

简易英语注释读物



Vol. 107



# Jane Eyre

简 · 爱

商务印书馆



## 内 容 简 介

本书是十九世纪英国女小说家夏绿蒂·勃朗特(1816—1855)的杰作,题材新颖,感情真挚,在我国读者中流传甚广。本书描述孤女简·爱熬过了慈善学校的痛苦生活,到地主罗契斯特家当家庭教师,后与罗契斯特相爱。不意结婚前夕发现他已有妻室,于是出走,到处流浪。最后,由于爱情的力量又跑回到罗府旧址,但是只见一片废墟,原来罗的疯妻放火烧屋,自己也死在烈焰之中。罗被烧伤,双目失明,但简一片真情,仍同他结了婚。作者通过对女主人公形象的塑造及故事情节生动的铺陈,从而谴责了资产阶级伪善的婚姻观点和资产阶级慈善事业的伪善性。

本书经改写后,文字浅显流畅,适于初学英语者阅读。

简易英语注释读物

简 爱

孙瑞禾 注释

---

商 务 印 书 馆 出 版

(北京王府井大街36号)

新华书店北京发行所发行

北京第二新华印刷厂印刷

---

787×1092毫米 1/32 6 5/8 印张 161千字

1981年3月第1版 1981年3月北京第1次印刷

印数 1—20,200册

统一书号:9017·1025 定价:0.71元

## CONTENTS

Chapter 1. Gateshead .....	1
Chapter 2. The Red Room .....	6
Chapter 3. Illness .....	11
Chapter 4. Mr. brocklehurst .....	17
Chapter 5. Journey by Coach .....	23
Chapter 6. Lowood Institution .....	26
Chapter 7. Helen Burns .....	34
Chapter 8. A Visit from Mr. Brocklehurst .....	38
Chapter 9. Miss Temple .....	43
Chapter 10. The Death of Helen .....	47
Chapter 11. Advertisement for a Post .....	51
Chapter 12. At Thornfield .....	55
Chapter 13. Strange Laughter .....	58
Chapter 14. In the Lane .....	63
Chapter 15. Conversation with Mr. Rochester .....	67
Chapter 16. Fire! .....	73
Chapter 17. Grace Poole .....	79
Chapter 18. House Party .....	85
Chapter 19. In the Drawing-room .....	88
Chapter 20. Fortune-telling .....	93
Chapter 21. The Fortune-teller .....	99
Chapter 22. A Cry in the Night .....	109
Chapter 23. Dawn .....	114
Chapter 24. News from Gateshead .....	120

Chapter 25. Mrs. Reed's Secret .....	124
Chapter 26. Return to Thornfield .....	130
Chapter 27. The Storm Breaks .....	133
Chapter 28. The Torn Veil .....	139
Chapter 29. The Marriage is Stopped .....	143
Chapter 30. Mr. Rochester's Story .....	147
Chapter 31. Flight .....	152
Chapter 32. Despair .....	154
Chapter 33. The Rivers Family .....	160
Chapter 34. Diana, Mary and St. John .....	167
Chapter 35. The Village School .....	170
Chapter 36. Heiress .....	172
Chapter 37. Cousins .....	175
Chapter 38. Mary and Diana Return .....	180
Chapter 39. "Jane! Jane! Jane!" .....	184
Chapter 40. Blackened Ruin .....	188
Chapter 41. Blind .....	190
Chapter 42. "Magic in This Hour" .....	195
Chapter 43. Whom I Love Best .....	199
Chapter 44. The End .....	203

## Chapter 1 Gateshead<sup>1</sup>

There was no likelihood of taking a walk that day. We had been wandering, indeed, in the leafless garden for an hour in the morning, but since dinner the cold winter wind had brought with it clouds so dark and rain so heavy that<sup>2</sup> further outdoor exercise was impossible.

I was glad of it. I never liked long walks, especially on cold afternoons. Coming home in the twilight was dreadful to me — with frozen fingers and toes, and a heart saddened by the knowledge of my bodily inferiority to Eliza, John and Georgiana Reed.<sup>3</sup>

Eliza, John and Georgiana were now gathered round their mama in the drawing-room at Gateshead, their home. She lay resting on a couch by the fireside, and with her loved ones near her (for the time<sup>4</sup> neither quarrelling nor crying) looked perfectly happy. She had dismissed me from the group, saying that she regretted to be compelled to keep me at a distance,<sup>5</sup> but that until I tried earnestly to develop a more friendly and attractive nature, she really could not admit me to<sup>6</sup> pleasures intended only for<sup>7</sup> contented, happy little children.

---

1. **Gateshead** ['geɪtʃhed]: 宅第名。2. **brought with it ... so heavy that ...**: 宾语过长, “with it” 移前; so... that, 以致。3. **Eliza, John and Georgiana Reed**: Reed 是姓, 前面三个是名, 其中 Eliza [i'laɪzə] 和 Georgiana [ˌdʒɔː-dʒi'ɑːnə] 为女子名, John [dʒɒn] 为男子名。4. **for the time**: 暂时。5. **keep me at a distance**: 对我疏远。6. **admit me to** (介词): 准许我得到。7. **intended only for ...**: 只打算为……享受的。

“But what have I done?” I asked.

“Jane, I don’t like questions. Children should not speak to their elders in such a way. Sit down somewhere and until you can speak pleasantly, remain silent.”

A small breakfast-room lay next to<sup>1</sup> the drawing-room. I crept in there. It contained a book-case, and I soon took possession<sup>2</sup> of a book, making sure<sup>3</sup> that it should be one full of pictures. I mounted the window-seat, and gathering up my feet, I sat cross-legged. There, having drawn the red curtains, I felt doubly sheltered.<sup>4</sup>

Every picture told a story, mysterious often to my undeveloped understanding, yet ever deeply interesting: as interesting as the tales that Bessie<sup>5</sup> the nurse sometimes began on winter evenings, when she chanced to be in a good temper, holding our eager attention with memories of love and adventure taken from old songs and fairy tales.

With the book on my knee, I was happy. I feared nothing but<sup>6</sup> interruption, and that came too soon.<sup>7</sup>

The voice of John Reed called me. Then he paused: he found the room empty.

“Where in the world<sup>8</sup> is she!” he cried. “Lizzy! Georgy! (calling to his sisters) Jane is not here. Tell mama she has run out into the rain!”

“It is well that<sup>9</sup> I drew the curtain,” I thought, and I wished

---

1. lay (现在式 lie) next to: 紧连着。 2. took (现在式 take) possession of: 拿, 取。 3. making sure: 确定。 4. felt doubly sheltered: 指既躲在餐室窗台, 又把红幔拉下, 故感到双重保障。 5. Bessie [ˈbesi]: 保姆名。 6. nothing but ...: 除了…… 什么都不; 只。 7. and that came too soon: 而干扰 (“that”指“干扰”) 很快就来了。 8. Where in the world: 是单纯 “where” 的强调说法, 即究竟在哪里之意。 9. It is well that ...: 幸亏。

with all my heart<sup>1</sup> that he might not discover my hiding-place. Nor would he have found it out for himself, for he was neither sharp-sighted nor intelligent, but Eliza put her head in at the door, and said at once:

“She is in the window-seat, to be sure.”<sup>2</sup> John.”

I came out immediately, for I trembled at the idea of being dragged out by John.

“What do you want?” I asked.

“Say, ‘what do you want, Master Reed?’”<sup>3</sup> was the answer. “I want you to come here.” Seating himself in an armchair, he made a sign to me to approach and stand before him.

John Reed was a schoolboy of fourteen years, four years older than I, large and fat for his age,<sup>4</sup> with an unhealthy skin, coarse features and heavy limbs. He ought now to have been at school,<sup>5</sup> but his mama had taken him home for a month or two, ‘on account of his delicate health.’<sup>6</sup> His schoolmaster said that his condition was due to greed,<sup>7</sup> but his mother’s heart turned from so severe an opinion,<sup>8</sup> and she preferred to believe that he worked too hard and longed for his home.<sup>9</sup>

John had not much affection for his mother and sisters, and a hatred of me. He ill-treated and punished me, not two or three times in the week, nor once or twice in the day, but continually. I had no protection against him. The servants did

---

1. wish with all my heart: 一心愿望。 2. to be sure: 常用作插入语, 作“肯定, 无疑”解。 3. Say, ‘what do you want, Master Reed?’ 应该说, ‘你要什么, 里德少爷?’ 4. large and fat for his age: 按他的年龄来说, 长得大而且肥胖。 5. ought now ... at school: 这时本该在上学(事实上不在上学, 故用已完成不定式)。 6. on account of ... health: 由于他身体娇弱(原句用引号, 意思是他母亲的说法)。 7. due to greed: 由于贪食(此处不是贪财)。 8. but his mother’s heart ... an opinion: 但他母亲却不乐意听这样严厉的意见。 9. longed for his home: 想家。

not like to offend their young master, and Mrs. Reed never appeared to see him strike me<sup>1</sup> or to hear him insult me, though he did both sometimes in her presence<sup>2</sup> — more frequently, however, behind her back.<sup>3</sup>

By long habit<sup>4</sup> obedient to John, I came up to his chair. He spent some three minutes in putting out his tongue at me.<sup>5</sup> I knew he would soon strike, and while dreading the blow, I reflected on his disgusting and ugly appearance. I wonder if he read the thought in my face,<sup>6</sup> for suddenly, without speaking, he struck sharply and strongly. I staggered and drew back a step from his chair.

“That is for<sup>7</sup> questioning mama,” he said, “and for creeping like a thief behind curtains, and for the look you had in your eyes two minutes ago, you rat!”<sup>8</sup>

Accustomed to John Reed’s insults, I never had any idea of replying to them. My care was how to receive the blow which would certainly follow.

“What were you doing behind the curtain?” he asked.

“I was reading.”

“Show me the book.”

I returned to the window and fetched it in silence.

“You have no right to take our books. You are a poor relation, mama says; you have no money; your father left you

---

1. Mrs. Reed never ... strike me ...: 注意, 这里的 “never” 习惯上放在 “appeared” 之前, 实际上是修饰 “see” 的。另在 “see” 后面的不定式动词 “strike” 不带 “to”。 2. in her presence: 当着她面。 3. behind her back: 背着她。 4. By long habit: 由于长期习惯。 5. put out his tongue at me: 对我伸舌做丑脸。 6. I wonder if ... face: 我不知他是否从我的脸上看出了这个意思。 注意: 动词 wonder 之后如跟 if 从句, 即作 “不知是否” 解, 如跟 that 从句, 即作 “奇怪……竟然” 解。 7. “That’s for ...”: “这是为了(教训)你的……”。 8. you rat! (骂人话)你这个耗子!



none. You ought to beg, and not to live here with gentlemen's children like us, and eat the same meals as we do, and wear clothes at our mama's expense.<sup>1</sup> Now, I'll teach you to interfere with my bookshelves,<sup>2</sup> for they *are*<sup>3</sup> mine; all the house is mine, or will be in a few years. Go and stand by the door, out of the way of the looking-glass and the windows."<sup>4</sup>

I did so, not at first realizing his intention, but when I saw him lift and balance the book and stand in the act of<sup>5</sup> aiming it, I started aside with a cry of alarm. Not soon enough, however. The heavy thing was thrown, it hit me, and I fell, striking my head against the door and cutting it. The cut bled, the pain was sharp. My terror gave place to<sup>6</sup> other feelings.

"Wicked and cruel boy!" I said. "You are like a murderer — you are like a slave-driver — you are like the Roman emperors!"

"What! What!" he cried. "Did she say that to me? Did you hear her, Eliza and Georgiana? I'll tell mama! but first —"

He ran straight at me<sup>8</sup>. I felt him grasp<sup>9</sup> my hair and shoulder: he had attacked a dangerous thing<sup>10</sup>. I really thought him a murderer. I felt a drop or two of blood from my head run down my neck, and my sense of suffering for the moment conquered my fear. I fought him madly. I don't very well know what I did with my hands, but he called me "Rat! Rat!" and

---

1. at our mama's expense: 由我们的妈妈负担费用。2. I'll teach you ... bookshelves: 我要教训你,看你再敢乱碰我的书架! 3. *are*: 斜体,用以强调语气,作“就是”解。4. out of the way ... windows: 别挡着这面镜子和窗口。5. in the act of: 正在作……动作之际。6. gave place to: 让位于;为……所替代。7. Roman emperors: 此处作“罗马(帝国的)暴君”解。8. ran straight at me: 向我直扑过来。straight 为副词。9. felt him grasp 动词“feel”后面的动词不定式习惯上省去“to”。10. he had attacked ... thing: 他就好象打击了一个危险家伙似的。

wept aloud. Aid was near him: his sisters had run for Mrs. Reed, who had gone upstairs. Now she came upon the scene<sup>1</sup>, followed by Bessie and the maid Abbot.<sup>2</sup> We were separated. I heard the words:

“Oh, dear! What a fury to fly at Master John like that!”<sup>3</sup>

“Did ever anybody see such rage!”

Then Mrs. Reed commanded:

“Take her away to the red room, and lock her in there.”

Four hands were immediately laid upon me,<sup>4</sup> and I was carried upstairs.

## Chapter 2 The Red Room

I resisted all the way<sup>5</sup> — a new thing for me, and a circumstance that greatly strengthened the bad opinion that Bessie and Miss Abbot tended to hold of me<sup>6</sup>.

“Hold her arms, Miss Abbot: she’s like a mad cat.”

“For shame<sup>7</sup>! for shame!” cried the lady’s maid. “What shocking conduct, Miss Eyre, to strike a young gentleman, your guardian’s son! — your young master!”

“Master! How is he my master? Am I a servant?”

“No, you are less than a servant<sup>8</sup>, for you do nothing to support yourself. There, sit down, and think over<sup>9</sup> your wickedness.”

---

1. came upon the scene: 到场。 2. Abbot ['æbət]: 女仆名。 3. “Oh, dear! ... John like that!” “哎呀! 是什么小泼妇, 竟敢这样猛扑约翰少爷!” 4. Four hands were ... laid upon me: 四只手就立刻把我抓住。 lay hands on “抓住”。 5. all the way: 一路。作状语用。 6. strengthened the bad opinion that...me: 加强了她们原来就抱有的对我的坏印象。 7. For shame! 好不害羞! 8. you are less than a servant: 你连仆人都不如。 9. think over: 仔细想想。

They had got me by this time into the room named by Mrs. Reed, and had pushed me on to a chair. I tried to rise from it like a spring. Their two pairs of hands arrested me instantly.

“If you don’t sit still, you must be tied down,” said Bessie. “Miss Abbot, lend me your belt; she would break mine at once.”<sup>1</sup>

“Don’t do that,” I cried. “I will not stir.”

“Take care that you don’t,” said Bessie, and when she had made sure that I was really growing quieter, she loosened her hold of me. She and Miss Abbot stood with folded arms, looking darkly<sup>2</sup> and doubtfully at my face.

“She never did this before,” said Bessie at last, turning to the lady’s maid.

“But it was always in her<sup>3</sup>,” was the reply. “I’ve often told missis<sup>4</sup> my opinion about the child, and missis agreed with me. She’s a deceitful little thing.”

Bessie did not answer; but before long,<sup>5</sup> addressing me, she said:

“You ought to know, miss, that you should be grateful to Mrs. Reed. She supports you. If she were to send you away, who would look after<sup>6</sup> you?”

I had nothing to say to these words: they were not new to me. I had heard many suggestions of the same kind before, very painful and humiliating, but only half understood. Miss Abbot joined in:

“And you ought not to think yourself equal to the two

---

1. **she would break mine at once:** 她会一下把我的挣断 (意思是,要是用我的腰带的话)。 2. **looking darkly ... at:** 邪恶地看着。 3. **But it was always in her:** 但她一直有这种性质。此处的 in 作“存在于”解,用以指某种性质、能力。 4. **missis:** 太太 (佣人对女主人的称呼)。 5. **before long:** 没有多久。 6. **look after:** 照顾;看管。

Miss Reeds<sup>1</sup> and Master Reed, because missis kindly allows you to be brought up<sup>2</sup> with them. They will have a great deal of money, and you will have none. It is your duty to be humble, and to try to make yourself agreeable to<sup>3</sup> them.”

“What we tell you is for your good,” added Bessie, in a milder voice; “you should try to be useful and pleasant, then, perhaps, you will have a home here; but if you become passionate and rude, missis will send you away, I am sure.”

“Besides,” said Miss Abbot, “God will punish you: He might strike you dead in the midst of your fury.<sup>4</sup> Come, Bessie, we will leave her. Say your prayers, Miss Eyre, for if you are not sorry for your evil deeds, something bad might come down the chimney and take you away.”

They went, shutting the door, and locking it behind them.<sup>5</sup>

The red room was a square room furnished in dark wood,<sup>6</sup> with a heavy red carpet, and curtains always drawn across.<sup>7</sup> This room was cold, because it rarely had a fire; silent, because it was far from the nursery and kitchen; solemn, because it was seldom entered. It was here that Mr. Reed had died nine years before.

I was not quite sure whether they had locked the door, and when I dared move<sup>8</sup>, I got up and went to see. Alas! yes: no prison was ever more firmly fastened<sup>9</sup>.

1. the two Miss Reeds: 两位里德小姐。英文的姓后加 “s” 表示同一姓(家)的多人。2. be brought up: 被抚育; 被带大。3. make yourself agreeable to: 使得你讨……的欢喜。4. He might strike ... your fury: 他会在你疯狂使性时把你击毙。这里的“He”并不是因在句首才大写,而是因为指上帝,西人迷信,故概用大写。5. locking it behind them: 此 behind them 是说锁上门转身走了。6. furnished in dark wood: 用红木家具陈设的。in 有表示用什么材料之意。7. drawn across: 拉上了的。8. when I dared move: dare 在否定句、疑问句、条件句中,在它后面的不定式不带 to。本句虽非明显的否定句,但也含有怀疑、不自信的意味。9. Alas! yes: no prison ... fastened! 唉! 果然锁了: 再没有哪个牢狱锁得更牢的了。

My head still ached and bled from the blow and fall I had received. No one had blamed John for striking me without cause<sup>1</sup>. “Unjust! unjust!” I thought. I began to plan some escape, such as running away, or never eating or drinking any more, and letting myself die.

Daylight began to leave the red room: it was past four o'clock, and the cloudy afternoon was followed by a gloomy twilight. I heard the rain still beating continuously on the staircase window, and the wind moaning in the trees behind the house. I grew by degrees<sup>2</sup> cold as a stone, and then my courage sank<sup>3</sup>. All said that I was wicked, and perhaps I might be so.

My thought turned to my uncle. I could not remember him, but I knew that he was my mother's brother, that he had taken me as a parentless child to his house, and that before he died he had received a promise from Mrs. Reed that she would look after me as one of her own children.

A strange idea entered my mind. I never doubted that if Mr. Reed had been alive he would have treated me kindly, and now, as I sat in the growing darkness, I began to remember stories of dead men, troubled in their graves by disregard of their last wishes, revisiting the earth.<sup>4</sup> Perhaps Mr. Reed's spirit might rise before me. The idea, instead of<sup>5</sup> comforting me, filled me with terror. At this moment a ray of light shone on the wall. My heart beat fast, my head grew hot; a sound filled my ears, which seemed like the rushing of wings. I ran in despair<sup>6</sup> to the

---

1. **blamed ... for striking me without cause:** 责备过约翰无缘无故地打我。 2. **by degrees:** 逐渐地。 3. **my courage sank:** 我勇气低落了。 4. **revisiting the earth:** 为前面 “dead men” 的定语。 5. **instead of:** 不是……(而)(反而)。 6. **in despair:** 绝望地。

door and hook the lock. Steps came hurrying along the outer passage<sup>1</sup>; the key turned and Bessie and Abbot entered.

"Miss Eyre, are you ill?" said Bessie.

"What a dreadful noise! It went right through me!"<sup>2</sup> exclaimed Abbot.

"Take me out! Let me go into the nursery!" was my cry.

"What for?"<sup>3</sup> Are you hurt? Have you seen something?"<sup>4</sup> Bessie demanded again.

"Oh, I saw a light, and I thought a ghost had come." I had now got hold of<sup>5</sup> Bessie's hand, and she did not take it from me.

"She has screamed out on purpose,"<sup>6</sup> declared Abbot in disgust<sup>7</sup>. "And what a scream! If she had been in great pain one would have excused it,"<sup>8</sup> but she only wanted to bring us all here. I know her naughty tricks."

"What is all this?" demanded another voice sharply, and Mrs. Reed came along the passage. "Abbot and Bessie, I believe I gave orders that Jane Eyre should be left in the red room till I came to her myself."

"Miss Jane screamed so loud, ma'am,"<sup>9</sup> replied Bessie.

"Let her go,"<sup>10</sup> was the only answer. "Loose Bessie's hand, child, you cannot succeed in getting out by these means. I hate tricks, especially in children. It is my duty to show you that they will not succeed. You will now stay here an hour."

---

1. Steps came ... passage: 脚步声很急地沿着外廊走来。 2. It went right through me! 它直穿我的心; right 为副词。 3. What for? 为什么? 4. Have you seen something? 看到了什么东西吗? 当问话者准备对方作否定回答时,用 "anything"; 反之,准备对方作肯定回答时,用 "something"。 5. got hold of: 抓住。 6. on purpose: 故意地。 7. in disgust: 厌恶地。 8. If she had been ... excused it, but ...: 要是她真的非常痛,人们倒也原谅了她(的尖叫),但是……。 "it" 指尖叫(scream)。 9. ma'am [mæm] = madam: 佣人对女主人的称呼。 10. Let her go: 让她去;别管她。

longer, and it is only on condition of perfect obedience and quiet that<sup>1</sup> I shall let you out then.”

“Oh, aunt! have pity! Forgive me! I cannot bear it! Let me be punished in some other way!”

“Silence! This violence is most disgusting.” She did not believe me: she thought that I was pretending.

Bessie and Abbot having gone away,<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Reed, impatient of my wild cries, roughly pushed me back and locked me in without further speech. I heard her depart, and soon after she had gone, my head began to swim, and I fell unconscious.<sup>3</sup>

## Chapter 3 Illness

The next thing I remember is waking up with a feeling as if I had had a frightful dream, and seeing before me a terrible hot red light, crossed with thick black bars. I heard voices, too, speaking with a hollow sound.<sup>4</sup> Uncertainty and terror confused my senses. I then became aware that<sup>5</sup> someone was lifting me up more gently than I had ever been raised before. I rested my head against something, and felt comfortable.

In five minutes<sup>6</sup> the cloud of confusion melted. I knew

---

1. it is only on condition of... that ... that 是强势式句型, 其中 it 无意义。on condition of 作“在……条件下”解。2. Bessie and Abbot having gone away: 独立结构式。相当于 when Bessie and Abbot had gone away. 3. fell unconscious: 失了知觉。容易过去。fell 是联系动词, 作“变成”解。4. as if 好象。因为 is 是词从句, 故 if 后的谓语用 had had。I heard voices, ... hollow sound: 我也听到一些人声, 以一种空洞的声音在说话。所谓 hollow sound 是指好象从空的容器里叫响出来的低沉的声音。注意: voice 和 sound 的不同。5. became aware that ...: 感觉到……。aware 之后习惯跟 that 从句或 of 短语。6. In five minutes: 经过五分钟时间。

quite well that I was in my own bed and that the red light came from the nursery fire. It was night. A candle burned on the table. Bessie stood at the foot of the bed, and a gentleman sat in a chair near me.

I felt an inexpressible relief when I knew that there was a stranger in the room, an individual not belonging to Gateshead<sup>1</sup>. Turning from Bessie I examined the face of the visitor. I knew him. It was Mr. Lloyd,<sup>2</sup> a shopkeeper who sold medicines, and who was sometimes called in by Mrs. Reed when one of the servants was ill. For herself and the children she employed a qualified doctor.

“Well, who am I?” he asked.

I pronounced his name, offering him my hand at the same time. He took it, smiling and saying. “You will be better soon.” He then addressed Bessie, warning her to be very careful that I was not disturbed during the night. Having given some further instructions, he departed, saying that he would call again the next day.

“Do you feel as if you could sleep, miss?” asked Bessie, rather softly.

I scarcely dared answer her, for I feared that her next reply might be rough.

“I will try.”

“Would you like to drink, or could you eat anything?”

“No, thank you, Bessie.”

“Then I think I will go to bed, but you may call me if you want anything in the night.”

---

1. an individual. Gateshead: 一个不是本宅的人。本词组是 a stranger 的同位语。 2. Lloyd [loid]: 姓。



Bessie went into the housemaid's room, which was near.  
I heard her say: —

“Sarah<sup>1</sup>, come and sleep with me in the nursery. I daren't be alone with that poor child to-night: she might die. It's strange that she should have fainted so<sup>2</sup>. I wonder if she saw anything. Missis was rather too hard on her.”<sup>3</sup>”

Sarah came back with her, and they both soon fell asleep. For me, however, it was a night of wakefulness.

Next day, by twelve o'clock, I was up and dressed, and sat in a rug by the nursery fire. I felt weak in body, but my worst trouble was an indescribable misery of mind. Yet, I thought, I ought to have been happy, for all the Reeds had gone out in the carriage. Abbot was sewing in another room, and Bessie, as she moved about the nursery at her work<sup>4</sup>, spoke to me every now and then<sup>5</sup> with unusual kindness. Then, too, a cake had come up from the kitchen, on a certain brightly painted plate, which I had long loved, but been forbidden to touch. This precious dish was placed on my knee, and I was invited to eat. Vain favour!<sup>6</sup> I had no appetite. Bessie asked if I would have a book, and I begged her to fetch *Gulliver's Travels*<sup>7</sup> from the library. I had read this book again and again with delight, yet when it was now placed in my hands the pictures that had so often given me pleasure, the giants and the tiny men<sup>8</sup>, filled my mind with fear. I closed the book.

1. Sarah ['sɛərə]: 女子名,此处为女仆。 2. It is strange ... fainted so: 真怪,她竟会这样昏厥。在这类表示惊喜的语句中,从句中的“should”常有“竟然”之意。 3. be hard on: 对……苛刻。 4. moved about ... work: 在儿童室走来走去,忙她的工作。 5. every now and then: 时而;不时。 6. Vain favour! 白白的恩典!(徒然的爱护!) 7. *Gulliver's Travels* ['gʌlɪvəz]: 《格利佛游记》,英讽刺小说家 Jonathan Swift ['dʒɒnəθən swɪft] 的名著。 8. the giants and the tiny men: 大人国的人和小人国的人。是 the pictures 的同位语。