが親切なもんですか、あなたが…親切なもんですか。

といひ放つて、向ふを向き、突然に其室を出てしまひました。あとに残された、ミンチン女史は腹を立て、ハツキとなり、石の様にデットたゝ眼を見張つたまへ、セーラの奇妙千萬な後姿を眺まへて居りました。

The child walked up the staircase, holding tightly to her doll. She meant to go to her bedroom, but at the door she was met by Miss Amelia.

"You are not to go in there," she said. "That is not your room now."

"Where is my room?" asked Sara.

"You are to sleep in the attic next to the cook."

セーラは、人形を確り握つて、二階へ登り、自分の寐間へ行く積りとした處が、戸の側で丁度エミ・リヤ嬢に出逢ひ、かう申渡されました。あまへさんは、モウ、此處へ、はいることはな

"You are not kind," she said. "You are not kind." And she turned again, and went out of the room, leaving Miss Minchin staring after her strange, small figure in stony anger.

セーラが立つて行かうとしますと、ミンチン女史は下示の聲鋭く、

コレ、あまち…あまへは一言の禮も云はずに、往くのか?

セーラが女史の方へ向けた顔に、以前の引釣が、また見えましたが今度は、それを自ら制して居る様子でした。そして、

なんのお禮?と尋ねました。

わたしが親切にして上げるとに對してはなにか、あまへをこゝへ置いて上げる親切に對しては、

セーラは二歩、三歩、女史の方へ進みました。セーラの小さな胸は曇まつた思ひで、眼に見えるまでに、立騒いで居りました。さうして、子供の聲とも思へぬ、妙な聲色になつて、

らんのです。これからは、あまへさんの室で無くなるのだから。

そんなら、あたしの部屋はどこ?あまへさんは、四階の物置へ、下女の寝る隣のところへ、これから寝るんです。

Sara walked on. She mounted two flights more, and reached the door of the attic room, opened it, and went in, shutting it behind her. She stood against it, and looked about her. The room was slanting-roofed and white-washed; there was a rusty grate, an iron bedstead, and some odd articles of furniture, sent up from better rooms below, where they had been used until they were considered to be worn out. Under the skylight in the roof, which showed nothing but an oblong piece of dull grey sky, there was a battered old red footstool.

セーラは、そこを通り過ぎて、階段をまた二ツ攀が、物置の戸の處へ参りました時、開けて内へはいり、はいつてシツカリ戸を閉ぢました。先づ戸によりかゝつて、見廻しますと、屋根裏は斜めに

なつて居て、壁は石灰塗りでした。あたりには錆
た暖爐があり、鐵の寢床が有つて、其外、使ひ古
して、チグハグになつた道具がありました。屋根
の明取りからは、窓形に細長く、趣味も何もない
鼠色の空が見える切りてした。此窓下には、破れ
かゝつた低い椅子がありました。

Sara went to it and sat down. She was a
queer child, as I have said before, and quite
unlike other children. She seldom cried. She
did not cry now. She laid her doll Emily across
her knees, and put her face down upon her, and
her arms around her, and sat there, her little
black head resting on the black crape not saying
one word, not making one sound.

セーラは、これへ行つて、腰をかけた。前に
申した通り、一風變つた見てしたから、尋常の子
供とは、大分違つた處があり、滅多に泣きません
かつた。こんな時で、一向泣く様子なく、た
ゞ人形のエミリーを膝の上へ載せて、其上へツツ伏
し、兩手で人形を抱き締め、人形の着た黒紗の上

へ、自分の黒い頭を載せたまゝ、一言もいはず、
何の音もたてずにチツトして居りました。

* * * * *

From that day her life changed entirely.
Sometimes she used to feel as if it must be
another life altogether, the life of some other
child. She was a little drudge and outcast; she
was given her lessons at odd times, and expected
to learn without being taught; she was sent on
errands by Miss Minchin, Miss Amelia, and the
cook. Nobody took any notice of her except
when they ordered her about. She was often
kept busy all day, and then sent into the deserted
schoolroom with a pile of books, to learn her
lessons or practise at night. She had never been
intimate with the other pupils, and soon she
became so shabby, that, taking her queer clothes
together with her queer little ways, they began
to look upon her as a being of another world
than their own. The fact was that, as a rule,
Miss Minchin's pupils were rather dull, matter-of-

fact young people, accustomed to being rich and
comfortable; and Sara, with her elfish cleverness,
her desolate life, and her odd habit of fixing her
eyes upon them and staring them out of coun-
terpane, was too much for them.

其時から、セーラの生涯は、全く變化いたしました。
時としては、自分ながら、これは全く別の生
涯だ、誰かの子供の生涯だかと思ふ位でした。
セーラは、以後誰も構ひつけぬ厄介者で、人に追
ひ廻されて使はるゝ身分となりました。稽古と云
ふは定もない、ちぐはぐな時間にさせられ、教へ
られない事でも、知つて居なければ用捨されぬと
いふ様な鹽梅でした。ミンチン先生にも使はれ
ば、エミリーヤさんにも用をいひつけられる。そ
れでも尙足らないで、ち三までが其臺所の用足し
をさせるといふ態でした。用をいひつける外は、
誰一人セーラを構ひつけるものは有りません
でした。大抵一日中、追ひ廻された擧句、人が稽古
が済んで遊んで居る時分、空ッぽの講堂の中で、
したゝか書物を宛がはれて自修させられ、音樂の

復習などは、夜に入つてからさせられました。セ
ーラは以前から、朋輩たちと餘り懇意にいたしま
せんでしたが、其中着物が見ツともなく、不釣合
になる。其うへ、風采に人と違つて奇妙な所があ
りましたから、子供たちは、自分等の仲間とは、
丸で一風變つた、別世界の人間の様に見做し始め
ました。實際の處をいふと、ミンチン女史の生徒
たちは、一體ボンヤリした様な、趣味も何もない
方で、且つ金満家故、安樂に慣れて居ましたに、
セーラは之に反し、氣味の悪い程利發で、獨りさ
びれた生涯を送り、人が居たゝまれなくなるま
で、デット人を見詰める癖などが有りましたか
ら、生徒たちが、之を相手にする事の出来なかつ
たのは無理のない事です。

"She always looks as if she was finding you
out," said one girl, who was sly, and given to
making mischief.

"I am," said Sara, promptly, when she heard
of it "That's what I look at them for. I like
to know about people. I think them over

afterwards."

She never made any mischief herself, or interfered with anyone. She talked very little, did as she was told, and thought a great deal. Nobody knew, and in fact nobody cared, whether she was unhappy or happy, unless, perhaps, it was Emily, who lived in the attic, and slept on the iron bedstead at night. Sara thought Emily understood her feelings, though she was only wax, and had a habit of staring herself. Sara used to talk to her at night.

横着で、よく悪戯をする一人の生徒が、ある時、
「なんだか、いつても、人のことを探索して居る様だわ。」

といつた事が有りますが、それを聞いたセーラは猶豫なく、

「さうとも、其積りて、人を見るんだもの。人の事を色々知りたいんだもの。見聞したとは、あつて又ゆつくり考へて見るんだもの。」

といひました。併し、セーラは悪戯はせず、人の邪魔になる様などは、一切しませんでした。其上、

「ないんだよ。なぜものを云はないんだ。あつてが一生懸命にならなければ、言をさへするかと思ふことがあるよ。あつてならあつては何にも無くて可哀なうな者だと思つたら、一生懸命になれさうなものだ。あたしが、あつてなら一生懸命で遣つて見るがね、なぜ一生懸命にならなかつた。」

It really was a very strange feeling she had about Emily. It arose from her being so desolate. She did not like to own to herself that her only friend, her only companion, could feel and hear nothing. She wanted to believe, or to pretend to believe, that Emily understood and sympathised with her; that she heard her, even though she did not speak in answer. She used to put her in a chair sometimes, and sit opposite to her on the old red footstool, and stare at her, and think and pretend about her, until her own eyes would grow large with something which was almost like fear, particularly at night, when the garret was so still—when the only sound that was

口数はきかず、人のいふとによく耳を傾け、チツト考へて居る質でした。セーラが悦んでるか、悲しんでるか、エメレンでも無ければ知るものもなく、又そんなとに頓着するものもありませんでした。其エメレンとは、前も申した通り、セーラと一處に物置に寝起をする人形でした。エメレンは、蠟で出来て居て、眼を開けたり閉ぢたりする仕掛になつてさう、當てなし眼をする癖のある人形で有つても、セーラは、何だか、自分の心持が分つて呉れる様に思つて居ました。それ故、夜になると、いつても話をするのでした。

"You are the only friend I have in the world," she would say to her. "Why don't you say something? Why don't you speak? Sometimes I'm sure you could, if you would try. It ought to make you try, to know you are the only thing I have. If I were you I should try. Why don't you try?"

あたしは、世界中にあつてより外に友達はないぢやないか。なぜ何とかが、あたしに云つてくれ

to be heard was the occasional squeak and skurry of rats in the wainscot. There were rat-holes in the garret, and Sara detested rats, and was always glad Emily was with her when she heard their hateful squeak and rush and scratching. One of her "pretends" was that Emily was a kind of good witch, and could protect her. Poor little Sara! everything was "pretend" with her. She had a strong imagination; there was almost more imagination than there was Sara, and her whole forlorn, uncared-for child-life was made up of imaginings. She imagined and pretended things until she almost believed them, and she would scarcely have been surprised at any remarkable thing that could have happened. So she insisted to herself that Emily understood all about her troubles, and was really her friend.

セーラは、實際エメレンについて、極く妙な感を持つて居りました。之はいつても、セーラが孤獨で、淋しくして居るから起つたことでした。世の中のたつた一人の友達なり、相手なりが、感もなく、聞くとも出来ないと思ふことは、自分ながら何と

り嫌でたまりませんでした。それ故、エメレが、何でも分つて、自分を思ひやつて呉れる、口を開いて返答はせずとも、自分の云ふとは聞きとつて居ると信じたかつたのでした。時々、エメレを椅子に据えて、自分は例の古びた足臺の上へ向ひ合つて坐り、デット見詰めては考へ、有りもせぬ事を、有るかの様に想像して居る中に、何となく、我れながら氣味悪さに身顛ひするとが有りました。夜になつて、物置がシンとして、壁板の中の鼠がチイ／＼いつたり、ゴン／＼したりするより外、音もない時などは、特別さうでした。物置には鼠穴が澤山ありましたが、セーラは鼠が大嫌ひで、怖ろしく、チユウ／＼いつてはゴン／＼、ガサ／＼と音をさせたり、引掻き廻つたりするときは、エメレが一處に居るので、先づ嬉しむと思はないとは有りませんでした。セーラが、無事を有るつもりに真似て心を慰めた一つは、エメレが自分の守神の様なもので、自分の危難の場合を救ふとが出来るといふのでした。此兒は非常に強い想像力を持つて居りました。セーラといふ人間よ

りか、此想像力の方が嵩にしては多いかと思はれる様でした。それで此兒の詫しい孤獨な幼き生涯は、丸で想像で固めた様でした。自分が物事を想像したり、無いとを有る真似をしたりする中に、段々其想像物を實在物だと信ずる様になり、どんな不思議な事が不意に起つても、一向訝かるとはあるまゝと思はれる位になりました。それ故、人形のエメレが、自分の困難を残らず承知して居る、本當に自分の友だちだと、一心に思はうとして居ました。時々獨言に、こんなとをいつて居ました。

“As to answering,” she used to say, “I don't answer very often. I never answer when I can help it. When people are insulting you, there is nothing so good for them as not to say a word—just to look at them and *think*. Miss Minchin turns pale with rage when I do it, Miss Amelia looks frightened, so do the girls. They know you are stronger than they are, because you are strong enough to hold in your rage, and they are

not, and they say stupid things they wish they hadn't said afterwards. There's nothing so strong as rage, except what makes you hold it in—that's stronger. It's a good thing not to answer your enemies. I scarcely ever do. Perhaps Emily is more like me than I am like myself. Perhaps she would rather not answer her friends even. She keeps it all in her heart.”

返事をしないで。だがね、あたしだつて滅多に返事しやしない。返事しないで済みさへすれば、しない様にして居るわ。人が馬鹿にする様なか中では、一言もいはないが何より好んだもの。たゞデット見詰めて、考へてやるの。さういふ時、ミンチン先生は怒つて眞青にもんななるし、エミリーさんや生徒たちは、ちツかなさうな顔をするわ。なぜかといふと、自分たちより、こつちが何だか強いもの、やうに思ふからだわ。こつちは腹がたつたら、心ななへと包む丈、強いところがあるし、自分たちにはそれが無いから。そしてあとぢやア、よせばよ

かつたと思ふやうなぐだらんとをいつてしまふのだもの。腹の立つ時程、人のまづくなる時はなすけれど、それを壓入る處は、まだそれよりかぎつゝのだもの。敵にはなにも返答しないが一番好い。だからさつゝも返答しやしない。ちよ思ふと、エミリーはあたしに似てゐるのかも知れないよ。敵どころぢやない、友だちにも話するのが否なのかも知れない。だから、何もかも自分の心の中へ仕舞つて置くだらう。

But though she tried to satisfy herself with these arguments, Sara did not find it easy. When, after a long, hard day, in which she had been sent here and there, sometimes on long errands, through wind and cold and rain; and, when she came in wet and hungry, had been sent out again because nobody chose to remember that she was only a child, and that her thin little legs might be tired, and her small body, clad in its forlorn too small finery, all too short and too tight, might be chilled; when she had been given

only harsh words and cold, slighting looks for thanks; when the cook had been vulgar and insolent; when Miss Minchin had been in her worst moods, and when she had seen the girls sneering at her among themselves and making fun of her poor, outgrown clothes,—then Sara did not find Emily quite all that her sore, proud, desolate little heart needed as the doll sat in her old chair and stared.

斯様に理窟をつけて、安心しやうとは、しましたもの、また中々諦められませんでした。此處彼處と風が吹き、凍える程の寒さの中に、遠くまで使に遣られ、腹は減る、着物はビシヨ濡れになつて歸つて來ると、セーラがまだ子供で、あの細々した手足がさを疲れて居るだらう、昔こそ立派であつたれ、今となつては見そぼらしく、袴も丈も短くなつてしまつた。あの着物を着た、あの體がさを冷くなつてゐるだらうと、察してくれる人は、一人もなく、息もつかせず、折返して戶外へ出られ、一日中追廻されて、何をしても禮は云はれず、其代りにケンツクをくはられたり、意地の悪

い顔つきをされた時、お三が下司張つたをうつたり、自分を馬鹿にしたりした時、ミンチン先生が取別け、不機嫌であつた時、生徒たちが自分のしみつたれた小さい着物を輕蔑んだりした時、おういふ時には、セーラの憎しさと、口惜しさと、強情との混じつて居た心には、エメレがたゞ椅子の上でチョモンと坐つて居て、當なし眼をして居るんでは、どうしても満足と思ふことが出来ませんでした。

One of these nights, when she came up to the garret cold, hungry, tired, and with a tempest raging in her small breast, Emily's stare seemed so vacant, her sawdust legs and arms so limp and inexpressive, that Sara lost all control over herself.

"I shall die presently!" she said at first.

Emily stared.

"I can't bear this!" said the poor child, trembling. "I know I shall die. I'm cold, I'm wet, I'm starving to death. I've walked a thousand miles to-day, and they have done nothing

but scold me from morning until night. And because I could not find that last thing they sent me for, they would not give me any supper. Some men laughed at me because my old shoes made me slip down in the mud. I'm covered with mud now. And they laughed! Do you hear?"

ある夜、寒くつて、お腹が減つて、草臥れて居る上に、セーラの小さい胸には風の如くささくゝの感情が戦つて居ました時、物置なる我部屋へ來て見ますと、エメレの當なし眼が、如何にも、間が抜けて居て、鋸屑入りの手足が、如何にもだらりとして木偶然として居るので、セーラは、モウ堪へ切れなくなりました。其中セーラは、

あたしは、モウ死ぬかも知れない。

と云ひましても、エメレは、矢張何ともいはず、キョトンとして居りました。セーラは彌々思ひ追つて戦きながら、

モウく、たまらんよ、あたしは、キョト死ぬに違ひない。寒いとは寒しし、ビシヨ濡れだし、

それに飢へて死にたうたもの、今日なんか、一日歩いて計り居て、千里も歩いたかと思ふのに、朝から晩まで、叱つてばかり居るんだもの。それから、一番しまひに、買ひに遣られたものが、見付からなから、夕飯を呉れな、いつていふんだよ、お負に今日は、あたしの靴が古いもんだから、滑つて泥んなかへ轉んぢまふた。人が笑ひましたよ。今も此の通り泥だらけだ。それで、好かへ、人が笑ひました。よくく〜耳を開けて聞いてみてくれ。

She looked at the staring glass eyes and complacent wax face, and suddenly a sort of heartbroken rage seized her. She lifted her little savage hand and knocked Emily off the chair, bursting into a passion of sobbing.

"You are nothing but a doll!" she cried.

"Nothing but a doll—doll—doll! You care for nothing. You are stuffed with sawdust. You never had a heart. Nothing could ever make you feel. You are a doll!" Emily lay upon the floor, with her legs ignominiously doubled up

over her head, and a new flat place on the end of her nose; but she was still calm, even dignified.

セーラはエメレが相も變らず、アツケラカンと當なし眼をして、濟し込んで居る蠟細工の顔を見て悲しさと口惜しさが、一途に湧きかへり、亂暴にも小さな拳を舉げて、エメレを椅子の上から叩き落しました。さうして胸に當まつた悲しさを、ドット泣聲に漏らして、

あまへ、よくくの木偶の坊だ！、木偶、木偶、木偶の坊だ！何にも譯は分らないんだ。あまへのお腹中には、鋸屑しかはいつて居やしない。人情も何も知つたこつちやないんだ。どんなとしたつて、どんな事があつたつて、感じるよ。となんか有りやしないんだ。木偶の坊だもの。エメレは、不體裁にも、鬮筋斗をしたまふま、床の上へ横になつて、鼻の尖には、新たに、平たい凹んだ處が出来ました。しかし、相かはらず、濟し込んで、面白くない顔さへしませんでした。

け、同情の感に、どこかうるんで居るかと思はれる様でした。セーラは俯向いて、エメレを抱き上げました。何だか急に氣の毒になつて來ました。それで、仕方がないといふ様な溜息をして、あまへは、木偶なんだから仕方がないよ。アノ下に居る生徒たちが、腦髓が無くて仕方がないと同じつた。みんな、人によつて違つて居るんだもの。鋸屑は、鋸屑で、あまへは、鋸屑で、鋸屑仲間がや一番かも知れないよ。

None of Miss Minchin's young ladies were very remarkable for being brilliant; they were select, but some of them were very dull, and some of them were fond of applying themselves to their lessons. Sara, who snatched her lessons at all sorts of untimely hours from tattered and discarded books, and who had a hungry craving for everything readable, was often severe upon them in her small mind. They had books they never read; she had no books at all. If she had always had something to read, she would not have been so lonely. She liked romances,

Sara hid her face on her arms and sobbed. Some rats in the wall began to fight and bite each other, and squeak and scramble. But, as I have already intimated, Sara was not in the habit of crying. After a while she stopped, and when she stopped she looked at Emily, who seemed to be gazing at her around the side of one ankle, and actually with a kind of glassy-eyed sympathy. Sara bent and picked her up. Remorse overtook her.

"You can't help being a doll," she said, with a resigned sigh, "any more than those girls downstairs can help not having any sense. We are not alike. Perhaps you do your sawdust best."

セーラは、うつ伏して、暫らく泣聲を立て、居りました。其中に、壁の中の鼠が喧嘩をして、噛み合ひを始めまして、チューク、ガタくと、大聲を上げてした。前申した通り。セーラは泣聲でありませんから、直ぐに止めまして、落着いてから、エメレを見ると、エメレは、自分の鼻の傍の方から、頭を出して、こちらを見て居て、ガラス眼女

and history, and poetry; she would read anything. There was a sentimental housemaid in the establishment who bought the weekly penny papers, and subscribed to a circulating library, from which she got greasy volumes containing stories of marquises and dukes who invariably fell in love with orange-girls, and gipsies, and servant-maids, and made them the proud brides of coronets; and Sara often did parts of this maid's work, so that she might earn the privilege of reading these romantic histories. There was also a fat, dull pupil, whose name was Eremengarde St. John, who was one of her resources. Eremengarde had an intellectual father who, in his despairing desire to encourage his daughter, constantly sent her valuable and interesting books, which were a continual source of grief to her. Sara had once actually found her crying over a big package of them.

"What is the matter with you?" she asked her, perhaps rather disdainfully.

And it is just possible she would not have spoken to her, if she had not seen the books. The sight of books always gave Sara a hungry

feeling, and she could not help drawing near to them if only to read their titles.

ミンチン女塾の生徒で、餘り英才なものは無いのでした。多くの者は鈍で、時々には多少勉強するものもありました。チグハグな時間に、人の捨てたボロ／＼の本から稽古をさせられて居ても、實際は書物と云ふ書物を、饑ゑて食を求むる人ほど好きなセーラは、狭い心の中に此人たちを大層厳しく評して居りました。其生徒たちは、讀みもせぬ書物を澤山持つて居りました。セーラは何の書物も持つて居りませんでした。何か書物さへ有つたら、セーラも、さほど淋しいとはなかつたのでした。小説の類、歴史の類、詩歌の類をセーラは特に好みまして、何でも讀むものでさへあれば、讀み度いのでした。塾に使はれて居る女中の中で、小説好なのが有つて、時々續物の出た小新聞を買つたり、見料を拂つて手垢だらけな小説を借りるとが有りました。セーラは其新聞や貸本を見せて貰ひたさに、其女中の仕事を代つて遣るとが度々有りました。其外、エーメンガード、スイ

ンジャンといふ、肥つて、間の抜けた様な一人の生徒のお蔭で、大分書見の出来るともありました。此生徒の父と云ふのは、餘程文學的な人物で、如何にもして、娘の勉學を奨励したいと望む處から、屢々娘に面白い珍書を送り越しました。ある時などは現に、大きい書物の包が來たとて、困つて泣いて居るのを、セーラが見付けたとがありました。セーラは少しく見下げたと云ふ調子で、

あなた、どうしたんです？

と問ひました。此時に丁度書物が側に無いのであつたら、セーラは態々言葉をかけなんだから知れませんが、書物と見なへすれば、セーラは何となく、飢い様な氣持になつて、題號を讀むばかりでも、側へ寄つて、見ずに居られませんかつた。

“What is the matter with you?” she asked.

“My papa has sent me some more books,” answered Ermengarde weefully, “and he expects me to read them.”

“Don't you like reading?” said Sara.

“I hate it!” replied Miss Ermengarde St. John. “And he will ask me questions when he sees me; he will want to know how much I remember; how would you like to have to read all those?”

“I'd like it better than anything else in the world,” said Sara.

Ermengarde wiped her eyes to look at such a prodigy.

“Oh, gracious!” she exclaimed.

Sara returned the look with interest. A sudden plan formed itself in her sharp mind.

“Look here!” she said. “If you'll lend me those books, I'll read them and tell you everything that's in them afterwards, and I'll tell it to you so that you will remember it. I know I can. The A B C children always remember what I tell them.”

“Oh, goodness!” said Ermengarde. “Do you think you could?”

“I know I could,” answered Sara. “I like to read and I always remember. I'll take care of the books, too; they will look just as new as they do now, when I give them back to you.”

あなた、どうしたんです？

と問はれて、一方は、哀れッぱい聲をして、

お父さまが、また書物をあよこしなすつて、讀めつて、仰しやるの。

あなた讀むの嫌ひ？

大……嫌ひで、今度も目にかゝると、色々聞きたるもの、どれ丈け覚えて居るかッて。

あなたならどうします？

あたしなら、そんな嬉しいとはないわ。

とセーラがいふのを聞いて、エーメンガードは、そんなをらう人を見やうとして、我知らず、涙の眼を拭ひました。

アレ、マア！

と計り叫びましたが、話しに乘氣になつたセーラは、素早くも、急に一計を案じ出しました。それで、俄かに仔細らしく、

一寸、あなたに話しがありますよ。アノー、もし此書物をあたしに貸して下さつてよければ、あたしみんな讀んでから、あとですつかりあなたに話しをして上げましよう。ちうして、あな

たが覺えて居られるやうに話しをして上げま
しやう。あたし、さつと出來ますよ。あの豫料
の生徒で、あたしが話してやるや、何でも覺え
てますもの。

あれ、マア、ほんとに？そんなと出來て、
出來ますとも。あたし、書物は大好きで、讀んだ
と覺えて居られないなんていふとはなすもの。
書物だつて、丁寧に氣を付けてつかひがたいよ。
讀んがやつて、も返す時、キツキ、今の通
り新らしくして置くと見せがやがひ。

Ermenгарde put her handkerchief in her pocket.
"If you'll do that," she said, "and if you'll
make me remember, I'll give you—I'll give you
some money."

"I don't want your money," said Sara, "I
want your books—I want them." And her eyes
grew big and queer, and her chest heaved once.

"Take them, then," said Ermenгарde; "I
wish I wanted them, but I am not clever, and
my father is, and he thinks I ought to be."
Sara picked up the books and marched off with

them. But when she was at the door, she
stopped and turned round.

"What are you going to tell your father?"
she asked.

"Oh," said Ermenгарde, "he needn't know;
he'll think I've read them."

Sara looked down at the books; her heart
really began to beat fast.

"I won't do it," she said rather slowly, "if you
are going to tell him lies about it—I don't like
lies. Why can't you tell him I read them and
then told you about them?"

"But he wants me to read them," said
Ermenгарde.

"He want you to know what is in them," said
Sara; "and if I can tell it to you in an easy
way and make you remember, I should think he
would like that."

"He would like it better if I read them
myself," replied Ermenгарde.

"He will like it, I dare say, if you learn any-
thing in any way," said Sara. "I should, if I
were your fathar."

エーメンガードは、ソロ／＼ハンケチをしまひか
けました。涙が止まつたからでした。さうして、

あなた、さうして呉れれば、さうしてあなたが
覺えられるやうにして呉れれば、あたし、アノ

何、あげますは、アノお金を……
お金なんかいらぬの、だけど、書物はいるわ
……欲しくツて……

と、セーラは、いひかけて、大きな眼が、うるん
で居るかと思ふ様でした。さうして、胸が動くぐ
計り、大嘆息をいたしました。

それぢや、持つて入らつしやいよ、あたしも書
物が好だと好けれど。あたしは、學才がないん
だもの。お父さまは、自分に學問が出来るもん
だから、あたしが出來さうなもんだと思つて居
らつしやるの。

セーラは、許を得て、書物をとりあげ、こゝを去
りかけましたが、戸の側へ来て、フト立止まり、
振向いて、

あなた、お父さまになんと仰しやる？

ア、あとうさまにわざ／＼其こと話さないで

も、よくつてよ。あたしが讀んだだと思つて
しやうよ。

セーラは、手に持つたる書物を眺め、心に惑ふも
のゝ如く、胸をドキつかせて居りました。さうし
て、どうやら不安な調子に、

よしましやう、あなたが嘘をお吐きなさるんな
ら、あたし、虚言は嫌ひですもの。あたしが
讀んで、あなたに話したんだつて、なぜ云つて
いけないの？

でもあたしに讀ませ度んですもの。

書物の中に、書いてあると、あなたが、知るや
うにしたいんでしやう。だから、あたしが、書
いてあるとやさしく話して上げて、覺えて居ら
れる様にして上げたなら、それで好つて仰しや
らうなものネ。

でも、あたしが自分で讀めば、尙と好つて仰し
やるわ。

どんなにでもして、どんなにでも、覺えれば、
わるいとは仰しやらないでしやう。あたし、あ
なたのお父さまなら、さうですわ。

And though this was not a flattering way of stating the case, Ermengarde was obliged to admit it was true, and, after a little more argument, gave in. And so she used afterwards always to hand over her books to Sara, and Sara would carry them to her garret and devour them; and after she had read each volume, she would return it and tell Ermengarde about it in a way of her own. She had a gift for making things interesting. Her imagination helped her to make everything rather like a story, and she managed this matter so well that Miss St. John gained more information from her books than she would have gained if she had read them three times over by her poor stupid little self. When Sara sat down by her and began to tell some story of travel or history, she made the travellers and historical people seem real; and Ermengarde used to sit and regard her dramatic gesticulations, her thin little flushed cheeks and her shining odd eyes, with amazement.

"It sounds nicer than it seems in the book," she would say. "I never cared about Mary, Queen of Scots, before, and I always hated the

直して、話して聞かせました。セーラは持つて生れた、想像力が加勢になつて、萬事話しをするのを、小説ほど面白く聞かせる様にいたしましたから、スインジャン嬢が、かくして得られた智識は、哀れにも腐甲斐なき我が頭腦もて、三度繰返して讀んだより餘程多いとてした。セーラが、エーメングードの側へ坐つて、歴史とか、紀行とかの、話しを始めますと、古人も旅の人も、みんな現在生きた人間に見えました。それ故、エーメングードが側でセーラが手真似する處やら、瘠せた細い顔が意氣込むせいで、ポットする工合やら、妙にキラック眼光などを眺めて、たゞ／＼呆氣にとられる外は有りませんでした。さうして、かう申しました。

なんだか、書物に書いてある話よりか、いゝ様な。スコットランド女王メリーの事、面白いななんて思つたとはないの。あまけに、佛蘭西の革命なんか、大嫌ひでしたの。あなたが、ち話して呉れると、九て小説みたいネ。
小説なんですもの、みんな小説ですわ。どれて、

French Revolution, but you make it seem like a story."

"It is a story," Sara would answer. "They are all stories. Everything is a story—everything in this world. You are a story—I am a story—Miss Minchin is a story. You can make a story out of anything."

"I can't," said Ermengarde.

Sara stared at her a minute reflectively.

"No," she said at last. "I suppose you couldn't. You are a little like Emily."

"Who is Emily?"

これは極く艶氣のない、申様では有りませんが、エーメングードは、其言葉の眞實なるのに、氣のつかぬ譯でも有りませんかつたから、尙一言、二言、理非を辯じ合ふた果には、書物貸借の約が、いゝ／＼調ひました。そこで、エーメングードは、書物が來ると、其まゝ、セーラにそれを渡し、セーラは物置へ持つて行つて、空腹に食物を得た人の如く、これを讀み通し、一冊讀み了る度にこれを返し、分り易い様にすつかり我言葉に

も、世界中のものはみんな、さうなんです。あなたがつて、小説、あたしも小説、ミンチン先生も小説、どんなこつても、小説にすれば、出来るの。

でもあたしは、出来なくつてよ。

セーラは、かう言ふ相手の顔を、シケ／＼と見詰めて考へて居りましたが、少時して、

さうね、あなたは出来ないかも知れないネ。あなたは、少しエメン見たいだから。

エメンつて、誰？

Sara recollected herself. She knew she was sometimes rather impolite in the candour of her remarks, and she did not want to be impolite to a girl who was not unkind—only stupid. Notwithstanding all her sharp little ways, she had the sense to wish to be just to everybody. In the hours she spent alone, she used to argue out a great many curious questions with herself. One thing she had decided upon was, that a person who was clever ought to be clever enough not to be unjust or deliberately

unkind to anyone. Miss Minchin was unjust and cruel, Miss Amelia was unkind and spiteful, the cook was malicious and hasty-tempered—they all were stupid, and made her despise them, and she desired to be as unlike them as possible. So she would be as polite as she could to people who in the least deserved politeness.

"Emily is—a person—I know," she replied.

"Do you like her?" asked Ermengarde.

"Yes, I do," said Sara.

セーラは考へました。自分でも、知つて居たとてした、時々餘り、奥底のない物の言様をして、人に無禮をするとの悪いのを。さうして、不親切ではない、たとポンヤリだと云ふ丈の人に對して、無禮をしては、濟まぬと考へました。セーラは一體、テキバキする方でしたが、誰にも方正にしたことゝ夫の心得は確かに持つて居りました。けれど、獨り居る時に、我と我胸に問ひつ答へつして、ちやうど奇妙な問題を論究するゝが有りませと、そのとはたしかに結局まで考へ遂げました。何かと云ふと、凡そ聰慧だと云ふ者は、人に對し

て方正ならぬとは、決してせぬ丈、考への及ぶ限り、人に不親切をせぬ丈に、發明てなければならぬといふとてした。ミンチン先生は、方正でない上に殘酷だ。エミリーさんは、不親切で執念深い、ち三は底意地のわるゝ上に癪癪持だ。あゝいふ人たちには、なる丈似ない様にし度と、かう考へましたから、丁寧にする丈の價値が少しでもある人には、勢一杯丁寧にしやうと思ひました。その考故此時も「エミリーといふのは、アノ……あたしの知つてる……人……」といひますと、エーメンガードは、

あなた、その人、好。

エー好です。

Ermengarde examined her queer little face and figure again. She did look odd. She had on, that day, a faded blue plush skirt, which barely covered her knees, a brown cloth saccue, and a pair of olive-green stockings which Miss Minchin had made her piece out with black ones, so that they would be long enough to be kept on. And

yet Ermengarde was beginning slowly to admire her. Such a forlorn, thin, neglected little thing as that, who could read and read and remember and tell you things so that they did not tire you all out! A child who could speak French, and who had learned German, no one knew how! One could not help staring at her and feeling interested, particularly one to whom the simplest lesson was a trouble and a woe.

"Do you like *me*?" said Ermengarde, finally, at the end of her scrutiny.

Sara hesitated one second, and then she answered:

"I like you because you are not ill-natured—I like you for letting me read your books—I like you because you don't make spiteful fun of me for what I can't help. It's not your fault that——"

She pulled herself up quickly. She had been going to say, "that you are stupid."

"That what?" asked Ermengarde.

"That you can't learn things quickly. If you can't, you can't. If I can, why, I can—that's all." She paused a minute, looking at the plump face

before her, and then, rather slowly, one of her wise, old-fashioned thoughts came to her.

"Perhaps," she said, "to be able to learn things quickly isn't everything. To be kind is worth a good deal to other people. If Miss Minchin knew everything on earth, which she doesn't, and if she was like what she is now, she'd still be a detestable thing, and everybody would hate her. Lots of clever people have done harm and been wicked. Look at Robespierre——"

She stopped again, and examined her companion's countenance.

"Do you remember about him?" she demanded. "I believe you've forgotten."

"Well, I don't remember *all* of it," admitted Ermengarde.

"Well," said Sara with courage and determination, "I'll tell it to you over again."

エーメンガードはセーラの一ト風ある顔と、細々した姿を、と見、かう見ました。實に奇々妙々な姿でした。其日は淺黄毛長天鵝絨の色の

襪め切つた下袴、おまけに、膝まで来るか、來ないほどのを着て、上着は茶羅紗と云ふ取つてつけた様なのでした。靴下といつたら、ミンチン先生に命ぜられて、襪色のへ黒のを縫合せて、やうやう間に合はせたのでした。こんな服装の見てしたが、エーメンガードは段々セーラを重んじる様になりました。あんな見すばらしく、瘡せかけた、人に棄てられた様な人で有つて、それで讀むといつたら：讀んでく、讀み通して、みんな覚えて居て、嫌になつて、堪らなくせずに、人にそれを話して聞かせられる！佛語が話せて、どこでどうして、覺えたか、人の知らぬ中に、獨逸語まで、學んでしまつたといふ見てしたから、人が自然、顔を見て、何とか思はず居られない筈です。況して、極容易しい稽古すらが、大心配で、大苦しみな人などには、尙さら、えらく見えましたらう。エーメンガードは、チツト相手の顔を見詰めたあとで、

あなた、好き……あたし？
セーラは、極一寸の間、躊躇ひましたが、直に、

が親切だとかいへば、人の爲にくらなるか知りませんが、ミンチン先生がネ、何でも、世界中のと、知つて入らつしても、決して知つては入らつしやらないけれど、もし知つて入らつしても、あんな人なら、矢ッ張り、嫌な人で、誰だつて嫌ひですもの。伶俐な人だつて、いくらも人の害になつて、恐ろしい、悪い事をした人があるんですもの。ロンスビアのと、考へて御覽なさい。

セーラは再び話を止めて、相手の顔をチツト見、少し酷しく、
あなた、あの人のと覺えて居ますか？ 忘れてたしやうネ？

エーメンガードは白状しました。

エー、みんなは覺えて居ないの。

セーラは勢よく斷然と、
それぢやア、また話しましやう。

And she plunged once more into the gory records of the French Revolution, and told such

エー、好き、あなた意地がわるくないから……さうして書物貸して呉れるから好き。あたしの所爲でもない、仕方のない、着物なんぞのと、根性わるく、馬鹿にしたりしないから好き。あなたの所爲ぢやないものネイ。あなたが、アノ……

ハット、氣がついて、口を嚙みました「あなたが、ボンヤリだつて」といふつもりで處てした。エーメンガードは、

あなたが、何？
あなたがネ、早く物を覺えられないツて、仕方がないといふの。あなたが覺えられなければ、覺えられないで、それツ切りだし、あたしが覺えられれば、覺えられるで、矢ッ張り、それツ切りだもの。

此時眼のまへのボチャ／＼した顔を見ながら、一寸、口を結ぶ中に、例の伶俐な老成な者がソロ／＼心に浮んで來ました。

早く物が覺えられるツて、それ丈が、大變好いとぢやないかも知れませんか。マア、一寸、人

stories of it, and made such vivid pictures of its horrors, that Miss St. John was afraid to go to bed afterwards, and hid her head under the blankets when she did go, and shivered until she fell asleep. But afterwards she preserved lively recollections of the character of Robespierre, and did not even forget Marie Antoinette and the Princess de Lamballe.

"You know they put her head on a pike and danced around it," Sara had said; "and she had beautiful blonde hair; and when I think of her, I never see her head on her body, but always on a pike, with those furious people dancing and howling."

それから、佛蘭西革命の、血腥き歴史へ、またも深入りしまして、ものゝ美事に、其顛末を説き分ける中、さなきだに、凄まじい、其時代の慘況を、見るが如くに、畫きましたれば、流石のスインヂヤン嬢も、其夜は床に就くのが恐ろしく、床に就いてからも、寐入るまで、ケットの下へ頭を匿くして顛へて居りました。併し此話の多蔭には、ロ

ベスピアの人となりと、確と記憶に銘じ、メリー、アントネットやデ、ラムベル皇女のことまで忘れやせんかつた。セーラが、其話をした時、かう申しました。

アノネ、マア、妃の首を矛へ突刺して、其廻りで躍つて居ましたッて！ 髪の毛の大層美事な方だつてね。ですから、あたし、あの方のと思ふと、いつても首が體へ着いてゐる處は見えない。矛の先へ刺さつてゐる處しか見えな。あんな猛々しい、狼の様な人たちが、其廻り、躍つたり、叫んだりして居る處、それ計り眼につくんです……

Yes, it was true, to this imaginative child everything was a story; and the more books she read, the more imaginative she became. One of her chief entertainments was to sit in her garter, or walk about it, and "suppose" things. On a cold night, when she had not had enough to eat, she would draw the red footstool up before the empty grate, and say in the most intense voice.

そして、書物を讀めば、讀むほど、想像が高まりました。セーラが一番に樂しみにして居つたのは、暇が有つて、自分の物置部屋に坐つたり、ウロ／＼歩き廻つたりして、色々の事を想像するに似た。寒い晩などに、食物が不足で、ひもじいといふ時など、火も何もなく空な暖爐の前へ、例の赤い足臺を引寄せて、勢一杯眞面目な聲で、たとへば、こゝに大きい廣い暖爐が有つて、眞赤な火が堆く積んで有つて、躍つてゐる様な炎がヒョイ／＼見えて居る。それから、こゝの處へ、軟かくつて、フックリした毛革を敷いて有つて、それでこれが、緋天鵝絨の蒲團計りの様な心持の好い椅子だとして、あたしも、繪にかいてあるやうな子供で、矢ッ張り緋天鵝絨の着物を着て、幅の廣いレースの襟飾をつけて居たとして、此座敷中が、さまざまの彩色に、美しく飾りつけてあつて、書棚には一杯書物が置いてあつて、讀んでしまふと、魔法が何かで、またすつかり、新しくなるといふ鹽梅に往つたら、どんなだらう！ さうして、こゝに小さい、食

"Suppose there was a great, wide steel grate here, and a great glowing fire—a glowing fire—with beds of red-hot coal and lots of little dancing, flickering flames. Suppose there was a soft, deep rug, and this was comfortable chair, all cushions and crimson velvet; and suppose I had a crimson velvet frock on, and a deep lace collar, like a child in a picture; and suppose all the rest of the room was furnished in lovely colours, and there were bookshelves full of books, which changed by magic as soon as you had read them; and suppose there was a little table here, with a snow-white cover on it, and little silver dishes, and in one there was hot, hot soup, and in another a roast chicken, and in another some raspberry-jam tarts with criss-cross on them, and in another some grapes; and suppose Emily could speak, and we could sit and eat our supper, and then talk and read; and then suppose there was a soft, warm bed in the corner, and when we were tired we could go to sleep, and sleep as long as we liked."

その通り、此想像的な見には、万事が活劇でした。

卓があつて、眞白なテーブルかけの上には銀の皿がいくつも載せて有つて、一ツの皿には、熱い／＼ソップが有つて、モウ一ツには、焼鳥と、モウ一ツには、ジャムのはいつた御菓子、モウ一ツには、葡萄がはいつて居て、それで、エメリが話の出来る人で兩人坐つて、夕飯をたべ、それから、書物を讀んだり、話をしたりして、それから、隅の方に、フック／＼した濫かい寐床が有つて、草臥れた時には一處に寐入ツちまつて、いつまでも、好いほど寐るとしたら、どうだらう。

Sometimes, after she had supposed things like these for half-an-hour, she would feel almost warm, and would creep into bed with Emily, and fall asleep with a smile on her face.

"What large, downy pillows!" she would whisper. "What white sheets and fleecy blankets!" And she almost forgot that her real pillows had scarcely any feathers in them at all, and smelled musty, and that her blankets and coverlid were thin and full of holes.

時としては、此通り、半時間も、ない事を有る積りに想像して居る中に、どうやら温かくなつた心持がして来て、エメレと床へもぐり込んだあと、其顔に微笑の残つてゐるが有りました。獨言に口の中、

「ア、なんと、フックリした、枕だらう、敷布の白さと、ケットの厚さと。」

などいつて居る中に、實際、自分の枕に羽毛がはいつて居るか、居ないか知れないほどで、まきけに、微臭いと云ふとも、ケットも蒲團も薄くつて、穴だらけと云ふとも、暫時忘れる様でした。

At another time she would "suppose" she was a princess, and then she would go about the house with an expression on her face which was a source of great secret annoyance to Miss Minchin, because it seemed as if the child scarcely heard the spiteful, insulting things said to her, or, if she heard them, did not care for them at all. Sometimes, while she was in the midst of some harsh and cruel speech, Miss Minchin would find the odd, unchildish eyes

分りませんでした。セーラは、其時、心中にこんな考をして居りました。

あなたは今なる貴い姫君に對して、物を言つて居るといふことも、あたしの心次第では、一寸手真似して、あなたを處刑の場所へ牽かせることも自由だといふことも知りなからうのだ。ちうせやと助けて置つて上げるといふものは、つまり、あたしが位のある姫君で有ればこそ、痴鈍で俗物で、物の心得がない老婆として、あなたを憫然に思ふからといひます。

This used to please and amuse her more than anything else: and queer, and fanciful as it was, she found comfort in it, and it was not a bad thing for her. It really kept her from being made rude and malicious by the rudeness and malice of those about her.

"A princess must be polite," she said to herself. And so when the servants, who took their tone from their mistress, were insolent and ordered her about, she would hold her head erect, and reply to them sometimes in a way

fixed upon her with something like a proud smile in them. At such times, she did not know that Sara was saying to herself,

"You don't know that you are saying these things to a princess, and that if I chose, I could wave my hand and order you to execution. I only spare you because I *am* a princess, and you are a poor, stupid, old, vulgar thing, and don't know any better."

またある時は自分が、どこかの貴い姫君かなんどの積りになりました。さうして一種異様な顔つきで、家の廻りを、そつち、こつちして居ました。が、かういふ時には、どの様な意地の悪いとをいはれても、馬鹿になれても、少しも氣にかけない者の様でしたから、ミンチン先生などは、内心何とかなく、癪にすまして居りました。時としては、ミンチン先生に、何か荒々しく、残酷なことを云はれて居る最中、セーラは年に似合ぬ底意ありげな妙な眼つきをして、ミンチン女史を見て居て、超然と一段高く居る者の如くに、微笑んで居る處に氣づくことが有りました。ミンチン先生には、其理由が

which made them stare at her, it was so quaintly civil.

"I am a princess in rags and tatters," she would think, "but I am a princess inside. It would be easy to be a princess if I were dressed in cloth-of-gold; it is a great deal more of a triumph to be one all the time when no one knows it. There was Mary Antoinette: when she was in prison; and her throne was gone, and she had only a black gown on, and her hair was white, and they insulted her and called her the Widow Capet,—she was a great deal more like a queen than when she was so gay and had everything grand. I like her best then. Those howling mobs of people did not frighten her. She was stronger than they were, even when they cut her head off."

かういふ、空想が何より、セーラの心にかなひまして、實に面白と思ひました。固より根も葉もない想像には違ひ有りませんが、幾分かセーラの心遣りになつたから申したら、決して不爲のことは有りませんでした。自分の周囲の人が無

禮で、意地のわるい中にも、自分一人は、同じ様
なすれからしにならないてしまつたといふもの
は、全く此所爲でした。「貴い姫君は、極禮義の厚
いものだ」と獨言に、我を窘めて、さて主人の氣
振を見真似に僕婢たちが、ソッケンドンに、自分
を追ひ廻す時にも、チャンと威儀を正して、返答
する、其言葉が、不思議に、折目正しく、武張つ
て聞えるので、誰も其顔を眺める程でした。

あたしは、ぼろやついれを纏つて居ても、矢ッ
張り、貴い姫だといふにかはりはない。錦を重ね
た姫になるは造作も無いが、人知れず、位を持つ
て居るのも、一際（ま）の榮譽だ。アレ、あの、メイ、
アントネット、あの方は妃でありながら獄屋に繋
がれて、位も何も無く只一枚の黒衣を着けて、髪
の毛は全く白く變つてしまひ、人民は嘲弄して、
「カペーの後家」などといつた時、あの時こそ、何
もかも華やかに、浮々暮した時よりか、これほど、
貴い妃らしいか、あたしはあの人は、あの時が、
一番好だ。アノ吼を狂ふ様な人民一揆を、ちつと
も怖くは思はないんだもの。首を斬られる時で

も、斬る人よりか、きついなだもの、と心の中に
いつて居りました。

Once when such thoughts were passing through
her mind, the look in her eyes so enraged Miss
Minchin that she flew at Sara and boxed her
ears.

Sara awakened from her dream, started a little,
and then broke into a laugh.

"What are you laughing at, you bold impudent
child!" exclaimed Miss Minchin.

It took Sara a few seconds to remember she
was a princess. Her cheeks were red and
smarting from the blows she had received.

"I was thinking," she said.

"Beg my pardon immediately," said Miss
Minchin.

"I will beg your pardon for laughing, if it
was rude," said Sara; "but I won't beg your
pardon for thinking."

"What were you thinking?" demanded Miss
Minchin. "How dare you think? What were
you thinking?"

ある時、丁度、こんな考が、心の中を往き通ひ
して居りました時、其眼つきの鹽梅が、ひどくミ
ンチン女史の癩癩にさはつて、矢庭に躍りかゝつ
て、セーラの横面をゴントーッ撲りました。
セーラは俄に、夢の覺めたる如く、其不意に驚
しましたが、あとはゴット噴出し、ハッハッと高笑
ひいたしました。ミンチン女史は嚴しく、
無禮ものが！大それた！何を高笑するものがあ
るもんですか。

セーラは、ハット、自分の高位のと思ひ出し、
今撲られた頬は眞赤にほてつて居るのも構はず、
もの靜かに、

私は今、考へて居た處でした。

直と無禮を詫るが宜しい、コレ！

とミンチン女史が息巻けば、セーラは、

無禮でしたら、笑つた丈はあやまらず。でも
考へたとはあやまらせん。

ミンチン女史は尙一層嚴しく、

何を考へて居たんです？どうも怪しからん。考
へるなんて、何を考へたと云ふに？コレ！

This occurred in the schoolroom, and all the
girls looked up from their books to listen. It
always interested them when Miss Minchin flew
at Sara, because Sara always said something
queer, and never seemed in the least frightened.
She was not in the least frightened now, though
her boxed ears were scarlet, and her eyes were
as bright as stars.

"I was thinking," she answered gravely and
quite politely, "that you did not know what you
were doing."

"That I did not know what I was doing!"

Miss Minchin fairly gasped.

"Yes," said Sara, "and I was thinking what
would happen, if I were a princess and you
boxed my ears—what I should do to you. And
I was thinking that if I were one, you would
never dare to do it, whatever I said or did. And
I was thinking how surprised and frightened you
would be if you suddenly found out——"

講堂に起つた珍事故、生徒一同は書物から眼をあ
げて、聞耳をたてました。ミンチン先生が、セー

ラに怒りつける時は、いつも、生徒が面白がる時
 でした。なぜかといふと、セーラは、いつても、
 奇妙なことをいつて、少しも臆せる色が無かつたか
 らです。今も撲れた處が紅になつて居て、眼は星
 の様に光つて居ても、聊か動じる色は見えません
 かつた。それで、極慇懃に、
 私は考へたんです。あなたが、御自分のして入
 らつしやると、御存知ないと思つて。
 なにわたしが、自分の所業を知らないのです
 か？
 とミンチン女史は急ぎ込んで、息づかひをへ迫つ
 て居りました。セーラはあとをつぎ、
 エー、それで、私は、もし私が、貴い姫君がな
 んぞで、あなたが頬を打ちなすつたのなら、ど
 うだらうと考へて居たのです。そして、若し
 私がそんなに位のあるものなら、たとひ、何を
 しやうが、いはうが、あなたは決して、そんな
 よを推し切つてゐなざるまいと、考へてたんで
 す。それから、急に私が高んだといふことが知れ
 たら、どんなにビククラなざるだらうと考へ

てたんです……

She had the imagined picture so clearly before
 her eyes, that she spoke in a manner which had
 an effect even on Miss Minchin. It almost
 seemed for the moment to her narrow unimagina-
 tive mind that there must be some real power
 behind this candid daring.

"What?" she exclaimed; "found out what?"

"That I really was a princess," said Sara,

"and could do anything—anything I liked."

"Go to your room," cried Miss Minchin
 breathlessly, "this instant. Leave the schoolroom.
 Attend to your lessons, young ladies."

Sara made a little bow.

"Excuse me for laughing, if it was impolite,"
 she said, and walked out of the room, leaving
 Miss Minchin in a rage and the girls whispering
 over their books.

"I shouldn't be at all surprised if she did turn
 out to be something," said one of them. "Sup-
 pose she should!"



SARA MADE A LITTLE BOW. "EXCUSE ME FOR LAUGHING IF IT WAS IMPOLITE."

セーラは眼に見るが如く、餘り明らかに、想像をして居りましたから、流石のミンチン女史も、殆んど其氣に吞まれてしまひました。暫の間は、ミンチン女史が狭い、想像力に乏しい頭腦の中にも、セーラの豪膽な處には、何か本當のしっかりしたの根據があるのではないかと思はれました。併し殊更に、聲を張りあげ、

何？何が分るんです？

私の本當の貴女であつて、何でも好きなことが出来るのだと分つたならばといふのです。

ミンチン女史は、呆れて、物が云へぬといふ鹽梅に、

おまへ自分の部屋へおまがりなさい。サア、たつた今講堂を出て貰はう。皆なん、課業に心をあ入れなさい！

笑つて失禮でしたら御免下さい。

といつて、怒れるミンチン女史と、書物越しに騒ぐ生徒等とをあとへ残して、セーラは講堂を退りました。あとに生徒の一人が、

あの人、本當に何かしやしないかしら、何とも

いへないのネ。ヒョット何だつたら、どうてせう！

PART II.

That very afternoon Sara had an opportunity of proving to herself whether she was really a princess or not. It was a dreadful afternoon. For several days it had rained continuously; the streets were chilly and sloppy; there was mud everywhere—sticky London mud—and over everything a pall of fog and drizzle. Of course there were several long and tiresome errands to be done,—there always were on days like this,—and Sara was sent out again and again, until her shabby clothes were damp through. The absurd old feathers on her forlorn hat were more draggled and absurd than ever, and her down-trodden shoes were so wet they could not hold any more water. Added to this, she had been deprived of her dinner, because Miss Minchin wished to punish her. She was very hungry. She was so cold and hungry and tired that her little face had a pinched look, and now and then some

kindhearted person passing her in the crowded street glanced at her with sympathy. But she did not know that. She hurried on, trying to comfort herself in that queer way of hers by pretending and "supposing,"—but really this time it was harder than she had ever found it, and once or twice she thought it almost made her more cold and hungry instead of less so. But she persevered obstinately. "Suppose I had dry clothes on," she thought. "Suppose I had good shoes and a long thick coat and merino stockings and a whole umbrella. And suppose—suppose, just when I was near a baker's where they sold hot buns, I should find sixpence—which belonged to nobody. Suppose, if I did, I should go into the shop and buy six of the hottest buns and should eat them all without stopping."

第二一回

丁度其日の午後、セーラは自分が眞に貴女であるか、無いかといふとの證據を立てるのに好い機會が出来ました。其日は連日の雨天で泥深いと

も、寒くとも、實にひどくしてした。何處も泥濘なところをなして、ちまけにロンドン泥といつて、粘りつくとは非常なものでした。かてゝ加へて、これも同地に名物の、雲霧が掛幕の様に、覆いて、其上に驟雨がビシビシ降つて居りました。セーラは此日も例の通り、面倒な使に、遠方まで幾度か遣られました。——こんな日に限つて走使ひが別して多く、セーラはあとから追ひ廻されて、見すばらしい着物に、タッスリ濕り氣が透つてしまひました。見るも氣の毒な帽子に着いたる、馬鹿氣な様な古羽は、いよくよぢれ、いよく馬鹿氣で見えました。さうして其踏みつぶした靴は濡れ切つて、此上水のはいりやうは無いと云ふほどでした。泣顔に蜂とでも云はうか、此日、ミンチン先生は罰といつて、午飯をあてがひませんかつた。それ故、セーラは非常にひもじい思をして居りました。寒いのと、草臥たのと、饑じいのとて、セーラの幼顔は、骨ツぱく、貧相に見えて來ました。それ故か雜沓を推しわけて通る人の中で、親切氣のある人たちは、氣の毒さうに、セーラの顔

を眺めて居りました。併し當人はそれを知らず、ズン／＼歩きながら、自分流義に、例の妄想を心に浮べて、自ら慰めました。然るに、此日は、今までに無く、堪へ難い苦しみを感じ、どう思ひ直しても、寒くとも、飢くとも、減ずるところか、却つていよく暮るかと思ふ様な時が有りました。併し無暗と頭張つて、例の想像を逞しうして居りました。

若し私が乾して、心地の好い着物を着て居ると。若し好い靴を穿き、長い、厚い、上着をはめて、毛編の靴足袋に、丸の（裂けて居ぬとの意）蝙蝠傘を持つて居たら、さうして、若しあの出来たての菓子パン賣る店の近處へ來る處で、六ペンス銀貨拾つて、それが誰のでも無しとしたら、其店へ這入つて、一番温かい菓子パンを六ツ買はう。さうしたら直ぐとて、六つとも、すつかり、食パンを食はれるだらう。

Some very odd things happen in this world sometimes. It certainly was an odd thing which

happened to Sara. She had to cross the street just as she was saying this to herself—the mud was dreadful—she almost had to wade. She picked her way as carefully as she could, but she could not save herself much; only, in picking her way she had to look down at her feet and the mud, and in looking down—just as she reached the pavement—she saw something shining in the gutter. A piece of silver—a tiny piece trodden upon by many feet, but still with spirit enough left to shine a little. Not quite a sixpence, but the next thing to it—a four-penny piece! In one second it was in her cold, little red and blue hand.

"Oh!" she gasped, "it is true!"

And then, if you will believe me, she looked straight before her at the shop directly facing her. And it was a baker's, and a cheerful, stout, motherly woman, with rosy cheeks, was just putting into the window a tray of delicious hot buns,—large, plump, shiny buns, with currants in them.

世間には不思議なものが有れば有るものじゃ。此時

セーラに起つた出来事は實に不思議でした。かう心の中に申しながら、丁度街通を横へ突切るべき處へ來り、さて泥濘は非常に、殆んどどぶの中を歩く様で、一歩々々と道を拾つても、格別の違ひはなく、ただ道を拾つて行くに、自分の足と泥濘と、兩方に目を配つて行かねばならぬので、俯向いてる中に、敷石の處まで來ると溝の中に、何か光つて居るものがあるに氣づきました。銀の貨幣でした。幾多の足に踏みつけられて、それでもまだ少しは光る勢が残つて居ると見えて、セーラの眼に入りました。六ペンスには満たないが、其頃の四ペンスで有りました。忽ちそれはセーラの冷たく紫の斑になつた手に握られました。どうして、あれッ！本當だつた！

息もつき合はず云ひました。それで、讀者は嘘だと思召すか知れませんが、直ぐ鼻のさきにある店をツ、ト顔を上げて見ると、パン屋の店で、極氣の好さうな、ポツチャリとした、親切らしい女の、頬の艶くしたのが、甘さうな、温かい、菓子パンを、店先へ列べて居りました。大きな、

ツクリした菓子パンのツルツと光つて砂糖漬の實のはいつたのでした。

It almost made Sara feel faint for a few seconds—the shock and the sight of the buns, and the delightful odours of warm bread floating up through the baker's cellar window.

She knew that she need not hesitate to use the little piece of money. It had evidently been lying in the mud for some time, and its owner was completely lost in the streams of passing people who crowded and jostled each other all through the day.

“But I'll go and ask the baker's woman if she has lost a piece of money,” she said to herself, rather faintly.

So she crossed the pavement and put her wet foot on the step of the shop; and as she did so she saw something which made her stop.

セーラはドッキリしたのと、食へ度うと思つたそのパンを見るのと、パン焼場の窓から甘さうな香りがパンと來るので、何となく一寸、氣が遠くな

る様な心地がしました。セーラは、其小さな貨幣を遣うて、差支ないと云ふ丈は承知して居りました。泥の中へ落ちてありしことなり、終日推し合ひ擦れ合うて、行く人の流れに、其持主は没して仕舞つて、今は尋ねるに術のないとなのでしたものの。

併し、もし此金を失くしたか、パンやのおかみさんに尋ねて見やう。

とセーラは、口の中に齒かに云つて、倍て敷石を越して、店の前の石段の上へ泥足を載せると、俄に目にはいつたものが有つて、先づ足を止めました。

It was a little figure more forlorn than her own—a little figure which was not much more than a bundle of rags, from which small, bare, red and muddy feet peeped out—only because the rags with which the wearer was trying to cover them were not long enough. Above the rags appeared a shock head of tangled hair and a dirty face, with big, hollow, hungry eyes.

何かといふと、自分よりか、またく見すばらしい子供の姿で、襤褸を括つたので無いかと思はれるほどの姿から、小さな泥だらけな、赤い素足が顔を出して居りました。

襤褸を纏つた小兒は匿さうと思つても、其襤褸が引足らないので、足だけは據なく外へ出て居るのでした。其襤褸の上からは、網の様な髪を被つた、株切頭と、丸い凹んだ、ひもじさうな眼をした汚ない顔とが現はれて居りました。

Sara knew they were hungry eyes the moment she saw them, and she felt a sudden sympathy.

“This,” she said to herself, with a little sigh, “is one of the populace—and she is hungrier than I am.”

セーラは、一目見るとから、其饑い眼とひもじさうな顔とを、急に同情を感じ始めました。それで、少し嘆息を洩しながら、

これこそ、下等社會の小兒だらう——知らして、あたしよりか、まだお腹が空しいらう

The child—this "one of the populace"—stared up at Sara, and shuffled herself aside a little, so as to give her more room. She was used to being made to give room to everybody. She knew that if a policeman chanced to see her he would tell her to "move on."

セーラは、下等社會のものと認められた此子供は、下からセーラをチツト見詰め、邪魔にならぬ様にと、少し傍へ擦り退りました。此哀れな子供は、いつも人に邪魔にされつけて居りましたので、若し巡行の警官に見咎められたらば、「あちらへ行け！」と叱られることは、よく承知して居りました。

Sara clutched her little four-penny piece, and hesitated a few seconds. Then she spoke to her.

"Are you hungry?" she asked.

The child shuffled herself and her rags a little more.

つて食ふもんか。

何時か。

知らぬさ、今日なんだ、まだ何にも呉れぬさ
………んじむ………さへら呉んぬさ
ンて食つたか。

Just to look at her made Sara more hungry and faint. But those queer little thoughts were at work in her brain, and she was talking to herself though she was sick at heart.

"If I'm a princess," she was saying—"if I'm a princess——! When they were poor and driven from their thrones—they always shared—with the populace—if they met one poorer and hungrier. They always shared. Buns are a penny each. If it had been sixpence! I could have eaten six. It won't be enough for either of us—but it will be better than nothing."

"Wait a minute," she said to the beggar-child. She went into the shop. It was warm and smelled delightfully. The woman was just going to put more hot buns in the window.

"If you please," said Sara, "have you lost four-

"Ain't I jist!" she said, in a hoarse voice. "Jist ain't I!"

"Haven't you had any dinner?" said Sara.

"No dinner," more hoarsely still and with more shuffling, "nor yet no bre'fast—nor yet no supper—no nothin'."

"Since when?" asked Sara.

"Dun'no'. Never got nothin' to-day—nowhere. I've axed and axed."

セーラは、例の小さな四ペンスをシツカリと手に握り、一寸の間、躊躇しましたが、間もなく、聲をかけて、

おまへさん、お腹が減つてるの。

貧兒は自分と、自分の襦袢とを又も少しモジ／＼させました。さうして、嗄れ聲に、

減つてゐるて、なんて！なんッて減つてるかッて。

セーラは、

おまへさん、午の御飯食へなすの。

又少し、モジ／＼しながら、一層嗄れた聲で、

午飯だつて、朝飯だつて、晩飯だつて、何んだ

pence—a silver fourpence?" And she held the forlorn little piece of money out to her.

セーラは此子供を見たばかりで、いよくお腹が空いて來ました。併し例の妙な考が心に働いて居ましたから、絶入る計りの苦しさを忍んで、我心に問答して居りました。

若し、あたしが貴い姫君ならば……姫君だとすればと、待つたよ——位をたへらせられて、貧乏になつちまふても、ソつても、下の人たちを恵んだッけ！自分たちより、まだ貧乏で、まだお腹の空いた人が有れば、ソつても分けて遣つたッけ。此菓子パンは、一ペネづつのだ、六ペンスあれば好いのに、六ツつも、獨りて喰へンちまへる。どうしても二人には足らなす——が、無いよりか好す。

と考へつゝけて、貧兒に、一寸、待つておし。

セーラは店へはいりました。内は温かて、何とも云へない香りがして居ました。おかみさんはまた

熱いパンをもつて来て、並べる處でした。
一寸、あなた此お金も失くしなすつて？ 銀の四
ペンスですよ。
すつて、氣の毒な様な銀貨一個、出して見せまし
た。

The woman looked at it and at her—at her
intense little face and draggled, once-fine clothes.
“Bless us—no,” she answered. “Did you find
it?”

“In the gutter,” said Sara.

“Keep it, then,” said the woman. “It may
have been there a week, and goodness knows
who lost it. *You* could never find out.”

“I know that,” said Sara, “but I thought I’d
ask you.”

“Not many would,” said the woman, looking
puzzled and interested and good-natured all at
once. “Do you want to buy something?” she
added, as she saw Sara glance towards the buns.

“Four buns, if you please,” said Sara; “those at
a penny each.”

The woman went to the window and put some
in a paper bag. Sara noticed that she put in six.
“I said four, if you please,” she explained. “I
have only the fourpence.”

“I’ll throw in two for make-weight,” said the
woman, with her good-natured look. “I darsay
you can eat them some time. Arent’ you
hungry?”

A mist rose before Sara’s eyes.

“Yes,” she answered. “I am very hungry,
and I am much obliged to you for your kindness
and,” she was going to add, “there is a child
outside who is hungrier than I am.” But just at
that moment two or three customers came in at
once and each one seemed in a hurry, so she
could only thank the woman again and go out.

女が紙袋の中へ入れる處を見ると、どのパンも入
れた様でいたから、セーラは、間違だと思ひ、
アン、あたし、四ツつてさひやしたよ。あの四
ペンスしか持つてませんから。
女は尙と親切な顔をなして、
二ツつだけ仕上げやうよ。さつかた、お食ん

女は銀貨を見、セーラを見、意氣込んだ、小さな
顔と、捻れ／＼のセツ下りの着物とを覗て、
何かと思つたら——いゝえ。おまへさん、拾つ
たの？

エー溝ン中で。

それぢや、取つとくと好いよ。何時から落ちて
たつたか、さうして誰が落したんだか、知れ
ッこなしたよ。おまへさんなんか、いくら捜し
たツて、無益だよ。

セーラは答へました。

エー、それは知つてますけれど、それでもあなた
に聞いて見たんです。

滅多に、そんな念の入つた人はないよ。

と女は不審と、優しさと、これはと思ふのと、色
々一處に取混ぜた顔付になりました。

それでセーラが菓子パンを、心あり氣に覗て居る
に心づか、

おまへさん、何か買ひたいですか。

一ペネツの菓子パンを、どうぞ、四ツ下を
5。

またさな。お腹が空しくてやいなさの。

霧が急に起つたやうに、セーラの眼は曇りまし
た。

それで漸く答へて、

エー、大變空いてるんです。それで、おまへさん、
御親切は誠に難有う。ごすけれども……

「あたしよりか、またお腹の空た見が外に居ます
の」といふ積りでしたが、丁度此時、二三人も一時
に客が、店へ這入つて來まして、何れも急いで居
た様でしたから據なく、キ一度禮をうつて、出て
しまひました。

The child was still huddled up on the corner of
the steps. She looked frightful in her wet and
dirty rags. She was staring with a stupid look of
suffering straight before her, and Sara saw her
suddenly draw the back of her roughened, black
hand across her eyes to rub away the tears which
seemed to have surprised her by forcing their
way from under her lids. She was muttering to
herself.

彼の貧兒はまた石段の隅に、蹲つて居りました。濡れそぼくれた、襦袢の汚ないのに包まれて居る處は、實に見るもいぶせき姿でした。最前から、只ボンヤリと向を見て居ましたが、セーラの眼が其苦しうな顔に止まつた時、急にひいだらけな黒い手の甲を擧げて、眼瞼の下から湧き出した涙を拭うて居りました。苦痛に慣れては、涙の出るのが、自分ながら怪まれる様で、何か口の中で私語して居りました。

Sara opened the paper bag and took out one of the hot buns, which had already warmed her cold hands a little.

"See," she said, putting the bun on the ragged lap, "that is nice and hot. Eat it, and you will not be so hungry."

セーラは紙袋を開け、僅の間にはや、持つた手の温まつた程暖かい、例の菓子パンを一つ取り出し襦袢の隙の上へ載せて、御覽よ、温かくって、甘しいからちあがり。飢

じしいのが、少しはなほるよ。

The child started and stared up at her; then she snatched up the bun and began to cram it into her mouth with great wolfish bites.

"Oh, my! Oh, my!" Sara heard her say hoarsely, in wild delight.

"Oh, my!" Sara took out three more buns and put them down.

"She is hungrier than I am," she said to herself.

"She's starving." But her hand trembled when she put down the fourth bun. "I'm not starving," she said—and she put down the fifth.

貧兒は先づハット戴いた様子で、セーラの顔を仰向いて見て居りましたが、繼て菓子パンを取るが早いか、腹の空つた狼の様に、大口開いて頬張り始めました。嬉しいのやら、何やら夢中の様子で、嘔れ聲に、

こりやアどうだ！こりやア……こりやア！
こりやア！

セーラはまた三ツ、袋から出して、下へ置きかけた。口の中に、

あたしよりかまだ飢しいのだもの。此兒はモウ飢死にする計りなんだもの……

とひました。四ツ目の菓子パンを下へ置く時は、手が震へて居りました。併し、

あたしは、まさか飢死しやしないよ。

とひつゝ、また五ツ目を下へ置きかけた。

The little starving London savage was still snatching and devouring when she turned away. She was too ravenous to give any thanks, even if she had been taught politeness—which she had not. She was only a poor little wild animal.

"Good-bye," said Sara.

When she reached the other side of the street she looked back. The child had a bun in each hand, and had stopped in the middle of a bite to watch her. Sara gave her a little nod, and the child, after another stare—a curious, longing stare,—jerked her shaggy head in response, and until Sara was out of sight she did not take

another bite or even finish the one she had begun.

ロンドン生れの此野蠻兒は、飢死せん計りの時として、セーラが後を向いて、あちらへ行きにかゝりました時、尚、ちぎつては頬張り、ちぎつては頬張りして居りました。

よし禮法を教へられた者でも、斯く飢に迫つては、謝禮を陳べる暇のない場合なのを、増して此兒は元より何の躰もない、たゞ野獸の兒と同然な憐む可きものなのでした。

セーラは、
ちよならー！

いつて、街通の向側へ行きかけた時、振り返つて見ました。貧兒は両手に菓子パンを持つて、かぢりかけたまま、セーラを視て居りました。セーラは、一寸、會釋しました。ちよとして貧兒も妙な、懐かしうな眼で見送つたあと、ボンサリした頭を同じく一寸曲げて、返禮し、セーラが見えなくなるまでは、あとを食へないのみか、かぢりかけもしませんでした。

At that moment the baker-woman glanced out of her shop window.

"Well, I never!" she exclaimed. "If that young'un hasn't given her buns to a beggar-child. It wasn't because she didn't want them, either—well, well, she looked hungry enough. I'd give something to know what she did it for." She stood behind her window for a few moments and pondered. Then her curiosity got the better of her, she went to the door and spoke to the beggar-child.

"Who gave you those buns?" she asked her. The child nodded her head toward Sara's vanishing figure.

"What did she say?" inquired the woman.

"Axed me if I was 'ungry,'" replied the hoarse voice.

"What did you say?"

"Said I was jist!"

"And then she came in and got buns and came out and gave them to you, did she?"

The child nodded.

"How many?"

"Five."

The woman thought it over. "Left just one for herself," she said in a low voice. "And she could have eaten the whole six—I saw it in her eyes."

丁度此時、パン屋のぢかみさんが店先から、外面を眺めました。ちやうしてビククリした聲で、
「オヤッ！これは驚いたよ。今の小さいのが、乞食に菓子パンを遣つちやつたんぢやアないか。ぢまけに、自分が欲しくならからつて云ふんぢやない。どうして、中くち腹が空いてたらしかつたもの。餘計なこの様だが、何しにそんなことをしたんだらう！」

女は店先に佇んで思索して居ましたが、とうとう事實探究の心が勝つたと見えて、一足踏み出して、貧兒にものをいひました。

「ぢまへ其菓子パン、誰に貰つたの？」

貧兒は向へくと行くセーラの方へ首を傾けて、それを示しました。女はまた問ひました、

「あの見、ぢまへになんていつたの？」

例の噺れ聲は答へて、

腹アへつてるかつて、聞いた。

ぢまへ何ていつたへ？」

なんて減つてるかつてた。

それからこゝへ這入つて来て、菓子パンを買つて出て来てぢまへに遣つたんだチッ。

貧兒は、點頭うなづをました。

「五つ。」

五ッ。

女は思索しました。小聲で、

「たつた一ッしか、自分のに取つとかないなだネ。それに、六ッともみんな、自分で食べれば、食べられたんだよ。あの眼つきで知れてるもの。」

She looked after the little, draggled, far-away figure, and felt more disturbed in her usually comfortable mind than she had felt for many a day.

"I wish she hadn't gone so quick," she said. "I'm blest if she shouldn't have had a dozen." Then she turned to the child.

"Are you hungry yet?" she asked.

"I'm allus 'ungry,'" was the answer; "but 'tain't so bad as it was."

"Come in here," said the woman, and she held open the shop-door.

女は細々したみすぼらしい姿の、今は小さくなつたのを遙に眺めて、日頃氣樂な質には似ず、胸を騒がせました。

「あんなに急いで、行ッちまはなければ宜いに。」

十二ぐらゐ遣つたつて悪いことアなかつたに。

それから貧兒に向ひ、

「ぢまへ、まだち腹が空いてるかえ？」

「ぢまへ、いつたつて減つてらア、でも、ぢぢぢよりか、よっぽど好いや。」

「それぢやア、こつちぢまへはしり。」

と云つて、女は店の戸を開けました。

The child got up and shuffled in. To be invited into a warm place full of bread seemed an incredible thing. She did not know what was going to happen; she did not care, even.

"Get yourself warm," said the woman, pointing to a fire in a tiny back room. "And, look here, —when you're hard up for a bit of bread, you can come here and ask for it. I'm blest if I won't give it you for that young 'un's sake."

貧兒は立つて、もぐり込みました。パンの一杯はいつて居る暖かい處へ招かれてはいるといふは、實に不思議で、夢の様でした。これから先はどうなるか、どうなつても構はないと思つて居る鹽梅でした。

めまへちつとあたり。
といつて、女は奥の小間に燃えて居る火を指し示した。

ちつとて、ちつとて、ちつとて、一口パンが無ければ、
凌げなうといふ時が有つたら、ちつとて、ちつとて、
いよ。今の見の事を思ふと、遣ふには居られなう
から。

Sara found some comfort in her remaining bun. It was hot; and it was a great deal better

before the fires in the houses, or who bent over books at the tables. There was, for instance, the Large Family opposite. She called these people the Large Family—not because they were large, for indeed most of them were little, but because there were so many of them. There were eight children in the Large family, and a stout rosy mother, and a stout rosy father, and a stout rosy grandmamma, and any number of servants. The eight children were always either being taken out to walk, or to ride in perambulators, by comfortable nurses; or they were going to drive with their mamma; or they were flying to the door in the evening to kiss their papa and dance around him and drag off his overcoat and look for packages in the pockets of it; or they were crowding about the nursery windows and looking out and pushing each other and laughing,—in fact, they were always doing something which seemed enjoyable and suited to the tastes of a large family. Sara was quite attached to them and had given them all names out of books.

セーラがミンチン女塾のある處まで歸つて来た

than nothing. She broke off small pieces and ate them slowly to make it last longer. "Suppose it was a magic bun," she said, "and a bite was as much as a whole dinner. I should be overeating myself if I went on like this."

あとに残つたパンはたつた一ツでも、セーラには餘程の楽しみになりました。暖かくはある、兎に角、無いよりは増してした。先づ小さく千切つて、楽しみを長くする爲に、徐かに食べました。

もし、これが魔法使つてあるパンで、一口食べると一度の御飯に、ツツかふのだつたら、どうだらう。こんなに食べれば、それこそ食傷してしまふ。

It was dark when she reached the square in which Miss Minchin's Select Seminary was situated; the lamps were lighted, and in most of the windows gleams of light were to be seen. It always interested Sara to catch glimpses of the rooms before the shutters were closed. She liked to imagine things about the people who sat

時分には、モウ暗くなりまして、燈が點きました。方々の窓から、光がチラ／＼と居ました。雨戸の閉ぢられぬ前、家の景色を打守るとは、セーラにとつて毎も面白味の多いとてした。暖爐の前に坐つて考へる人、卓子に凭つて、書見に餘念ない人、孰れも、セーラが例の想像を逞しうする好材料でした。例へばお向ふの大家内——セーラが大家内と名をつけた人たちなどてした。大きいとて、人柄の大きいのではない、小さい人たちが大勢集つて居るのでした。其大家族の中には、八人といふ子供と、壯健たくましくで、顔色の好いお父さんと、これも壯健で、顔色の好いお母さんと、幾人かの僕婢とが居りました。八人の子供たちは、いつも見守りに連れられて、運動に出かけるが、手車に乗せられるか、おつかさんと馬車で運動に行くか、夕方になれば、おとつさんを迎へに駆け出して来て、キスをするやら、おとつさんの廻りを跳ね廻つて、外套を引張り、ポケットの中の包物などを捜しました。さもなくば、子供部屋の窓から外面

を眺めて、推したり、押されたり、笑つたり——
一口にいへば、自分たちの嗜好に任せて、いつも
何か面白がるなどをして居りました。セーラは陸
ながら、此家の人たちに馴れ親しんで、讀んだ小
説などから取つて、一人一人に名をつけて居りま
した。

Next door to the Large Family lived the
Maiden Lady, who had a companion, and two
parrots, and a King Charles spaniel; but Sara was
not so very fond of her, because she did nothing
in particular but talk to the parrots and drive out
with the spaniel. The most interesting person
of all lived next door to Mrs. Minchin herself.
Sara called him the Indian Gentleman. He was
an elderly gentleman who was said to have lived
in the East Indies, and to be immensely rich and
to have something the matter with his liver,—in
fact, it had been rumoured that he had no liver at
all, and was much inconvenienced by the fact.
At any rate, he was very yellow and he did not
look happy; and when he went out in his carriage,
he was almost always wrapped up in shawls and

overcoats, as if he were cold. He had a native
servant who looked even colder than himself,
and he had a monkey who looked colder than the
native servant. Sara had seen the monkey
sitting on a table, in the sun, in the parlour
window, and he always wore such a mournful
expression that she sympathized with him
deeply.
“I dare say,” she used sometimes to remark to
herself, “he is thinking all the time of cocoa-
nut trees and of swinging by his tail under a
tropical sun. He might have had a family
dependent on him, too, poor thing!”

此の大家族の隣りには、介添をつれた老嬢が住ん
で居て、此婦人は鸚鵡二羽と小犬を一疋と飼つて
居りました。併しセーラは此婦人の事は餘り思ひ
まぜんかつた。なぜかといふと、此婦人は鸚鵡に
話しをするのと、犬を連れて、馬車を驅るのと、
それより外、何も別段なことをしませんでしたか
らです。一番にセーラの注意を惹く人といふは、
セーラの隣に住んで、セーラが天竺紳士と命名し

た人でした。元來インヂース島に住居したといふ
老成な紳士でした、莫大の金持で、肝臓がどうと
かして居るといふ評判でした。一説には肝臓が丸
て無いので、爲に大に不都合を感じて居るといひ
ました。兎に角、見た處でひどく黄ばんだ顔色で
愉快な様ではなく、馬車で、外出する時分には、
ショウルやら、外套やらに包まれて、寒いのかし
らと思ふ様でした。此紳士は印度土人の僕を一人
連れて居ましたが、此僕は御主人よりか一層寒さ
うに見えました。飼つてある猿がまた土人よりは
一入寒さうな鹽梅でした。セーラは此猿が負暄を
して、客座敷の密側にあるテーブルに坐つて居る
處をよく見ましたが、いつも相變らずシホくし
て居るので、非常に氣の毒に思ふとがありまし
た。時々セーラはこんなとを獨言にいつて居まし
た、

キットあれは椰子の木の事や、熱帯地方の日の
あたる處で、尻尾をからんでぶら下つたとなん
か思ひ出して居るんだよ。それに、自分に妻子
があつたかも知れやあしないもの、可哀やう

に！

The native servant, whom she called the
Lascar, looked mournful too, but he was
evidently very faithful to his master.

“Perhaps he saved his master's life in the
Sepoy rebellion,” she thought. “They look as if
they might have had all sorts of adventures. I
wish I could speak to the Lascar. I remember a
little Hindustani.”

セーラがラスカと命名して置く彼の土人の僕も、
これも一向元氣のなさうな男でしたが、併し主
人には極く忠實かと思ふ所が見えました。セーラ
は心の中に、「大方、あの人がセポイで騒動のあつ
た時、主人の命でも助けたのだらう。二人とも種
々危険でも冒したかと思はれる人たちだよ。ラス
カに話をして見たいな、まだ印度語を少しは記憶
えて居るから。」

And one day she actually did speak to him,
and his start at the sound of his own language

expressed a great deal of surprise and delight. He was waiting for his master to come out to the carriage, and Sara, who was going on an errand as usual, stopped and spoke a few words. She had a special gift for languages and had remembered enough Hindustani to make herself understood by him. When his master came out, the Lascar spoke to him quickly, and the Indian Gentleman turned and looked at her curiously, and afterward the Lascar always greeted her with salams of the most profound description. And occasionally they exchanged a few words. She learned that it was true that the Sahib was very rich—that he was ill—and also that he had no wife nor children, and that England did not agree with the monkey.

"He must be as lonely as I am," thought Sara. "Being rich does not seem to make him happy."

或る日セーラは現に、其人に話を仕掛けて見せしたが、其時、向ふは思ひ設けぬ事として、驚きも悦びも非常であった。印度人は主人が馬車へ乗込めようとするのを待つて居た處へ、そのもの如く用達し

に出たセーラが、通りすがつて足を止め、一言二言、言葉をかけたのでした。セーラは言語に掛けでは、特別の天才を授かつて居て、まだに自分用の足りる位の印度語を記憶して居りました。主人が出て来た時、ラスカは何か早言に告げますと、例の天竺紳士は顧みて、不審ぶうにセーラを見ました。此後はラスカーがセーラを見る度に、極丁寧な印度風の禮を以て挨拶いたしました。時としては僅か計り言葉を交すともありません。セーラは旦那の金満家だと言ふと……病氣だといふと……妻も兒もなうと言ふこと、英國の氣候が猿の性に合はぬといふことなどを聞き知りました。セーラは心の中に、あの方はあたしの様に淋しいのだらう、ちうして見ればお金が澤山あつても、幸福とは限らぬものだと思ひました。

That evening, as she passed the windows, the Lascar was closing the shutters, and she caught a glimpse of the room inside. There was a bright fire glowing in the grate, and the Indian Gentleman was sitting before it in a luxurious chair.

The room was richly furnished and looked delightfully comfortable, but the Indian Gentleman sat with his head resting on his hand and looked as lonely and unhappy as ever.

"Poor man!" said Sara, "I wonder what you are 'supposing'?"

パン屋一件のあつた夕暮に、隣の家の窓下を通ると、ラスカは雨戸を締る處へあつて、セーラは端なく内なる座敷の模様をチラと見ました。暖爐には火が威勢よく燃えて、天竺紳士は安樂椅子に凭つて其傍に居りました。座敷の調度などはいづれも立派なもの計りて、如何にも住心地の好むうなけはひてしたが、天竺紳士は相も變らず淋しうに、憂鬱な様子して、片手に頭を支へて居りました。セーラは此時思はず、

お可哀ならに、あなたはまた、どんな想像を心遣りにして居られるんですか。
と側に其人があるかのやうにいひました。

When she went into the house she met Miss Minchin in the hall.

"Where have you wasted your time?" said Miss Minchin. "You have been out for hours!"

"It was so wet and muddy," Sara answered. "It was hard to walk, because my shoes were so bad and slipped about so."

"Make no excuses," said Miss Minchin, "and tell no falsehoods."

Sara went downstairs to the kitchen.

"Why didn't you stay all night?" said the cook.

"Here are the things," said Sara, and laid her purchases on the table.

The cook looked over them, grumbling. She was in a very bad temper indeed.

"May I have something to eat?" Sara asked, rather faintly.

"Tea's over and done with," was the answer. "Did you expect me to keep it hot for you?"

Sara was silent a second.

"I had no dinner," she said, and her voice was quite low. She made it low, because she was afraid it would tremble.

"There's some bread in the pantry," said the cook. "That's all you'll get at this time of day."

Sara went and found the bread. It was old, and hard, and dry. The cook was in too bad a humour to give her anything to eat with it. She had just been scolded by Miss Minchin, and it was always safe and easy to vent her own spite on Sara.

家へ這入つて見ると、ミンチン先生に廊下で出遇ひました。ミンチン先生は突然、

おまへ、どこで暇をつぶして居たんだ？ 家を出て何時間になると思ふのだえ？

雨は降るし、泥深くツて、滑るもんだから。んです。靴が悪くツて、滑るもんだから。

とセーラがいひますと、ミンチン先生は、言譯は聞かないよ、嘘は吐くものでない。

といひました、それからセーラは勝手へ行きました。メルトお三が、

おまへさん、何だえ？ 今時分！ いつぞ泊つて来れば好いに。

と冷かしました。セーラは卓子の上へ買物を置いて、

が何より一番造作なく、危氣が無いからでした。

Really it was hard for the child to climb the three long flights of stairs leading to her garret. She often found them long and steep when she was tired, but to-night it seemed as if she would never reach the top. Several times a lump rose in her throat, and she was obliged to stop to rest.

"I can't pretend anything more to-night," she said wearily to herself. "I'm sure I can't. I'll eat my bread and drink some water and then go to sleep, and perhaps a dream will come and pretend for me. I wonder what dreams are!"

Yes, when she reached the top landing there were tears in her eyes, and she did not feel like a princess—only like a tired, hungry, lonely child.

"If my papa had lived," she said, "they would not have treated me like this. If my papa had lived, he would have taken care of me."

Then she turned the handle and opened the garret-door.

こゝに置かすよ、買物を。

お三はブツ／＼云ひながら品物を見て居りましたが、何故か恐ろしく痲癢を起して居る様でした。セーラは細々した聲で、

何か食べるもの有りますか？

夕飯はもうお仕舞で片付けてるんだよ。おまへさんが居ないツて、お茶沸して待つてられるもんかネ？

セーラは口が利かせんかつた。

お午飯も食べませんからネ。

といつた聲は幽かでした。頭へはと氣遣つて、態と幽かに云つたのでした。お三は、

戸棚にパンは有るよ、今時分歸れば、それでも食へば好いんだ。

セーラは往つて、パンを見つけました。そのパンは、古くツて、堅くツて、ポロ／＼して居ました。

お三は恐ろしい不機嫌で、パンに添へる菜すら宛がひませんでした。實は今しがたミンチン女史に叱られたので、業を晴らす爲には、また毎の通りセーラに入ッ當りをしたのです。セーラに當るの

四階の物置まで梯段を三ツも攀登るとは、子供の足に餘程六ヶしいとてした。セーラは草臥れて居る時などは實に長く険しいと思ひましたが、殊に今夜は逆も上まで登れ無い心地でした。幾度か喉に塊りが出て来て、息つきに休まねばならぬ苦みをしました。さうして、よく／＼倦意さうに、

今夜はモウ、何の積りにもなれない。逆も／＼なれない。此パンを食べて、水を飲んで寐てしまはう。さうしたら夢が来て、想像して呉れるかも知れない。夢ツてへば、夢ツてへ物は一體何だらう。

實に／＼一番上の階段へ達した時には、眼に涙が一杯になつて、お嬢様どころか、たと草臥れて、腹が空いて、淋しい／＼子供の様にしか思へませんかつた。

父様が生きて入らッしやれば、人があたしをこんな目に合せやしないんだ。父様が生きていらッしやれば、あたしをどんなにも、世話して下さるに……

萎れかへつて、我身を啣ちつゝ、取手を握つて物

聲の戸を開けました。

Can you imagine it—can you believe it? I find it hard to believe it myself. And Sara found it impossible; for the first few moments she thought something strange had happened to her eyes—to her mind—that the dream had come before she had had time to fall asleep.

“Oh!” she exclaimed breathlessly. “Oh, it isn't true! I know, I know it isn't true!” And she slipped into the room and closed the door and locked it, and stood with her back against it, staring straight before her.

讀者は想像が出来ますか……信じられますか、私でもへなかく信じ憎いのです。セーラも元より有の儘を信ずるとは出来ませんでした。最初は何か自分の眼に異變があつて……知覺に異變があつて……自身が寐る暇のなす中に、はや夢を結んだと考へました。殆んど息が止まらうに、

アレッ！これア本當ぢや無ッーキツト受合ッ

て本當のこソぢやなッ。

セーラは部屋へ滑り込んで、戸を閉ぢ、錠をきめて其戸に寄りかゝつて、呆然と前を眺めました。

Do you wonder? In the grate, which had been empty, and rusty, and cold when she left it, but which now was blackened and polished up quite respectably, there was a glowing, blazing fire. On the hob was a little brass kettle, hissing and boiling; spread upon the floor was a warm, thick rug; before the fire was a folding-chair, unfolded and with cushions on it; by the chair was a small folding-table, unfolded, covered with a white cloth, and upon it were spread small covered dishes, a cup and saucer, and a teapot; on the bed were new, warm coverings, a curious wadded silk robe, and some books. The little, cold, miserable room seemed changed into Fairy-land. It was actually warm and glowing.

“It is bewitched!” said Sara. “Or I am bewitched. I only think I see it all; but if I can only keep on thinking it, I don't care—I don't care, if I can only keep it up!”

She was afraid to move, for fear it would melt away. She stood with her back against the door and looked and looked. But soon she began to feel warm, and then she moved forward.

“A fire that I only *thought* I saw surely wouldn't *feel* warm,” she said. “It feels real—real.”

She went to it and knelt before it. She touched the chair, the table; she lifted the cover of one of the dishes. There was something hot and savory in it—something delicious. The teapot had tea in it, ready for the boiling water from the little kettle; one plate had toast on it, another, muffins. “It is real,” said Sara. “The fire is real enough to warm me. I can sit in the chair; the things are real enough to eat.”

It was like a fairy story come true—it was heavenly. She went to the bed and touched the blankets and the wrap. They were real too. She opened one book, and on the title-page was written in a strange hand, “The little girl in the attic.”

セーラは眼の前なる現象が消え失せはせぬかと、

讀者は訝り給ふてしやう？ セーラが朝、部屋を出る時、空虚で、錆て居て、冷かつた暖爐が、今は研かれて、艶をかけられて、見榮よくなつて居るのみか、賑にポッポと火が燃えて居て、下つた鉤には湯沸がチン／＼と音立て、沸つて居りました。下床には暖かい、厚い敷物が敷いて有つて、暖爐の前には疊み椅子が廣げて、蒲團が載せて有りました。椅子の側には、これも疊むとの出来る小さい卓子が据えて有つて、白い布がかゝつて、其上には小さな蓋物が幾個と、急須に茶飲茶碗とが揃へて有りました。寐床の上には、新らしい、暖かさうな夜着と、綿入の妙な絹の部屋着と書物も幾冊か有りました。寒くつて貧乏げな小間が、トント屋氣樓に變化した様でした。暖かて賑かのは、まがふ方なき事實でした。セーラは、これは魔法かなんかだ。あたしが欺されるんだ。只かういふものが見えると思ふんだらう。だが私がいつ迄かさう思ひなへすれば、それでも構はない……構はないとも。もしいつまでも本當とさへ思入れば……

動くのが恐ろしいやうでした。それ故、肩を背にしたまま、頻りに前なる珍事に見入りました。然るにどうやら、身うちが暖かになる鹽梅でしたから、さて歩を進めました。

あたしが無い物を有ると思ふ丈の火なら、暖氣を感じる筈はないネ、(と一々言葉に力を入れて獨りごち)アレ、これア本當らしい……本當だらう。

セーラは火の側へ行つて、其前に跪きました。それから、椅子を觸り、テーブルを撫で、蓋物のふたを開けて見ました。暖かくつて、おいしうなもの……珍珠がはいつてゐました。急須にはお茶がはいつて居て、湯沸で湯を注す計りになつて居ました。一ツの皿には焼パンが載せて有り、モウーッにはマッフォン(騰詰)が載せて有りました。セーラは、

本當だ、火が本當だから、暖かいのだ。椅子も本當だからすわれる、食物も矢張り本當だから、食べられるに相違ない。

殆んど昔話が實際になつた様で、これこそ眞の極

せうか!——セーラは妙な舶來らしい綿入の部屋着へ顔を押しあて、泣伏しました。

誰か知らないが、誰かあたしの事を構つて呉れる、……誰だかあたしの味方をして呉れる人がある。

といひましたが、火よりも何よりも、友人のあるといふ考が、セーラの心を一番に暖めました。セーラは何もかも自由自在になつて、富裕で、幸福であつた時代からこの方、友といふ者を一人も持つた味を知りませず、爾來ミンチン女塾に送つた、憂い月日の間、昔の榮えた時代は彌々遠く、夢かと思はれるほど、遠く幽かになり行きました。それで、今の涙は、知らぬ人ながら、朋友が一人あると思ふ妙な感が誘ひ出したので、最も辛かつた苦勞よりか尙一際泣けたのでした。

But these tears seemed different from the others, for when she had wiped them away they did not seem to leave her eyes and her heart hot and smarting.

And then imagine, if you can, what the rest of

樂てした。セーラは寐臺へ歩を運んで、ケットや部屋着に觸りました。同じく本當でした。一冊の書物を開けて視ると、中のはね紙に見慣れぬ手跡で、「物置部屋の小娘へ」と認めて有りました。

Suddenly—was it a strange thing for her to do?—Sara put her face down on the queer foreign-looking quilted robe and burst into tears.

"I don't know who it is," she said, "but somebody cares about me a little—somebody is my friend."

Somehow that thought warmed her more than the fire. She had never had a friend since those happy, luxurious days when she had had everything; and those days had seemed such a long way off—so far away as to be only like dreams—during these long years at Miss Minchin's.

She really cried more at this strange thought of having a friend—even though an unknown one—than she had cried over many of her worst troubles.

急に——セーラがかうするのは不思議があまり

the evening was like. The delicious comfort of taking off the damp clothes and putting on the soft, warm, quilted robe before the glowing fire—of slipping her cold feet into the luscious little wool-lined slippers she found near her chair. And then the hot tea and savory dishes, the cushioned chair and the books!

併し此時の涙は、他の場合の涙と違つて、拭ひ去つたあととは眼と心とが熱しませず、痛みもしませんかつた。これから先、其夜はこの様な夜で有つたらうか、讀者の御推察を願ひませう。濡れをぼくれた着物を脱いで、暖い火の前で軟くフク／＼した綿入の部屋着に着代へるも……冷たい足を椅子の側に在つた、フワ／＼な毛裏の上靴へ埋むるも其他、熱いお茶に好物の珍珠、蒲團敷いた椅子に、何より好きな書物も!

It was just like Sara, that, once having found the things real, she should give herself up to the enjoyment of them to the very utmost. She had lived such a life of imaginings, and had found her

pleasure so long in improbabilities, that she was quite equal to accepting any wonderful thing that happened. After she was quite warm and had eaten her supper and enjoyed herself for an hour or so, it had almost ceased to be surprising to her that such magical surroundings should be hers. As to finding out who had done all this, she knew that it was out of the question. She did not know a human soul by whom it could seem in the least degree probable that it could have been done.

"There is nobody," she said to herself, "nobody." She discussed the matter with Emily, it is true, but more because it was delightful to talk about it than with a view to making any discoveries.

"But we have a friend, Emily," she said; "we have a friend!"

其の品物が本當のものと思つたあとは、飽きてそれを楽しむとは、セーラの性質として尤も至極なものでした。架空想像計りの生涯を送りつけて、有る可からざる事のみ自分の樂みを求め

picture of him or her, it ended by being something glittering and strange—not at all like a real person, but bearing resemblance to a sort of Eastern magician, with long robes and a wand. And when she fell asleep, beneath the soft white blanket, she dreamed all night of this magnificent personage, and talked to him in Hindustani, and made salaams to him.

セーラは秘密なる恩人を理想的に考へて見ても、容易に其人となりが想像されませんでした。どうしても、尋常の人間ではほど懐しいものが有らうとは思へませんでした。強ひて其者を心の中に形づくらうとすると、人間世界を一ツ越えて、どうやら光明でも放ちさうな不可思議なもの、即ち長い衣を纏ひ手には笏を持つて、魔術を行つたといふ昔の老仙人の姿が立現はれました。さうして、毎も白ケットの下に寐入る時には、夜中、此非凡な人物と夢に出逢うて、印度語で話したり、敬禮したりして居りました。

したから、不可思議な出来事を信じて受けるのは、寧ろ容易いとした。全く暖まつて、食事を済まし、一二時間、自ら楽しんでから、不可思議な範圍内に我身の在るとが、どうやら左程奇怪でなくなりました。誰がかう云ふ親切をして呉れたかと探索するなどは、尙さら論外でした。また極少しても、それかと思ふ人は一人と心に浮びませんでした。

誰も有りはしなうよ、誰も……
獨言にいひ、エメレと其事に付いて熟議したことは、しましたか、それも何か發見しやうと云ふ見込よりか、其話しをするが楽しい故でした。

併しネ、エメレや、あたしたち二人の友だちがあるよ、友だちが。

と申しました。

* * * * *

Sara could not even imagine a being charming enough to fill her grand idea of her mysterious benefactor. If she tried to make in her mind a

Upon one thing she was determined. She would not speak to anyone of her good fortune—it should be her own secret; in fact, she was rather inclined to think that if Miss Minchin knew, she would take her treasures from her or in some way spoil her pleasure. So when she went down the next morning she shut her door very tight, and did her best to look as if nothing unusual had occurred. And yet this was rather hard, because she could not help remembering, every now and then, with a sort of start, and her heart would beat quickly every time she repeated to herself, "I have a friend!"

此一事は確く決心して居りました。即ち己れに廻つて來た好運に付いては、決して誰にも語るまい、これを自分一己の秘密にして置かうといふとてした。實はミンチン先生にでも知れれば、セーラの秘密の寶を悉く取り上げられるか、さもなければ、どうにかして、セーラの樂みを邪魔をされるだらうと氣遣つたのでした。それ故、翌朝下に降りた時も、戸を固く閉ぢて、務めて何氣ない様

起居致しました。併し、これはどうもかどどと、少し仕難いとして、折々ハット思出すものがある、あたしは友だちを二人持つて居るナ」と考へる度に、胸の跳るのを覺えました。

It was a friend who evidently meant to continue to be kind, for when she went to her garret the next night—and she opened the door, it must be confessed, with rather an excited feeling—she found that same hands had been again at work and had done even more than before. The fire and the supper were again there, and beside them a number of other things which so altered the look of the garret that Sara quite lost her breath. A piece of bright, strange, heavy cloth covered the battered mantel, and on it some ornaments had been placed. All the bare, ugly things which could be covered with draperies had been concealed and made to look quite pretty. Some odd materials in rich colours had been fastened against the walls with fine sharp tacks—so sharp that they could be pressed into the wood without hammering. Some brilliant fans were pinned up,

め、座蒲團など置いた處が、殆んど皆椅子の趣があられた。

Sara simply sat down, and looked, and looked again.

“It is exactly like something fairy come true,” she said, “there isn't the least difference. I feel as if I might wish for anything—diamonds and bags of gold—and they would appear! *What* couldn't be any stranger than this. Is this my garret? Am I the same cold, ragged, damp Sara? And to think how I used to pretend, and pretend, and wish there were fairies! The one thing I always wanted was to see a fairy story come true. I am *living* in a fairy story. I feel as if I might be a fairy myself, and be able to turn things into anything else!”

It was like a fairy story, and, what was best of all, it continued. Almost every day something new was done to the garret. Some new comfort or ornament appeared in it when Sara opened her door at night, until actually, in a short time, it was a bright little room, full of all sorts of odd and luxurious things. And the magician had

and there were several large cushions. A long old wooden box was covered with a rug, and some cushions lay on it, so that it wore quite the air of a sofa.

其友人は、我に始めた親切を續ける決心の人と見えて、次の夜、セーラが、流石に胸騒ぎしつつ、戸を開き出すと、同じ人が再びこゝに來つて働いたと見え、前夜に比へて、尙一層の變化を來たしました。火も晩食も、前夜の如くであつたのみならず、ちか／＼の手術もて、物置部屋の模様を悉く一變させたるは、セーラもギョットするほど驚きました。暖爐の上なる小さな壊れかけた棚には奇麗な厚い毛氈を敷詰めて、置物を敷せてありました。むき出して、眼にはならぬものは殊なら、見榮よく毛氈類で蔽うて、却つて室に趣味を添へる様に致しました。壁には珍らしい額面など掛けましたが、それに用いた銃は別製のもので、尖の鋭きものは鐵槌を要するほどでした。艶やかな飾り扇など柱にかけ、座蒲團なども大あいのがいくつもありました。長し古櫃があつたのへ、毛革を敷つ

taken care that the child should not be hungry, and that she should have as many books as she could read. When she left the room in the morning the remains of her supper were on the table, and when she returned in the evening, the magician had removed them, and left another nice little meal. Downstairs Miss Minchin was as cruel and insulting as ever, Miss Amelia was as peevish, and the servants were as vulgar. Sara was sent on errands and scolded, and driven hither and thither, but somehow it seemed as if she could bear it all. The delightful sense of romance and mystery lifted her above the cook's temper and malice. The comfort she enjoyed and could always look forward to was making her stronger. If she came home from her errands wet and tired, she knew she would soon be warm, after she had climbed the stairs. In a few weeks she began to look less thin. A little colour came into her cheeks, and her eyes did not seem much too big for her face.

セーラは唯坐つて、ギョット見入る計りでした。本當に、丸ておが實際になつた様だぞ。少しも

それと違つたのではない。あたしは、何が欲しいといつても、例へば、金剛石がと云つても、黄金の袋といつても、直ぐそこへ出て来る心地がする！たとひ今それが眼の前へ出たといつても、此室がマアこんなになつたからして見れば、何でもない。これがマア、元の物置だらうか？あたしが先の寒いボロ／＼した、始終ジミジミしたやうな、あのセーラだらうか？ひかしくはよくもあんなに、有りもせんことを想像ばかりしてたッけ。あたしはお話にあるやうなものが一度丈本當になつたのを、見て見度いと思つてたッけが、これはまた、どうだらう！丸て昔話の中の人間になつた様だ。あたしはヒョット、自分が魔法つかひで、見るものを思ふやうに變化する力を持つて居るのではないかと思ふよ。といひましたが、實に昔話の様な事で、何より結構などに、善い事が直ぐと消失せはしないで、いつまでも續きました。殆んど毎日の様に、其物置に何か新らしいとが出来て居ました。セーラが夜、戸を明ける度に、重寶な品が見るとか、飾

りが殖えるとかで、實際、僅計りの間に、珍らしい贅澤な品物の一杯ある、眼の覺める様な部屋と化してしまひました。魔法使ひは又、常に注意して、セーラの飢じくない様、また讀まれる丈の書物が始終備へて有る様計らひました。セーラが、朝、部屋を去る時、前夜の食事の殘物が卓子の上に載せて有りまして、夜部屋に歸れば、残りなく片づいて、夕飯は新たに膳立して有りました。併し下へ行つて見れば、ミンチン先生は依然として元の如く、殘酷で、冷笑的でした。エミーリヤ嬢は、相も變らず、意地わるく、僕婢たちは、同然、下司張つたものでした。セーラは矢張り、以前の通り使にやられ、叱りつけられ、ここかしこと追廻されましたが、どうやら、どれも堪へ難い苦では有りませんでした。吾は嬉しい秘密を抱いたもの。吾は人の知らぬ仙境に逍遙するものと自得したセーラには、お三の癩癩も意地の悪さも何のその、空吹く風も身にこたへませんでした。衣食が漸く充分になつて、いつもそこに有る物と確然當に出来ること云ふことが、何よりセーラを氣丈

夫にしました。先頃の様に草臥れ、且つ濡れ切つて他處から歸るといふも、我部屋へ登りさへすれば、暖かになれるといふことを承知して居ました。二三週間過ぎるうちに、セーラは少しく肥えて來ました。頬の邊に少しづつ色も見えて來て、眼が顔に合せて、今までほど大き過ぎない様になりました。

It was just when this was beginning to be so apparent that Miss Minchin sometimes stared at her questioningly, that another wonderful thing happened. A man came to the door and left several parcels. All were addressed (in large letters) to "The little girl in the attic." Sara herself was sent to open the door and she took them in. She laid the two largest parcels down on the hall table, and was looking at the address, when Miss Minchin came down the stairs.

"Take the things upstairs to the young lady to whom they belong," she said. "Don't stand there staring at them."

"They belong to me," answered Sara, quietly.

"To you!" exclaimed Miss Minchin. "What do you mean?"

"I don't know where they come from," said Sara, "but they're addressed to me."

Miss Minchin came to her side and looked at them with an excited expression.

"What is in them?" she demanded.

"I don't know," said Sara.

"Open them!" she demanded, still more excitedly.

Sara did as she was told. They contained pretty and comfortable clothing,—clothing of different kinds; shoes and stockings and gloves, a warm coat, and even an umbrella. On the pocket of the coat was pinned a paper on which was written, "To be worn every day—will be replaced by others when necessary."

顔色や、肉のつき鹽梅が稍々目だつ様になつて、ミンチン先生が不審やうにシケ／＼と見入る折が有る時分でした、更に不思議な出來事があつたのは、人が或時音づれて包物をいくつか玄關へ置いて往きました。孰れも「物置の小娘へ」と大文字

て書いてありました。セーラは自身に取次に出されて、それを請取りました。廊下の卓子の上に大包みの方を二ツ置いて、表書を見て居る處へ、ミンチン先生が二階から下りて來ました。

名宛のしてある生徒さんの處へ、さつさと持つて行かないか。アツケラカンと立つて見てる人が有るものか。

セーラは物知らずに、

これは私の物らしいです。

ミンチン先生は、思はず聲を荒らげ、

何に、おまへのだと、何をいつて居るんだ！

セーラは、

どこから來たのか知りませんが、私の名宛にしてあります。

ミンチン先生は尋常ならぬ顔付になつて、側へ寄り、見入りました。さうして詰る様に、

一體何がいつて居るんだ？

知りません。

開けて御覽ど。

一層、さきさきして命じました。セーラは云はるゝ

がまゝに致しますと、中には重寶で、奇麗な着物が種々はいつて居ました。靴も足袋も、手袋も暖かい羽織も、蝙蝠傘さへ添へて有つて、上着のポケットの上に紙切がピン留にしてあつて「日々御着用ありたく、破れ損じ有之候節は新たなるものと差代へ可申候」と認めて有りました。

Miss Minchin was quite agitated. This was an incident which suggested strange things to her sordid mind. Could it be that she had made a mistake after all, and that the child so neglected and so unkindly treated by her had some powerful friend in the back-ground? It would not be very pleasant if there should be such a friend, and he or she should learn all the truth about the thin, shabby clothes, the scant food, the hard work. She felt very queer indeed and uncertain, and she gave a side glance at Sara.

"Well," she said, in a voice such as she had never used since the day the child lost her father — "well, someone is very kind to you. As you have the things and are to have new ones when they are worn out, you may as well go and put

them on and look respectable; and after you are dressed, you may come downstairs and learn your lessons in the schoolroom."

ミンチン女史は大驚きて、下司張つた此婦人の心中、眼前の出來事から推し計つて、若しやと思ふ處から、頻りに胸を騒がせました。矢張り自分の失策で、どこまでも投げ遣りにし、不親切極まる取扱をしてゐる其子供には、身を陰に匿す、朋友が有るのだらうか？ 万一左様な人有りとせば、薄ッぺらな、見すばらしい着物のとや、食物の不足などや、非道を使ひ方のとに付いて、一々巨細に知られたら、こちらの爲、餘り面白くないと思ひ、いよゝ／＼不審に、いよゝ／＼不安心に感じ、流

眼にセーラを見ながら、少女が父を失つてこのかた、一度も用ゐたのない程優しい聲になつて、さうかへ、さうして見ると、どなたかおまへに、ひどく親切にして下さるお人があるんだね。それをよこして切れたら、また新しいのを呉れると仰しやるんだから、着かへて來て、シャンと居たらよからう。さうしておまへ着替へた

さういふ譯で、これから半時間たつうちにセーラは講堂の生徒を自失させるほどに驚かせました。

So it happened that, about half an hour afterwards, Sara struck the entire schoolroom of pupils dumb with amazement, by making her appearance in a costume such as she had never worn since the change of fortune whereby she ceased to be a show-pupil and a parlour-boarder. She scarcely seemed to be the same Sara. She was neatly dressed in a pretty gown of warm browns and reds, and even her stockings and slippers were nice and dainty.

"Perhaps someone has left her a fortune," one of the girls whispered. "I always thought something would happen to her. She is so queer."

さういふ譯で、これから半時間たつうちにセーラは講堂の生徒を自失させるほどに驚かせました。お飾り生徒で、特別な格であつた頃から、曾て着たのないほど見榮よき衣類を着て、一同の前に現はれた處は、同じセーラとも思へぬ位でした。落着いた赤色や茶色を取り混ぜた、奇麗な着物を

上手にと着なし、穿いた靴足袋や上靴までが結構で、氣の利いたものでした。一人の生徒はヒソヒソと聲に、

キット、誰かあの見に財産でも遺して死んだんですよ。何か變つたとても有りさうな見てしたネ。あたしキットそんなことたらうと思つてましたよ。餘り様子が、人ところがつて居ましたもの。

That night, when Sara went to her room, she carried out a plan she had been devising for some time. She wrote a note to her unknown friend. It ran as follows:

"I hope you will not think it is not polite that I should write this note to you when you wish to keep yourself a secret, but I do not mean to be impolite, or to try to find out at all, only I want to thank you for being so kind to me—so beautiful kind, and making everything like a fairy story. I am so grateful to you, and I am so happy! I used to be so lonely and cold and hungry, and now, oh, just think what you have done for me! Please let me say just these words. It seems as if I ought to say them. *Thank you—thank you—thank you!* THE LITTLE GIRL IN THE ATTIC."

The next morning she left this on the little table, and it was taken away with the other

things; so she felt sure the magician had received it, and she was happier for the thought.

其夜セーラが部屋へ行きました時、先頃から心に計畫して居る目論見を果しました。即ち未だ相見ぬ友人に、禮狀を贈つたとしてした。其手紙は左の通りでした。

拜啓者、秘密に御身を置給ふあなたに對し手紙さし上候は失禮の様なれど、決して私は失禮するつもりにては御座なく、またあなた様ほどなたなるか強ひて探察しやうとも一向に存じ不申、たゞ私を親切にして下さると實に美事に親切にして下され候て私一身は丸く仙境に遊ぶ者の如くなる事に對して是非御禮申上度存候、私は實に難有思ひ非常に嬉しく日を送り申候。私は満しく、寒く、ひもじきと多く候ひしが、今は申上ぐるまでもなく、あなたの恩賜の結果御察し被下度候、是非一言御禮申し候と、申すべくは濟まぬと考へ候萬謝。々々

物置の小娘より

翌朝小ぢき卓子の上へ此手紙を残して置くと、他の物と共に、無くなつて居ました。それ故、魔法つかひが、正しく請取つたと信じ、どうやら嬉しく感じました。

A few nights later a very odd thing happened. She found something in the room which she certainly would never have expected. When she came in as usual, she saw something small and dark in her chair—an odd, tiny figure, which turned toward her a little weird-looking, wistful face.

"Why, it's the monkey!" she cried. "It is the Indian gentleman's monkey! Where can he have come from?"

これから四五日後の夜、實に奇怪千万な事が起りました。セーラが室へ歸つて見ますと、流石のセーラも、トント思ひ設けぬものが居りました。元より何心なく、フト這入つて見ますと、自分の椅子の上に、何やら黒い小ぢきものが見えました——如何にも小さな奇妙な生物で、此世のものとも見えぬが、物言ひたげな顔して小女を見詰めて居りました。セーラは聲をたて、
アレー猿だよ、あの天竺紳士の猿だ!どこから這入つて來たのだらう!

It was the monkey, sitting up and looking so like a mite of a child that it really was quite pathetic; and very soon Sara found out how he happened to be in her room. The skylight was open, and it was easy to guess that he had crept out of his master's garret window, which was only a few feet away, and perfectly easy to get in and out of, even for a climber less agile than a monkey. He had probably climbed to the garret on a tour of investigation, and, getting out upon the roof, and being attracted by the light in Sara's attic, had crept in. At all events this seemed quite reasonable, and there he was; and when Sara went to him, he actually put out his queer, elfish little hands, caught her dress, and jumped into her arms.

"Oh, you queer, poor, ugly, foreign little thing!" said Sara, caressing him. "I can't help liking you. You look like a sort of baby, but I am so glad you are not, because your mother could not be proud of you, and nobody would dare to say you were like any of your relations. But I do like you; you have such a forlorn little look in your face. Perhaps you are sorry you are

so ugly, and it's always on your mind. I wonder if you have a mind?"

正しく例の猿で有つて、椅子に掛けて居て、子供の極小さいのに見まがふ計りな處は何となく哀れつばい様でした。セーラは此猿がどうして此室に這入つたといふ鑑定は直さつきました。屋根の明り取りが開いて居ましたから、猿ほど身軽でないものにさへ、出遣入りは造作ないゆゑ、直ぐ間近にある飼主の四階の窓から抜け出して來たとは誰にも推察の出來るとでした。多分、何かの檢分に四階迄忍び登り、屋根へ出て居た中に、セーラが部屋の燈火に誘はれて這ひ込んだもので有りましたらう。兎に角、推量は直ぐそこらへつても、何にせよ、眼の前に居たとは確でした。ちうして、セーラが側へ行きましたら、猿は奇妙な、氣味の悪い様な手を出して、セーラの着物を捉へながら、モウ、セーラに抱かれる工夫をしました。セーラは其頭を撫へながら、
あまへはママ、何とさふ妙な、みつとあまら猿だらう！可哀なうに、ここに居るのは、故郷

を離れて來たんだネ。あたしは何だか、あまへが可愛くつて仕方がないよ。どこか赤ん坊の様な處もあるけれど、ママさうでなくつてお仕合せだ。お前の様な赤ん坊では、あつかさんが人の前へ外聞もわるし、見る人だつて、どなたに似てお出だとも、さまりがわるくて言へやしないはネ。それでも、あまへは何だか心細さうな顔してるから、好きにならずに居られない。ヒョットしたらあまへは自分がそれほど醜いのが恥かしくつて、始終氣になつて居るんだらう。全體、あまへは、心といふものがあるのかしらん。どうだらう！

The monkey sat and looked at her while she talked, and seemed much interested in her remarks, if one could judge by his eyes and his forehead, and the way he moved his head up and down, and held it sideways and scratched it with his little hand. He examined Sara quite seriously, and anxiously, too. He felt the stuff of her dress, touched her hands, climbed up and

examined her ears, and then sat on her shoulder holding a lock of her hair, looking mournful but not at all agitated. Upon the whole he seemed pleased with Sara.

"But I must take you back," she said to him, "though I'm sorry to have to do it. Oh, the company you *would* be to a person!"

She lifted him from her shoulder, set him on her knee, and gave him a bit of cake. He sat and nibbled it, and then put his head on one side, looked at her, wrinkled his forehead, and then nibbled again, in the most companionable manner.

"But you must go home," said Sara at last; and she took him in her arms to carry him downstairs. Evidently he did not want to leave the room, for as they reached the door he clung to her neck and gave a little scream of anger.

"You mustn't be an ungrateful monkey," said Sara. "You ought to be fondest of your own family. I am sure the Lascar is good to you."

猿はセーラに抱かれたまへ、其顔を打まもつて、話を聞いて居りました。眼つきの工合を見、其顔

く鹽梅や、首を傾けたり、折々頭を掻く處を見ると、セーラのいふとに一々合點が行くかと思はれる様でした。猿は眞面目に、又心配さうに、セーラを打まもつて居りました。先づ手を出して着物の品柄を觸つて見、手を撫へ、攀が登つて、耳を檢分し、終に肩へ腰かけて、セーラの髪を一房握つて居りました。始終、どことなく戀しさうな顔付でしたが、些かも氣を苛つては居りませんかつた。全體からいふと、猿の方でも、セーラが氣に入つた様子でした。セーラは撫へて、

それはどうと、あたしはあまへを連れてつて、返して來なければならぬよ。さうするのは實に嫌だけれど、あまへの様なものでも一處に居たら、どんなに同伴になるか知れないもの！セーラは肩から抱き下して膝に据え、菓子片を造りました。猿は坐つたまへそれをかぢり、首を傾げて、セーラを見詰め、顔に皺をよせて、又かぢりする様子が、如何にも馴々しい様でした。セーラは其中、また、

だがネ、あまへ家へ歸らなければならぬよ。

とひながら、下へ連れ下す積りて抱きとちました。猿は室を去りたがらないものと見えて、戸口まで行くと、頭にすがつて、一聲キヤッと怒つた様子を示した。セーラは、

あまは恩知らずの猿ぢやとらけなさいよ。自分が飼はれて居る家の人が一番に好きでなければ、濟まなう譯だらう。ラスカさんは、あまへにキツト親切だに相違なうもの。

Nobody saw her on her way out, and very soon she was standing on the Indian Gentleman's front steps, and the Lascar had opened the door for her.

"I found your monkey in my room," she said in Hindustani. "I think he got in through the window."

The man began a rapid outpouring of thanks; but, just as he was in the midst of them, a fretful, hollow voice was heard through the open door of the nearest room. The instant he heard it the Lascar disappeared, and left Sara still holding the monkey.

It was not many moments, however, before he came back bringing a message. His master had told him to bring Miss into the library. The Sahib was very ill, but he wished to see Missy.

幸、誰にも見られず外へ出まして、間もなく天竺紳士の家の玄關で案内を頼みますと。ラスカが戸を開けて呉れました。セーラは印度語で、

あ家のお猿が私の部屋へはいつて居りました。大抵、窓からもぐり込んだんで御座いませう。

いふと、其人は口早にセッセと禮を並らべ立て始めました。然るに、其口上の真最中、戸の開いた次の座敷から、少し癩癩的な病人らしい聲が聞えました。ラスカの耳に其聲が達する否や、ラスカは猿をセーラに抱かせた儘見えなくなつてしまひました。幾分またぬに、ラスカは再び歸つて來ました。主人の傳言をつたへました。主人は鑲ちを書籍へ通し申せ、病中ながら、是非嬢さまに今日にかゝり度と申すとひました。

Sara thought this odd, but she remembered reading stories of Indian gentlemen who, having

no constitutions, were extremely cross and full of whims, and who must have their own way. So she followed the Lascar.

セーラは猿をこゝだと思ひましたが、併し天竺紳士と云ふものの中には、随分癩の衰弱から、非常に癩癩持になつて、取つてもつかぬと氣張も込んで、いつてもばつ通りにせねば、氣の濟まぬ人があふとの話を聞んだとありましたから、それらがセーラもかたに随つて行かされた。

When she entered the room the Indian Gentleman was lying on an easy chair, propped up with pillows. He looked frightfully ill. His yellow face was thin, and his eyes were hollow. He gave Sara a rather curious look—it was as if she wakened in him some anxious interest.

"You live next door?" he said.

"Yes," answered Sara. "I live at Miss Minchin's."

"She keeps a boarding-school?"

"Yes," said Sara.

"And you are one of her pupils?"

Sara hesitated a moment.

"I don't know exactly what I am," she replied.

"Why not?" asked the Indian Gentleman.

The monkey gave a tiny squeak, and Sara stroked him.

"At first," she said, "I was a pupil and a parlour-boarder; but now——"

"What do you mean by 'at first'?" asked the Indian Gentleman.

"When I was first taken there by my papa."

"Well, what has happened since then?" said the invalid, staring at her and knitting his brows with a puzzled expression.

"My papa died," said Sara, "He lost all his money, and there was none left for me—and there was no one to take care of me or pay Miss Minchin, so——"

"So you were sent up into the garret, and neglected, and made into a half-starved little drudge!" put in the Indian Gentleman. "That's about it, isn't it?"

The colour deepened on Sara's cheeks.

"There was no one to take care of me, and

no money," she said. "I belong to nobody."

"What did your father mean by losing his money?" said the gentleman, fretfully.

The red in Sara's cheeks grew deeper, and she fixed her odd eyes on the yellow face.

"He did not lose it himself," she said. He had a friend he was fond of, and it was his friend who took his money. I don't know how. I don't understand. He trusted his friend too much."

She saw the invalid start—the strangest start—as if he had been suddenly frightened. Then he spoke nervously and excitedly:

"That's an old story," he said. "It happens every day; but sometimes those who are blamed—those who do the wrong—don't intend it, and are not so bad. It may happen through a mistake—a miscalculation; they may not be so bad."

"No," said Sara, "but the suffering is just as bad for the others. It killed my papa."

先づ座敷へ這入つて見ると、天竺紳士は羽毛枕に支へられて、安樂椅子に凭つて居りましたが、見

た處では、餘程の大病人でした。其黄んだ顔色は、

瘠せかけて眼は落回んで居ました。先づセーラに眼を止めた鹽梅は妙で、セーラを見るにつけて、急に氣遣はしいとも起つたかの様でした。

おまへさん、隣に居るのかネ。

とは紳士の問で、セーラは、

ハイ、ミンチン先生の處に居ります。

其人は塾を建てゝるんだネ。

ハイ。

さうして、おまへさんは生徒の一人か？

セーラは一寸躊躇しました。さうして其答は、

私は何なんですか、判然と存じません。

なぜ知らないんだネ？

此時猿は哀れげに一聲たてましたから、セーラは

其頭を撫で、遣りました。

初めには生徒で、おまけに客分の格でした。で

すけれど、今は……

「初めには」とは、

父さまが初めて、あそこへ、私を連れて行つた

時といふんです。

それで、それから、どうなつたのだネ？

と病人は、ジツとセーラの顔を見入つて、不審さうに眉を顰めて訊ねました。セーラは、

私のとうさまが亡くなつて、お金はみんな損して仕舞ふ。私は一文なして、世話して呉る人もなければ、ミンチン先生の方へ學費を拂つて呉れるものもないんですから、それですから……

天竺紳士は此時、遮つて、

それで、おまへさんが物置へ追まくられて、打遣り放しにされて、食物もロク／＼宛がはれず、こき使はれる様になつたと云ふんだらうネ。早い話が……

セーラの頬の赤味が一際濃くなりました。

誰も世話して呉れる人もなく、お金もないんですから、私は誰の兒でもないんですから。

紳士は少しく苛立つて、

おまへさんのお父さんは、又何しに損なんぞしたんだネ？

セーラの頬の紅は、いよ／＼濃くなりましたして、例

の妙な眼つきをして、紳士の黄ばんだ顔を見まもりました。さうしてかう申しました。

いえ、自分で損をしたのでは無いんです。自分の大變と好きな友だちが有つて、父さまのお金を持つてたのは、其友だちなんです。私はどうした譯なんだか知りません、分らないんです。たゞとうさまがその友だちを大變と信じ過ぎたんですツて。

セーラは其病人がビツクラした様子に氣づきました。俄に何かこはくてもなつたといふ鹽梅な、不思議な驚き様でした。其あとには物に苛つた様は、チリ／＼した話しぶりになりました。紳士が申しますに、

それはよくある話さ、毎日のやうにある例だ。だがネ責を負はせられる人、つまり、悪い事をする方が、悪い事をする積りでないところがあるよ、さうして其人が強ち、左程の悪心ともいひきれんものだよ。

左様ですネ。ですけど、人の難澁するとは、矢張り同じこツです。とうさまは、それがために

身口へたまたまつたさしやまの。

The Indian gentleman pushed aside some of the gorgeous wraps that covered him.

"Come a little nearer, and let me look at you," he said.

His voice sounded very strange; it had a more nervous and excited tone than before. Sara had an odd fancy that he was half afraid to look at her. She came and stood nearer, the monkey clinging to her and watching his master anxiously over his shoulder.

The Indian Gentleman's hollow, restless eyes fixed themselves on her.

"Yes," he said at last. "Yes; I can see it. Tell me your father's name."

"His name was Ralph Crewe," said Sara. "Captain Crewe. Perhaps,"—a sudden thought flashing upon her,—“perhaps you may have heard of him? He died in India.”

The Indian Gentleman sank back upon his pillows. He looked very weak, and seemed out of breath.

"Yes," he said. "I knew him. I was his friend."

I meant no harm. If he had only lived he would have known. It turned out well after all. He was a fine young fellow. I was fond of him. I will make it right. Call—call the man."

天竺紳士は身に纏つて居つた、華やかな毛氈をかき遣り、セーラに、

も少し側へ来て、ちまへんの顔を見せて下さいよ。

紳士の聲は、まじく變つて、まじく苛立つて、まじくヂリ／＼して居る様子でした。セーラは紳士が、自分を見るにも、半分は怖いのかと思つた様でした。セーラが近く寄つて、紳士の側に立つて居ますと、猿はしつかり、セーラにしがみ付いて、心配そうに、主人の氣振を肩越しに窺つて居りました。

天竺紳士の回／＼とした眼は、セーラの容貌にシヤト止まりました。ヤ、暫くして、

ちうだ、ちうに違ひない、似て居る。ちまへんの御父さんの名を云つて御覽。

父の名は、ラーン、クルー。キャプテン、

クルーつてさひました。(セーラは急に思ひついで) ヒョットしたら、あなた、私のどうぢの噂を、ち聞きなすつたかも知れません、印度で死ましたから。

天竺紳士は倒れる様に後の枕へ頭を落しました。見ると大分弱つて、息切れがして居た様子でした。さうして、途切れ／＼に、

さうとも、知つて居ましたとも、わしが、其友だちなんだ。わしは決してわるく計るつもりぢや無かつたんだ。も少し生きてさへ居れば、何もかも分つたんだ。つまり結果が好かつたんだから。中々多望な壯年だつた。わしは極く好きな人物だつた。万事の償は是非する。あれを——あの人を呼んで下さいよ。

* * * * *

Sara thought he was going to die. But there was no need to call the Lascar. He must have been waiting at the door. He was in the room and by his master's side in an instant. He seemed to know what to do. He lifted the

drooping head and gave the invalid something in a small glass. The Indian Gentleman lay panting for a few minutes, and then he spoke in an exhausted but eager voice, addressing the Lascar in Hindustani:

"Go for Carnichael," he said. "Tell him to come here at once. Tell him I have found the child!"

セーラは、紳士は今死ぬる間際ではないかと思ひました。併しラスカを呼び立てる必要はありませんかつた。戸の外で待つても居りましたか、瞬間に室内に來り、主人の傍に來ました。手當する術は、一切承知の様子で、垂れてをつた病人の頭を抱きあげ、何やら小さな盃に入れたものを飲ませました。天竺紳士は數分間息づかひ急しく、煩悶の態でしたが、其中、弱りながらも、息せきした聲で、印度語でラスカにからいひました。

カーミケルを呼びに行つて來い、直ぐ來てくれッてさへ。例の子供を見つけたからといつて來よ。

When Mr. Carmichael arrived (which occurred in a very few minutes, for it turned out that he was no other than the father of the Large Family across the street), Sara went home, and was allowed to take the monkey with her. She certainly did not sleep very much that night, though the monkey behaved beautifully, and did not disturb her in the least. It was not the monkey that kept her awake—it was her thoughts and her wonders as to what the Indian Gentleman had meant when he said, "Tell him I have found the child." "What child?" Sara kept asking herself. "I was the only child there; but how had he found me, and why did he want to find me? And what is he going to do, now I am found? Is it something about my papa? Do I belong to somebody? Is he one of my relations? Is something going to happen?"

カーミケルと云はれた人が来たのを見ると、セーラは初対面の人ではなく、ソイ向ふ側の大家内の例の老人でした。其人が来ると聞かぬ、セーラは暇を以て歸りましたが、猿は主人の許可があつ

First Mr. Carmichael came and had an interview with Miss Minchin. And it appeared that Mr. Carmichael, besides occupying the important situation as father to the Large Family, was a lawyer, and had charge of the affairs of Mr. Carrisford,—which was the real name of the Indian Gentleman,—and, as Mr. Carrisford's lawyer, Mr. Carmichael had come to explain something curious to Miss Minchin regarding Sara. But, being the father of the Large Family, he had a very kind and fatherly feeling for children; and so, after seeing Miss Minchin alone, what did he do but go and bring across the square his rosy, motherly, warm-hearted wife, so that she herself might talk to the little lonely girl, and tell her everything in the best and most motherly way.

然るにセーラは長くも待たず、あくる朝に、不審しき件々を悉く暗しました。さうして自分が想像したとて、實に小説的の人間であつたことを悟りました。第一にカーミケルと云ふ人が来て、ミンチン先生に面談いたしました。段々と様

で、一處につれて往かれました。其夜猿は感心に多となくして居て、少しもセーラの邪魔にならなかつたに拘らず、中々寐入るとが出来ませんかつた。セーラの眠る邪魔になつたは、決して猿ではなく、セーラ自身の考でした。さうして天竺紳士が、「例の子供を見つけたからと云つて来い」といつたのがどういふ譯かと、不審に思ふとが邪魔になつたのでした。セーラは心の中に問を起して、「この子供のとならうか、あそこらに、あたしより外、子供は居なかつたに。あたしとしたら、なぜ見つけたらうつたのだらう。さうして、なぜ見つけたらのだらう。それからあたしが見つかつたら、どうしやうと云ふのだらう。もしも私は今までの様にひとりぼっちでなく、誰かのものだと云ふのかしら。あの方がホヨット私の親類でもありはしなからうか。これから先、なに事が起らうと云ふのかしら。」

But she found out the very next day, in the morning; and it seemed that she had been living in a story even more than she had imagined.

子を見ると、カーミケルと云ふ人は、例の大家族の父と云ふ、大切な地位を占めて居る外に、辯護士といふ職掌を持つて居て、天竺紳士カリスマン氏の事務を管理して居て、ミンチン女史へセーラが身の上について熟談に來たのも、矢張り、其資格で有つたらしいのでした。併し其大家族の父であつた女に、子供に付しては、極優しい親らしき情を蓄へて居て、自分で先づミンチン先生に逢つて談判を遂げたあとは、セーラへ萬事を打明かすに、自分では圓滑に行くまいと遠慮して、態々向ふの家から、顔の艶々した、物知らずな、細君をつれて來させて、何もかも工合よく、優しく話をして、淋しく孤獨な小女をよく合點の行く様にいたしました。

And then Sara learned that she was to be a poor little drudge and outcast no more, and that a great change had come in her fortunes; for all the lost fortune had come back to her, and a great deal had even been added to it. It was Mr. Carrisford who had been her father's friend,

and who had made the investments which had caused him the apparent loss of his money; but it had so happened that after poor young Captain Crewe's death, one of the investments which had seemed at the time the very worst, had taken a sudden turn, and proved to be such a success that it had been a mine of wealth, and had more than doubled the Captain's lost fortune, as well as making a fortune for Mr. Carrisford himself. But Mr. Carrisford had been very unhappy. He had truly loved his poor, handsome, generous young friend, and the knowledge that he had caused his death had weighed upon him always, and broken both his health and spirit. The worst of it had been that, when first he thought himself and Captain Crewe ruined, he had lost courage and gone away because he was not brave enough to face the consequences of what he had done, and so he had not even known where the young soldier's little girl had been placed. When he wanted to find her, and make restitution, he could discover no trace of her; and the certainty that she was poor and friendless somewhere had made him more miserable than ever. When

he had taken the house next to Miss Minchin's, he had been so ill and wretched that he had for the time given up the search. His troubles and the Indian climate had brought him almost to death's door—indeed he had not expected to live more than a few months. And then one day the Lascar had told him about Sara's speaking Hindustani, and gradually he had begun to take a sort of interest in the forlorn child, though he had only caught a glimpse of her once or twice; and he had not connected her with the child of his friend, perhaps, because he was too languid to think much about anything. But the Lascar had found out something of Sara's unhappy little life, and about the garret. One evening he had actually crept out of his own garret window and looked into hers, which was a very easy matter, because, as I have said, it was only a few feet away—and he had told his master what he had seen, and in a moment of compassion the Indian Gentleman had told him to take into the wretched little room such comforts as he could carry from the one window to the other. And the Lascar, who had developed an interest in and

an odd fondness for the child who had spoken to him in his own tongue, had been pleased with the work; and, having the silent swiftness and agile movements of many of his race, he had made his evening journeys across the few feet of roof from garret-window to garret-window, without any trouble at all. He had watched Sara's movements until he knew exactly when she was absent from her room and when she returned to it, and so he had been able to calculate the best time for his work. Generally he had made them in the dusk of the evening, but once or twice when he had seen her go out on errands, he had dared to go over in the daytime, being quite sure that the garret was never entered by anyone but herself. His pleasure in the work and his reports of the results had added to the invalid's interest in it, and sometimes the master had found the planning gave him something to think of, which made him almost forget his weariness and pain. And at last, when Sara brought home the truant monkey, he had felt a wish to see her, and then her likeness to her father had done the rest.

其時セーラは、自分が以後、今迄のやうに、日蔭者の様に、こき遣はれることはなくなるといふこと、自分の運命に大なる變化が有つたといふことを承知いたしました。なぜかといふと、元丸々の損毛だと思つた財産が、悉くセーラの手に戻つた上に、其量も餘程殖えたのでした。此カリスマフォードといふ人はとりも直さず、セーラが父の朋友で、暫時失敗と見えたる商法の元入をした人でした。然るにキャプテン、クルーが、氣の毒にも果敢くなつたあとで、クルー家の金を廻して置いた商法の内で、一番に不利に見えたのが、俄に一變して、大成功となり、富の湧く鑛山となつて、營にキャプテンの財産を二倍にした計りでなく、カリスマフォード氏の財産もそれが爲に成立つたのでした。

しかし、カリスマフォード氏は實に不愉快な思ひをして居ました。彼は其の寛大で、立派な友人を眞實愛して居ますに、間接ながら、其命數を縮めた者は自分であると思ふにつけ、心はいよゝ／＼重く、精神は爲に挫け、健康さへ失ふ様になりまし

た。就中最もよからぬこと、云ふは、最初自分とクルー氏との事業に大失敗を引起したと知つた時、自分が仕出かしたことの結果に恥ぢて、友人に合す顔なしと、意氣地なくも、落膽に沈み、身を匿してしまつたとす。其れ故、その娘の居處さへに知らなかつたのでした。其後、是非に友人の忘れ形見を見出して、せめてもの償ひをしたしと望みましたが、其搜索は全く無効でした。さうして、小女がいづれにか、貧しく暮し、人につれなくされて居るは必定と、考へれば考へるほどいよいよ不愉快になりました。自分が圖らずミンチン女塾の隣に家を借りました頃は、病氣は重り、精神は昏朦して搜索を暫く中止した時分でした。一體印度の氣候がわるし、其上精神にも身體にも、右の故障があるために、殆んど死に瀕する處迄來ました——實に殘生は、あと數ヶ月と斷念めた折も有りました。然るに、或日ラスカが、セーラが印度語に通じて居ることを物語りましてから、自分は少女の哀れ氣な姿を見かけたとは僅かに一度か二度でしたが、追々其身の上に心をかける様に

なりました。其折は餘程衰弱して居て、確とした考が出来ません程でした故、もと／＼此少女が友人に關係があらうなどは、毫しも心づかずに居ました。ラスカはセーラが現今の不幸な境遇と物置住居のとを聞かせました。或夕、ラスカは我家の四階窓から這ひ出しまして、セーラの室内を窺ひ見ました。これは前申した通り、極無造作に出来るのでした。それから、見た有様を主人に話すと、主人は憐愍の心を起したはづみに、窓から窓へと運べる丈のものを贈り、心を盡して其子供を慰めよと命じました。ラスカも主人と同じ様に、其少女の事を心にかけて、尙我が故郷の言葉を用ゐて、我に聲かけた處から、何となく少女を可愛く思ひまして、熱心に其命を果しました。印度人は性來沈黙で、素早い者が多いといひますが、ラスカは四階の窓から窓へ夕ぐれに往通ひするに、何の難澁をも感じませんでした。彼はセーラの往來に注目して、部屋へ来る時間、部屋を去る時間を確かめましたから、自分の仕事をするに便宜な時間を計ることが出来ました。大概は夕ぐれ

薄暗い時刻に限りましたが、一度か二度、セーラの走り使ひに行く處を見澄して、晝の間に彼の物置へ這入りました。これは此室へは、セーラの外誰も這入る人がないと、確かに承知したからでした。ラスカが此仕事に意氣込んで居ると、其報告を聞く面白さまで、病人もいよいよ熱心を増し、色々、こま／＼と計畫するのが心遣りになつて、時として殆んど、苦痛と煩悶とを忘れるとがありました。さうして、セーラが逃亡猿をつれ戻しました時、どうやら少女の顔が見たくなり、これを見ると心に忘れぬ友人に似た處があるに心付いて、遂にかくの次第に運んだのでした。

“And now, my dear,” said good Mrs. Carmichael, patting Sara's hand, “all your troubles are over, I am sure, and you are to come home with me and be taken care of as if you were one of my own little girls; and we are so pleased to think of having you with us until everything is settled, and Mr. Carrisford is better. The excitement of last night has made him very

weak, but we really think he will get well, now that such a load is taken from his mind. And when he is stronger, I am sure he will be as kind to you as your own papa would have been. He has a very good heart, and he is fond of children—and he has no family at all. But we must make you happy and rosy, and you must learn to play and run about, as my little girls do——”

カーミケル夫人はセーラの手を我手に確と握りつゝ、笑まし氣に、

サア、セーラさん。それであなたの艱難苦勞も、すつかりお仕舞になつたといふもの。それですから、此上は私と一處に私の家へお出て、うちの娘たち同然、わたしに世話をあさせなちつて下さい。萬事方のつくまで、私共て是非お世話をして上げたいのですから、其中には、カリスフォードさんも御全快でしやうし、夕べの取込で少しお弱りなさつた様ですが、今まであれほど心に掛つて居た重荷がとれたんですから、キツト、全快なされることと、私どもは信

じて居りますよ。それで何れ快くおなりでしたら、あなたにどれほど優しくなさるかと思ひますよ。丸て真味のちとう様のやうだらうと思ひますよ。それは氣立の好い方で、子供といつたら何よりかお好ですもの。それに御自分の御家族は、一人もないますからネ。併し何より先にあなたが氣樂にちなたななるやうに、なうして、顔色も今よりか、モット艶々しくする様にしなければなりませんよ。あなた、家の子供の眞似をして、ちつと跳ねつゝ廻つて、遊ぶ様になつて下さいよ……

“As your little girls do?” said Sara. “I wonder if I could. I used to watch them and wonder what it was like. Shall I feel as if I belonged to somebody?”

“Ah, my love, yes!—yes!” said Mrs. Carmichael: “dear me, yes!” And her motherly blue eyes grew quite moist, and she suddenly took Sara in her arms and kissed her. That very night, before she went to sleep, Sara had made the acquaintance of the entire Large

Family, and such excitement as she and the monkey had caused in that joyous circle could hardly be described. There was not a child in the nursery, from the Eton boy who was the eldest, to the baby who was the youngest, who had not laid some offering on her shrine. All the elder ones knew something of her wonderful story. She had been born in India; she had been poor and lonely and unhappy, and had lived in a garret and been treated unkindly; and now she was to be rich and happy, and to be taken care of. They were so sorry for her, and so delighted and curious about her, all at once. The girls wished to be with her constantly, and the little boys wished to be told about India; the second baby, with the short round legs, simply sat and stared at her and the monkey, possibly wondering why she had not brought a hand-organ with her.

カーミケル夫人
あなたの御うちの嬢様のやうにですか、それはちつと跳ねつゝ廻つて遊ぶ様になつて下さいよ……

る處を他處から見ても、どんな心地のものだらうなんて考へてましたよ。わたしもいつまでも、ひとりばつちの様でなく、誰か眞味の人がある様な氣持になるんてしやうか。

カーミケル夫人は眼を涙で一杯にして、アレ、マア、此お見が、そんなとちひかネー、可哀さうに。キット、おなりですよ、なれないとがどうしてありませう……

といひながら、俄かにセーラを抱きあげて、キスしました。其夜眠りにつかぬ中に、セーラはモウ例の大きい家族の人たちに、すつかりお近づきになつてしまひました。さうして、いと賑やかな家の中を、セーラと猿とで、どの位騒がせましたか、迎も話にならぬ位です。此家の小供は大學に居る總領から末の赤ん坊まで、セーラを珍重する餘りに、何かセーラに献上せぬものはありませんかつた。稍や年長たものは皆、セーラの驚くべき來歴を知つて居りました。セーラは元來印度に生れて、貧乏で、淋しくつて、悲しがつて、物置に置かれて、非道にされたが、これからはお金持

になつて、嬉しくつて居られる、よく世話をする人が出來たのだといふので、子供たちは、セーラが氣の毒でもあり、面白く様でもあり、珍しい様でもあつて、女の見たちは、始終セーラの側に居たがり、男の兒たちは印度の事を頻りに聞きたがりました。下から二番目の、ツングリ肥えた小さい兒は、シート坐つてセーラと猿とを見詰めて居りました。多分、セーラを猿と間違へて、なぜ風琴を持つて居ないかと不審して居たとせう。

“I shall certainly wake up presently,” Sara kept saying to herself. “This one must be a dream. The other one turned out to be real; but this *couldn't* be. But, oh! how happy it is!” And even when she went to bed, in the bright, pretty room not far from Mrs. Carmichael's own, and Mrs. Carmichael came and kissed her and patted her and tucked her in cosily, she was not sure that she would not wake up in the garret in the morning.

セーラは折々心の中に、

あたしはキツト今に、眼が覺めるよ。今度のは夢に違ひないもの。先きのは本當だつたが、これが本當とは、どうしても思へない。だが、なんと嬉しいとだか？

さうして、セーラはカーミケル夫人の部屋の側なる自分に借された眼のさめる様な奇麗な部屋へ寝まして、カーミケル夫が来て、キスしたり抱いて呉れたり、夜具を心地の好様に推つけて呉れたりする時でも、セーラは心の中に、明日の朝は物置で眼が覺めはしまいかといふ感がまだ退きませんかつた。

“And oh, Charles, dear,” Mrs. Carmichael said to her husband, when she went down stairs to him, “we must get that lonely look out of her eyes! It isn't a child's look at all. I couldn't bear to see it in one of my own children. What the poor little love must have had to bear, in that dreadful woman's house! But, surely, she will forget it in time.”

カーミケル夫人は、セーラの部屋を出て、夫の居

went to live with him; and no real princess could have been better taken care of than she was. It seemed that the Indian Gentleman could not do enough to make her happy, and to repay her for the past; and the Lascar was her devoted slave. As her odd little face grew brighter, it grew so pretty and interesting that Mr. Carrisford used to sit and watch it many an evening, as they sat by the fire together.

併しセーラの顔から、例の淋しい眼つきは退きましても、セーラはミンチン先生の物置は、どうしても忘れられませんでした。さうして思ひ出して、いつも心地の好いのは寒がつて、濡をぼくれて、疲れ切つた體を引づり／＼四階へ登つた時、戸を開けると、仙境が自分を待つて居た例の不思議な夜のとてした。子供たちにせがまれて、セーラが幾か話す話のうちで、それほど度々話させられた話はなく、カーミケル家では、セーラほど家内に受けの好いものはありませんでした。カリスマン・ド氏は死ぬると思ひの外全快して、セーラは遂に同居するようになりました。其家でセーラは、よ

る部屋へ行きました時、かう申しました。

あなた、アノ見の眼付の淋しさうな處を、是非なくなして遣らなければなりませんよ！ マア、子供の眼付とは、ドウしても、思へませんよ。うちの子供などがあんなてしたら、私は迎もたまりませんよ。あの見があゝの恐ろしい女のところに居た間、どんな目に會つたかと思ひ遣られまよ！ ても、時がたつ中には、いつか昔を忘るれてしまふ。

But though the lonely look passed away from Sara's face, she never quite forgot the garret at Miss Minchin's; and, indeed, she always liked to remember the wonderful night when the tired Princess crept upstairs, cold and wet, and opening the door found fairy-land waiting for her. And there was no one of the many stories she was always being called upon to tell in the nursery of the Large Family, which was more popular than that particular one; and there was no one of whom the Large Family were so fond as of Sara. Mr Carrisford did not die, but recovered, and Sara

し姫君でも、これをてにはと思はれるほど充分に冊がれました。天竺紳士はセーラを嬉しがらせやうと勉める中に、過去の償ひをしようと思ふので、どれほど盡しても十分とは思ひませんでした。さうして、ラマカは奴隷の様に仕へました。セーラの風變りの顔がさ／＼して來るに従つて、如何にも奇麗な思ひつゝになりかけたので、カリスマン・ド氏は、共に暖爐の側などに腰かけて居る時、いつもミント餘念なく見入つて居る様子でした。

They became great friends, and they used to spend hours reading and talking together; and in a very short time there was no pleasanter sight to the Indian Gentleman than Sara sitting in her big chair on the opposite side of the hearth, with a book on her knee and her soft dark hair tumbling over her warm cheeks. She had a pretty habit of looking up at him suddenly, with a bright smile, and then he would often say to her:

“Are you happy, Sara?”
And then she would answer:

りせうたよ。

There was a little joke between them that he was a magician, and so could do anything he liked; and it was one of his pleasures to invent plans to surprise her with enjoyments she had not thought of. Scarcely a day passed in which he did not do something new for her. Sometimes she found new flowers in her room; sometimes a fanciful little gift tucked into some odd corner; sometimes a new book on her pillow;—once as they sat together in the evening they heard the scratch of a heavy paw on the door of the room, and when Sara went to find out what it was, there stood a great dog—a splendid Russian boarhound with a grand silver and gold collar. Stooping to read the inscription upon the collar, Sara was delighted to read the words: "I am Boris; I serve the Princess Sara."

カリスマフォード氏とセーラの間の戯談で、カリスマフォード氏は魔法使で、何でも好み次第な事が出来る人といふことになつて居りました。それで、

"I feel like a real princess, Uncle Tom."
He had told her to call him Uncle Tom.
"There doesn't seem to be anything left to 'suppose,'" she added.

セーラはカリスマフォード氏と極の仲好になりまして、共に讀んだり話したりする中に時間の経つのを忘れる位でした。幾程もたぬ中に、此天竺紳士は何よりもセーラが暖爐の向ふに腰掛けて、膝に大きな本を置き、暖かい頬のあたりに浪々とした黒髪の漂つて居る様子を見るが楽しみになりました。セーラは折々癖になつた様に、ニコリとして、紳士の顔を見あげました。さういふ時分には、紳士がかういひくしました。

セーラさん、あまへは嬉しいか。
さうするとセーラが、
トムをぢさん、本當のお姫さまの様な心地ですよ。

と答へました。これは兩人の約束で、紳士をから呼ぶどになつて居ました。それからまた、
をぢさんモッ何も想像を働かせる事がなくな

此紳士が何より楽しみにしたとは、セーラに匿して置いて、色々セーラの愉快になるを工夫しては不意に驚かせるとした。殆んど毎日の様に新しい策を考へてはセーラを慰めました。時として部屋へ歸つて見ると、珍らしい花が飾つてあることもあり、時としては思ひもつかぬ隅にセーラの好さうな氣の利いた贈物が押込んでありましたり、又ある時、朝起きて見ると、枕元に新しい書物が載せてありました。ある時二人して夜一間に坐つて話して居ると、頻りに戸を引掻く音がするので、何者かとセーラが開けに行くと、美事な露國種の大犬が突立つて居て、頸には金銀づくの立派な環を篋めて居ました。其環の上に何か彫つてあるに心づいて、セーラが俯向いて視ると、いつもながらセーラを嬉しがらせる工夫でした。「我名はボリス、我はセーラ姫に侍ふもの」としてありました。

Then there was a sort of fairy nursery arranged for the entertainment of the juvenile members of

the Large Family, who were always coming to see Sara and the Lascar and the monkey. Sara was as fond of the Large Family as they were of her. She soon felt as if she was a member of it, and the companionship of the healthy, happy children was very good for her. All the children rather looked up to her and regarded her as the cleverest and most brilliant of creatures, particularly after it was discovered that she not only knew stories of every kind, and could invent new ones at a moment's notice, but that she could help with lessons, and speak French and German, and discourse with the Lascar in Hindustani.

それから又カミケル家の小さい小供たちを遊ばせるために、殊さら設けた一ツの座敷が有つて、凡そ子供の悦ぶ可きもの、楽しむ可きものを美事に取揃へて飾りつけてありました。子供等はこゝを我家の如く氣置なく出入いたしました。ラスカヤ、猿や、セーラと戯れるを楽しみに致しました。セーラも此家の人たちに好かるほど自分も好で、手もなく、其家族の一人になつた心地で

したが、氣輕で順良な子供を相手にするところが、至極セーラの發達の上に利益でありました。子供たちはどちらかといふと、セーラを尊敬して、セーラほど器用で、えらい人はないと思ひました。殊に、註文すればどんな話でも知つて居て、瞬く間に新奇な話を造れるといふと、課業の手傳も出来れば、佛蘭西語にも通じて居る、おまけにラスカと印度語で談話するといふので一層信仰を増して居りました。

It was rather a painful experience for Miss Minchin, to watch her ex-pupil's fortunes, as she had the daily opportunity to do, and to feel that she had made a serious mistake, from a business point of view. She had even tried to retrieve it by suggesting that Sara's education should be continued under her care, and had gone to the length of making an appeal to the child herself. "I have always been very fond of you," she said.

Then Sara fixed her eyes upon her and gave her one of her odd looks.

もの、元々通り特別寄宿の生徒にちなりたつたら、あつとあなたも満足な暮らしでしやう。

Sara thought of the garret and the day her ears were boxed, and of that other day, that dreadful, desolate day when she had been told that she belonged to nobody, and she kept her eyes fixed on Miss Minchin's face.

"You know why I would not stay with you," she said.

And it seems probable that Miss Minchin did, for after that simple answer she had not the boldness to pursue the subject. She merely sent in a bill for the expense of Sara's education and support, and she made it quite large enough. And because Mr. Carrisford thought Sara would wish it paid, it was paid. When Mr. Carmichael paid it he had a brief interview with Miss Minchin in which he expressed his opinion with much clearness and force; and it is quite certain that Miss Minchin did not enjoy the conversation.

セーラは彼物置の體裁を考へ、横顔を擲られた日

"Have you?" she answered.
"Yes," said Miss Minchin. "Amelia and I have always said you were the cleverest child we had with us, and I am sure we could make you happy—as a parlour boarder."

ミンチン女史にとつては、日々の様に元の生徒が榮える景況を視るとは、餘程の苦痛でした。先づ自分が商賣的に容易ならぬ失敗をしたと心づき、さて又膽太くも其挽回策までも試みまして、セーラの教育の仕上を自分に任せてと申入れました。それでは尚飽き足らず、セーラへ直接の談判をしてしてみました。

わたしは全體始終あなたが氣に入つてたのですよ。

と女史がいひますと、セーラはチット其顔を見詰めて、一種寓意の顔色を現し、

どうですか。

と答へました。するとミンチン女史はまた、どうですか、わたしもエミリーヤも、あなたが生徒中で一番望が有るといつて居るのです

の事を思ひ、それからまた、自分がいよく孤獨の身で家もなければ、友だちもないと言ひ罵られたあの座敷や、心細い日の事など考へて、少しも眼を離さず、ミンチン女史の顔を眺めて居りました。ちやうして、

あなた、私があなたの處へ歸らない譯を知つては出てせう。

といひ放ちましたが、ミンチン女史も合點がいつたと見えて、あとの策を講ずる氣力は失せ、唯セーラの食料と教育費とに對する勸定書を遣しました。其額をいへば随分莫大でした。併しカリスマード氏は、セーラの心持になつては仕拂つて貰ひたからうと信じて、拂ふ丈はいたしました。カーミケル氏は托されて拂ひに參りました時、ミンチン女史に面會して、同人の處置に付いて思ふ所を存分に述べたさうで、ミンチン女史は其談判を餘り悦ばなかつたといふと丈は確でした。

Sara had been about a month with Mr. Carrisford, and had begun to realize that her happiness

was not a dream, when one night the Indian Gentleman saw that she sat a long time with her check on her hand looking at the fire.

"What are you 'supposing,' Sara?" he asked. Sara looked up with a bright colour on her cheeks.

"I was 'supposing,'" she said; "I was remembering that hungry day, and a child I saw."

"But there were a great many hungry days," said the Indian Gentleman, with a rather sad tone in his voice. "Which hungry day was it?"

"I forgot you didn't know," said Sara; "it was the day I found the things in my garret."

And then she told him the story of the bun-shop, and the fourpence, and the child who was hungrier than herself; and somehow as she told it, though she told it very simply indeed, the Indian Gentleman found it necessary to shade his eyes with his hand and look down at the floor.

"And I was 'supposing' a kind of plan," said Sara, when she had finished; "I was thinking I would like to do something."

"What is it?" said her guardian in a low tone, "You may do anything you like to do, Princess."

"I was wondering," said Sara, "you know you say I have a great deal of money, and I was wondering if I could go and see the bun-woman and tell her that if, when hungry children, particularly on those dreadful days, come and sit on the steps or look in at the window, she would just call them in and give them something to eat; she might send the bills to me and I would pay them, could I do that?"

"You shall do it to-morrow morning," said the Indian Gentleman.

"Thank you," said Sara; "you see I know what it is to be hungry, and it is very hard when one can't even *pretend* it away."

"Yes, yes, my dear," said the Indian Gentleman. "Yes, it must be. Try to forget it. Come and sit on this footstool near my knee, and only remember you are a princess."

"Yes," said Sara; "and I can give buns and bread to the populace." And she went and sat on the stool, and the Indian Gentleman (he used to like her to call him that, too, sometimes, in fact, very often), drew her small dark head down upon his knee and stroked her hair.

セーラは、カリスフォード氏と同居して一ヶ月ほどたつたあとで、自分にめぐり来た幸福がいよいよ夢でなかつたと悟つた頃でした。ある夜、紳士はセーラが、稍や暫く頬杖ついて、火を眺めて居るに心づきました。

セーラ、おまへ何を想像して居るのだ?

セーラが、俄に上を向いた顔は、艶々として居りました。

なに想像といつて別段などではないのですよ。アノ、お腹のへつた日と、其時見た子供の事を考へてたんです。

天竺紳士は少し悲しげな聲になつて、併し腹のへつた日はいくらも有つた筈だが、どの日のとだな。

アレまでお話し、きかせてしたネ。丁度部屋に色々な物の置いて有つた日ですよ。

といふを始めに、バン屋のと、四ペンス拾つたと、自分より一層腹をへらして居た子供の話をしました。セーラは何の取りつくろひもなく有りのまゝに話しをしたのでしたが、天竺紳士はどうやら

手を頻りに眼にかざして下を向く様子でした。それでセーラは話を終りました時、かう申しました、

それで少し想像をして居たんです。何か出来ることをして見たいと思つて。

紳士は低い聲で、

何事だな? 姫君の仰せごとなら何なりと捌かせねばなるまい。

どうだらうかと思つたんです。わたしの金が澤山あるって仰しやるから、どうてせう。わたしの菓子パン屋のおかみさんの處往つて、雨風の日やなにかに、若しお腹のへつた子供が来て、石段の上へ腰をかけてるか、窓を覗くとが有つたら、さういふ子供を家へ呼び込んで、何か食べるものを遣つて下さい、勘定はわたしがするからって頼んで來度いと思ふんですが、をがさん、さうしても宜いですか?

天竺紳士は、

早速明日の朝行つておいてなさい。

有りがたう。あのわたし、お腹の減つた心持は

知つてますからネ、どう考へ直しても飢じが
忘れられない時なんか、大變苦しいもんですか
らネ。

よし／＼尤もだ／＼、一生懸命になつて、そん
なとは一切忘れてしまひ。わしの側の此低い
椅子に腰かけて、あまへが姫君だといふと丈思
つてあつて。

と紳士が慰めると、セーラは、
エー、それだから、人民に菓子パンが遣られる
んでせう。

といつて紳士の側へよりますと、紳士はセーラの
小さな頭を我が膝の上に横にして、頻りに髪を撫
でてゐました。

The next morning a carriage drew up before
the door of the baker's shop, and a gentleman
and a little girl got out, oddly enough, just as the
bun-woman was putting a tray of smoking hot
buns into the window. When Sara entered the
shop the woman turned and looked at her, and
leaving the buns, came and stood behind the

counter. For a moment she looked at Sara very
hard indeed, and then her good natured face
lighted up.

"I'm that sure I remember you, Miss," she
said. "And yet——"

"Yes," said Sara, "once you gave me six buns
for fourpence, and——"

"And you gave five of 'em to a beggar-child,"
said the woman. "I've always remembered it.
I couldn't make it out at first. I beg pardon, sir,
but there's not many young people that notices a
hungry face in that way, and I've thought of it
many a time. Excuse the liberty, Miss, but you
look rosier and better than you did that day."

"I am better, thank you," said Sara, "and—
and I am happier, and I have come to ask you to
do something for me."

"Me, Miss!" exclaimed the woman, "why,
bless you, yes, Miss! What can I do?"

翌朝、例のパン屋の店先へ馬車が止りまして、紳
士と令嬢とがそれから下りました時は、丁度不思議
にも、ちかみちんが湯氣のホッホッと出る菓子

パンを並べて居る所でした。セーラが店へ這入り

ますと、ちかみちは振り向いてセーラを見、そ
れと同時に菓子パンをそのまゝにして置いて、帳
場の前へ立つて居りました。姑らくセーラの顔を
シゲ／＼と見詰めて居りましたが、應ていつも人
の好まぬ顔が、満面笑し氣になりました。

どうしても見たとのあるお嬢様だが……

エー、あまへさん、わたしに四ペンスで六つパ
ンを入れて呉れたでせう。それから……

それから、あなた五ツも乞食に呉れてしまひ
なすつたでせう。忘れやしませんよ。始めは不
思議でたまりませんでしたよ。年の行かない方
でネ、そんなと言つては失禮ですけど、人
の飢じさうなのなんか、さう氣がつくもんだや
ありませんからネ。いつも思ひ出しますよ、
エー。それはさうと、また失禮をいふ様ですが、
あの時から見ると、お顔色もよし、大層お嬉し
なうですネ、お嬢さん。

エー、難有う。わたしは此通り充分にして居る
し、幸なんだから、あまへさんに頼みたい事が

有つて来たんです。

とセーラがいますと、女は驚いた様子で、

わたしにですか、お嬢さん。わたしの出来る
ならですが、何が出来ませう。わたし見たいな
者に。

And then Sara made her little proposal, and
the woman listened to it with an astonished face.

"Why, bless me," she said, when she had
heard it all. "Yes, Miss, it'll be a pleasure to
me to do it. I am a working woman, myself, and
can't afford to do much on my own account, and
there's sights of trouble on every side; but if
you'll excuse me, I'm bound to say I've given
many a bit of bread away since that wet
afternoon, just along o' thinkin' of you. An' how
wet an' cold you was, an' how you looked an' yet
you give away your hot buns as if you was a
princess."

The Indian Gentleman smiled involuntarily,
and Sara smiled a little too. "She looked so
hungry," she said. "She was hungrier than I
was."

"She was starving," said the woman. "Many's the time she's told me of it since, how she sat there in the wet and felt as if a wolf was a-tearing at her poor young insides."

"Oh, have you seen her since then?" exclaimed Sara. "Do you know where she is?"

"I know," said the woman. "Why, she's in that there back room now, Miss, an' has been for a month, an' a decent, well-meaning girl she's going to turn out, an' such a help to me in the day shop, an' in the kitchen, as you'd scarce believe, knowing how she's lived."

それから、セーラが依頼の趣を述べると、女はいよいよ驚いて聞いて居ました。聞き終つて、それはマア、よろしうござりますとも。どんなにか楽しみになりませうよ。わたしは御覽の通り貧乏暇無しと稼いで居るんで、自分持ち出しぢやア何も大したとは出来やしませんガネ。随分難儀な人は何處にも見えますよ。それでもわたしの口からいつては、可笑う御座いますガ、いつかの雨降の日からこっち、お嬢さんの事を

すよ。お嬢さん、モウ一月計になりませうか。ちよとして今までのそだちの割には、どんなにキチンとして、心がけの好い兒だか知れませんよ。わたしは店の事も、勝手のことも大助かりですよ。

She stepped to the door of the little back parlour and spoke; and the next minute a girl came out and followed her behind the counter. And actually it was the beggar-child, clean and neatly clothed, and looking as if she had not been hungry for a long time. She looked shy, but she had a nice face, now she was no longer a savage; and the wild look had gone from her eyes. And she knew Sara in an instant, and stood and looked at her as if she could never look enough.

"You see," said the woman, "I told her to come when she was hungry, and when she'd come I'd give her odd jobs to do, an' I found she was willing, an' somehow I got to like her, an' the end of it was I've given her a place an' a home, an' she helps me, an' behaves as well, an' is as thankful as a girl can be. Her name's

思ひ出しぢやア、幾度か困る人にパンを呉れて遣りました。あんなにも濡れをぼくれてブルブルして居らしつても、それでも、丸てお嬢さまかなんどの氣前で、人に菓子パンを遣つておしまひなんだもの。

天竺紳士は、我知らず笑ひかける。セーラも少し笑ひました。

それでも、大層お腹が減つて居るらしかつたのですもの。わたしよりか、まだひもじさうなんだもの。

それどころか、あなた、モウ死にさうだつたんですと。幾度か、あれから、わたしに其話をしますが、雨ふりの中にシヨンボリ腰かけて居て、丸て狼に腸を食ひ裂かれるやうだつたていひますよ。

オヤ、それぢや、おまへさん、それからあの人に逢つたんですか? 今どこに居るか知つてますか?

とセーラは思はず聲を揚げていひました。

知つてるところですか、アノ家の奥おくに居るんで

Anne, she has no other."

それで、奥へ一寸聲を掛けると、直ちに小娘が出て来て、おかみさんの後へ廻つて立つて居ました。見れば紛れもない先頃の乞食の見て、垢も奇麗に洗ひ落し、着物も小ざつぱりして、いつもお腹のへるやうな事の無い顔つきでした。人前は隠せる様子でしたが、元の野蠻風は抜けて、顔つきは中々好ぢやうでした。元の半狂亂の様な目付は勿論無くなつて居りました。早速セーラをそれと認めた鹽梅で、眼を離さず一心に其顔を見守つて居りました。おかみさんは尙も此兒の話をして、

あなた、わたくしがネ、此兒にお腹の減る様な時分にはさういつても出てつて云つて置きませしたネ、來ると何か遣るかはりに少しづつ、用をなせたんです。さうすると、嫌がらずにセッセとする。どこか見處があると思つて、それで家に置いて世話をして遣る積りになりましてネ、あなた色々手傳はせますが、どんなにか難有がつて、氣をつけて勤めるか知れませんよ。名はヘニーつていひますよ。姓は無いで、それ丈

の各前した。ハロー。

The two children stood and looked at each other a few moments. In Sara's eyes a new thought was growing.

"I'm glad you have such a good home," she said.

"Perhaps Mrs. Brown will let you give the buns and bread to the children, perhaps you would like to do it, because you know what it is to be hungry, too."

"Yes, Miss," said the girl.

And somehow Sara felt as if she understood her, though the girl said nothing more, and only stood still and looked, and looked after her as she went out of the shop, and got into the carriage and drove away.

子供二人は姑らく物も云はず互に顔を見合つて居りました。セーラは新たに思ひついたとがありました。それでかういひました。

おまへさんはこんな好いうちが出来て大變結構だね。このおかみさんは、おまへさんに菓

子パンをひもじい子供たちに遣らして下さるでしやう。おまへさんね、ひよつとしたらさうさせて貰ひたいでせう、——あたしの様にお腹の空しい心持を知つてゐるからね。

小娘は只、

ハロー。

と云つた計りて、あとは何をいはう方角もつかず、突立つたまゝ、セーラが馬車へ乗つて、店を後にして、行く後姿をいつまでも眺めて居た切りでしたが、どうやらセーラは小娘の心持が分つた様に思ひました。

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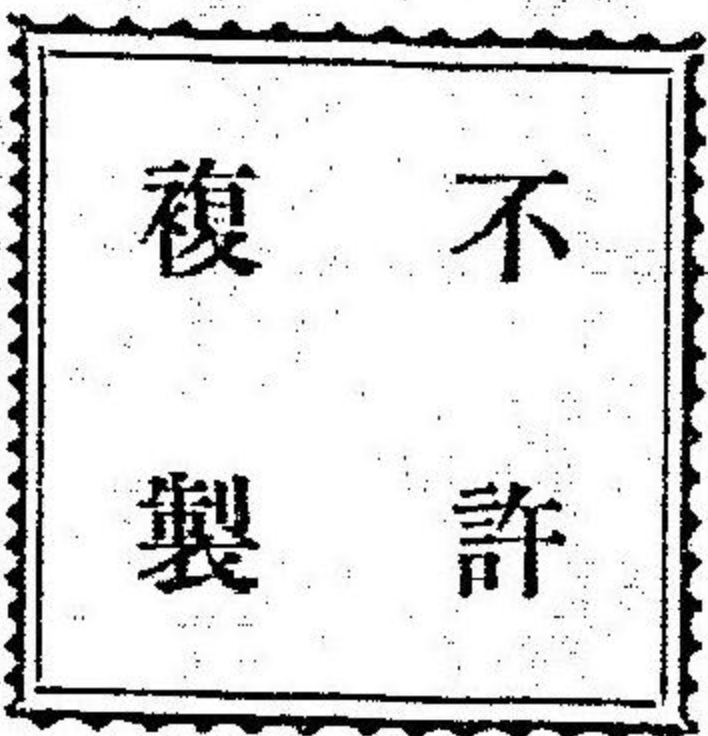
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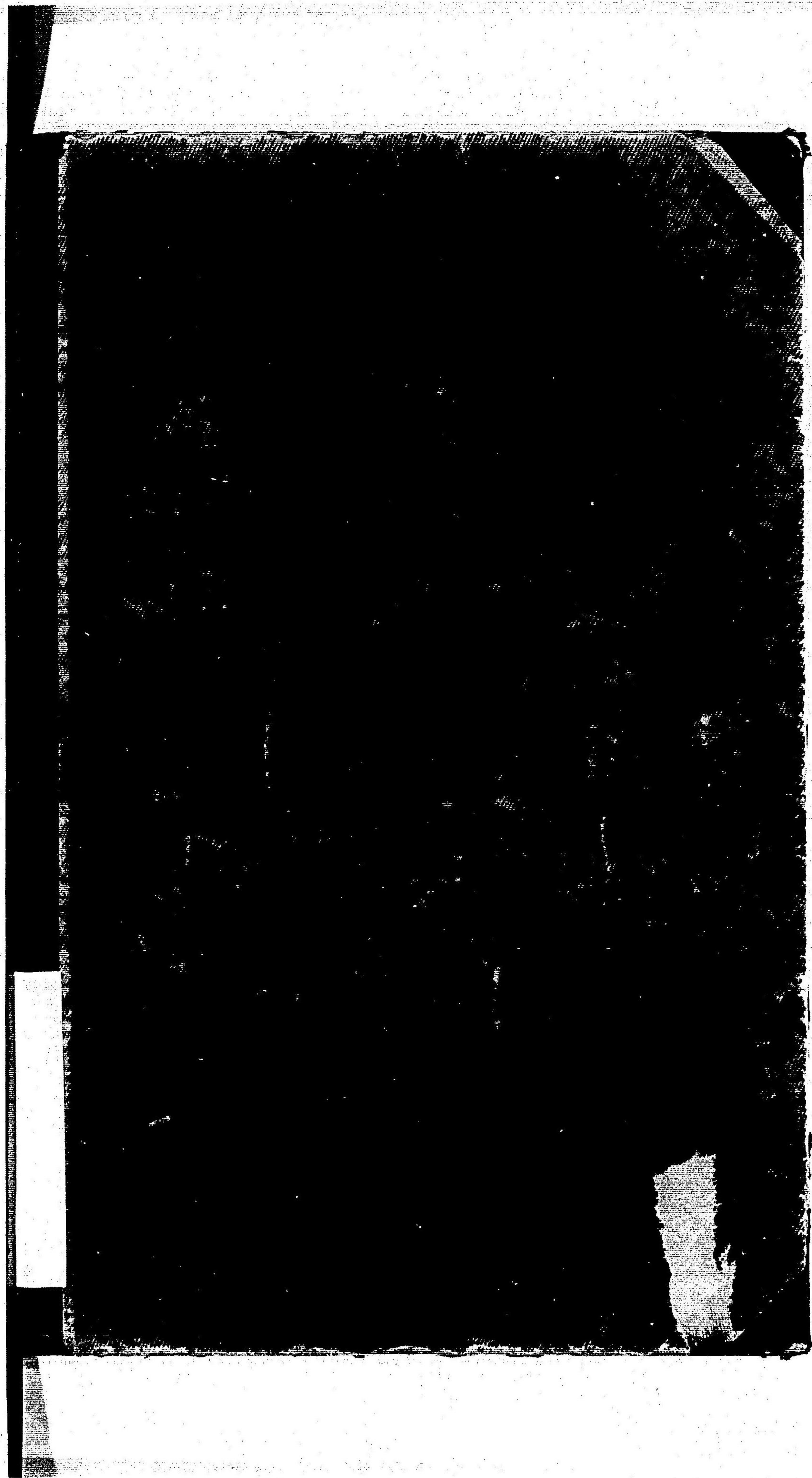
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