

DICK WHITTINGTON

IN SIMPLE ENGLISH

CHAPTER I

The Cat and the Cook

A very long time ago¹ there lived² a boy whose³ name⁴ was Richard Whittington.⁵ His home⁶ was in a little village⁷ far away from⁸ London.⁹ And when he left school,¹⁰ he wanted to find some work which he could do.¹¹ For he did not like to be

idle. But in that little village there was not much work for a boy like Dick. 4

So, when his father died, he said:

"I should like to go to London, and make some money." For I hear? that it is a very rich place, 10 and I think I could get plenty of 11 work there." 12

"Oh, London is a big place," said Dick's friends, and you are so young. What will you do, so far from home? Do not go, dear little Dick. Stay here with those who love you."

But Dick shook his head.20

"I cannot be idle," he said. "I do¹ want to make some money and they say the streets² of London are full of³ gold."

He was only thirteen years old.⁵ And he was not a very big boy for his age.⁶ But when he said a thing, he meant to do it.⁷ And so, when no one was about,⁸ and the house was quiet,⁹ he thought¹⁰ he would run away to London.

First,¹¹ he took a thick stick.¹² Then he found¹³ a large red handkerchief.¹⁴ In this¹⁵ he tied¹⁶ a nice¹⁷ loaf of bread,¹⁸ some butter,¹⁹ and a piece²⁰ of cheese.²¹ Then,²²

with this bundle¹ in one hand, and the thick stick in the other² hand, he set off on his journey.³

But he had not gone far when he heard* something mewing^{5'} behind⁶ him. And as he⁷ was rather⁸ a kind boy, he stopped.⁹ There, at his feet,¹⁰ was a big grey¹¹ cat, and it was mewing loudly,¹² for it liked Dick very much. He was always¹³ ready to¹⁴ stroke¹⁵ its fur,¹⁶ and to speak to it. But to-day he was just going past without saying a word.¹⁷ And the Cat was vexed.¹⁸

"You might have told me¹⁹ where you were going,"²⁰ it said; and Dick, who knew

the Cat's way of talking, said he was sorry.

"I did not tell anyone about it," he said. "For I do not want my friends to know."

"Still, I am your Cat," said Pussy, and I may be able to help you."

Then Dick began to⁹ laugh¹⁰ as¹¹ he rubbed¹² the Cat's head.

"Poor Pussy!" said he. "What can a Cat do? I am going a long, long way, 13 and you will be very tired." 14

"Wait and see," said the Cat. "Only, take me with you." take

So, as Dick loved the Cat very much, he said he could go with him.

On they went¹ for many and many a mile,² and while the sun shone³ it was very nice.⁴ But after a time Dick and his Cat were tired. So they sat down, on a log⁵ by the roadside,⁶ to rest.⁷ Then Dick thought of what he was going to do when he came to London.⁸

"We shall be quite well off," he said to the Cat. "I shall always have shillings" and pennies" in my pocket. For I mean to work very hard. And I shall buy hice things for you to eat, dear Puss-Cat."

Then the Cat stood up¹ and gave a loud mew,² as much as to say³ he was ready to go on⁴ again.⁵

All day⁶ Dick and his Cat walked, and rested,⁷ and ate⁸ the bread and cheese which he had brought with him.⁹ When it was dark,¹⁰ Dick knocked at the door of¹¹ a farm house,¹² and asked for shelter.¹³ The farmer's¹⁴ wife¹⁵ opened the door a little way,¹⁶ and peeped¹⁷ out to see who had knocked.¹⁸ But when she saw Dick and his Cat she smiled.¹⁹

¹ stood (stand 之過去式) up 起立. 2 gave a loud mew 高壓一鳴 (loud 鞭; mew 貓鳴). 3 as much as to say......若曰.....竟似謂...... 4 go on 前題, 進行. 5 復. 6 all day 竟日, 終日. 7 休息. 6 食 (eat 之過去式). 9 which he had brought with him 彼所帶着者 (which 代名詞指 bread and cheese; brought (bring 之過去式) with him 帶在身邊者). 10 When it was dark 天旣昏黑, 當昏黑之時 (when.....當.....之時; dark 暗). 11 knocked at the door of.....叩....之門. 12 田舍 (farm 利莊). 13 asked for shelter 求借宿, 求棲身之所 (shelter 庇蔭, 蔽風雨之處). 14 田舍翁的, 農夫的. 15 要. 16 opened the door a little way 略開其戶. 17 窺, 竊視. 18 劉啄, 故擊. 19 微笑.

"Come in, dear boy, and sit by the fire," she said. "There is room for you and for your cat; and you do look so tired." Then she went to the cupboard, and brought out a bowl of milk, and some fresh bread for Dick, and there was also a basin of new milk for the Cat. While Dick ate his supper by the fire, the farmer's wife asked why he was going such a long way.

"You are too young to go so far," she said. "And London is a very big place. You will be lost in it." 11

But Dick shook his head. 12

¹ sit by the fire 榜爐火而坐。 2 There is room for you 有爾容身之地 (room 不作室解)。 3 do look so tired 為狀實態 (後加 do 字所以特重語氣之意)。 4 未虧,置食器之所。 5 a bowl of milk 牛乳一杯 (bowl 盌, 深盆, 杯)。 6 新鮮。 7 盆。 8 食 (eat 之過去式)。 9 晚餐。 10 You are too young to go so far 爾年太禪不足以作此 遠行。 11 will be lost in it 將失蹤於倫敦 (lost 係 lose 之過去分詞 此處稱言遺失也)。 12 shook (shake 之過去式) his head 搖首。

"There is always room for some one who likes work," he said.

Then the kind woman felt sorry for him.² "You must stop here for the night,³ and I will see that you have a nice bed,"⁴ she said. "Your cat shall sleep in a basket⁵ of soft⁶ hay,⁷ where⁸ he will be very warm.⁹

In the morning,¹⁰ when the sun was bright,¹¹ Dick arose,¹² and had a bath¹³ in the river,¹⁴ just outside¹⁵ the house, for he was a very clean¹⁶ boy. When he came back,¹⁷ the farmer's wife had some more¹⁸ nice bread and milk for him, and for his cat.

"Thank you, kind lady," said Dick, for he had really very pretty manners. When he had eaten his breakfast, he took his stick, and said "Thank you," once more, before he set off on his walk to London.

He had still⁹ a good way to go,¹⁰ but at last¹¹ he came to the City.¹² It was not so large then as it is now.¹³ But it seemed very big to¹⁴ the little boy from the country,¹⁵ and at first¹⁶ Dick did not like the noise of the streets.¹⁷

¹ Thank you 謝汝. 2 kind lady 好夫人 (敬愛而稱之意). 3 for he had really very pretty manners 蓋彼誠彬彬然異常有禮貌也 (really 誠, 洵; manners 禮貌, 儀容). 4 早餐. 5 once more 再, 更有一次。 6 before......未.....之前。 7 set off 出發. 8 his walk to London 倫敦之行 (walk 步行). 9 猗, 仍. 10 a good way to go 須行許多路 (a good way = a long way). 11 厥後, 卒. 12 the City 指倫敦 (city 城, 都邑). 13 It was not so large then as it is now 倫敦城都彼時不如現今之大 (then 彼時). 14 seemed very big to......觀之似極大矣 (seemed 似乎). 15 from the country 來自郷間者. 16 at first 初,其始. 17 noise of the streets 街市之喧鬧 (noise 隔壁).

He looked about him¹ as he went,² and he asked all the people whom he met³ if they knew where a man lived who was called⁴ Hugh Fitz-Warren.⁵ For Hugh Fitz-Warren and Dick's father had been old friends.⁶

Now⁷ Mr.⁸ Fitz-Warren had a large shop⁹ in the City. Here he sold¹⁰ gloves,¹¹ and clothes,¹² and pretty¹³ stuffs¹⁴ for frocks.¹⁵ Dick soon found¹⁶ the shop.

It was a fine place.¹⁷ For Hugh Fitz-Warren was quite¹⁸ well off,¹⁹ and he liked

a nice house. He lived above the shop,¹ as many people did in those days,² and he had a pretty daughter³ named Alice,⁴ whom he loved very much. There were also⁵ some old servants,⁶ who did as they pleased⁷ in the merchant's⁸ house.

There were big doors to⁹ Mr. Fitz-Warren's shop. Dick pushed them open,¹⁰ and went in. But he seemed very small¹¹ in this large place; and Mr. Fitz-Warren only¹² saw him when he looked over the top of his desk.¹³ "Hullo,¹⁴ little boy, and who

¹ lived above the shop 居於店之樓上. 2 as many people did in those days 此句直譯為彼時許多人均為之,意即當時居家於店樓之上者甚樂也。 3 女。 4 女兒名. 5 亦。 6 old servants 舊僕. 7 did as they pleased 隨心所欲而為之 (pleased 顧,樂悅). 8 the merchant 指 Hugh Fitz-Warren (merchant 商人). 9 there were big doors to......有大門逾...... 10 pushed.....open 推開...... 門. 11 小. 12 僅,惟. 13 looked over the top of his desk 自案頭外望 (over 保前置詞表 [臨] [超過] 之意;desk 寫字檯,鏵事之棹). 11 呼人而與語之詞.

are you?" he asked; for he was rather a kindly old man.

"I have come from the country, Sir," said Dick, "and I want to find some work in London. I think you knew my father quite well, and I hope, for his sake that you will give me something to do."

"H'm," h'm," said the old man. "What can a boy like you do? And I see you have brought a Cat with you. What can I do with a Cat?" 1

"He is very good, Sir, and he will catch¹² all the mice¹³ in this house."

"Dear me," said Mr. Fitz-Warren.

"And I heard the Cook say we have so

¹ Who are you? 爾是誰. ² 頗, 響願. ³ 慈祥, 和离. ⁴ 尊稱. ⁶ ই, 希婁. ⁷ for his sake 為善交故 (his 指 father 的, 獨俗語所謂 "汝看父分上"). ⁸ 承接詞, 引起下交之子句. ⁹ 語助詞也, 即 hum 之省文. ¹⁰ What can a boy like you do? 童稚若爾又笑能為. ¹¹ What can I do with a cat? 吾與此貓有何能為. ¹² 提. ¹³ 鼠 (mouse 之複數式). ¹⁴ Dear me 此二字表驚嘆之意, 獨言嘻嘻, 吁, 咄咄. ¹⁵ 厄人, 厨錢 (司烹煮之僕無論男女俱謂之 cook 本音所逃者皆保廢譲).

many mice. They eat all the cakes, and make holes in the tarts. I think she wants a Cat. Very likely she wants a boy, too. So you can go and see her. But, mind, you must do everything that she tells you, and you must not be naughty or rude.

"Oh no, Sir. I am never rude. And I will try not to be naughty. Thank to you so much for giving me something to do in your house." So Dick went into kitchen of Mr. Fitz-Warren's house. It was a big room, and there were a great many shining to your house.

¹ 糕. ² 孔. ³ 以果子為釀之餅(俗称搭). ⁴ very likely 類似,殆 必. ⁵ (爾其) 留意. ⁶ must do everything that she tells you 凡彼所赐之事必一一為之 (everything 事事,切切;that 代名詞用法與 which 同;指 everything). ⁷ 頑皮. ⁸ 粗碳. ⁹ 決不,永不. ¹⁰ 謝. ¹¹ 廚. ¹² a great many 許多. ¹³ 鲜明,燦然的. ¹⁴ 壺,罐. ¹⁵ 鍋. ¹⁶ 架.

above the fireplace.¹ Everything looked bright and clean.² And by the fire there stood the Cook.³

She was rather an old woman. She wore⁴ a large white apron,⁵ and a white cap with frills⁶ and strings.⁷ But she looked very cross⁸ when she saw Dick, for boys, said she,⁹ had been the "plague of her life." ¹⁰

"And now the Master¹¹ has sent me another¹² boy," she said. "The last one¹³ broke¹⁴ the best china¹⁵ cups, and spoilt¹⁶ the knives.¹⁷ He was always so careless.¹⁸ Most likely¹⁹ you will be just²⁰ like²¹ him.

¹ above the fireplace. 在火爐之上 (fireplace 生火處). 2 looked bright and clean 寫狀鮮明潔淨. 3 there stood the Cook 廢藥在 焉. 4 服, 御佩 (wear 之過去式). 6 閩裙, 韓身. 6 衣沿之緣邊, 襉. 7 黎閩裙之帶, 卷蘋. 8 模怒. 9 此處 said she 二字即"彼常稱,""彼恒謂"之意. 10 plague of her life 彼生平之互思 (plague 患, 苦難, 疫癘). 11主人. 12 别一個, 又一個. 13 the last one (三 the last boy) 前此一童. 14 碎 (break 之過去式). 15 瓷. 16 髮損 (spoil 之過去式). 17 刀 (knife 之複數). 18 疏忽, 不留心. 19 most likely 極似. 20 恰; 適合. 21 似.

"No indeed," said poor Dick. "If you will only try me, I shall be very good. I have come such a long way to make my fortune."

"Tut,³ tut! You will not do that⁴ here," said the Cook. "You will have hard work.⁵ But you will also have good food.⁶ That is all you need hope to get,[†] for your wages⁸ will be small. Stop!⁹ What is that behind you?"¹⁰

"It is my Cat."

"Cat indeed!" And who, do you think, wants Cats?" 12

¹ 確然,實,必定. ² to make my fortune 課利, 圖財運. ³ 叱,止止. ⁴ do that 指 to make fortune. ⁵ hard work 苦工,勞役. ⁶ 食物. ⁷ that is all you need hope to get 爾可希冀者僅此而已(直譯為惟此則爲爾所當希望其可得; that is all 恰合惟此而已之意, that 代名詞即指上文 have good food 事; need 需). ⁸ 條值. ⁹ 嘻,止止 (豬俗言且慢). ¹⁰ What is that behind you? 在耐後者何物耶. ¹¹ Cat indeed 猫耶,果為猫爭. ¹² Who; do you think, wants cats? 夫誰則需猫耶爾試思之.