

APPENDICES

SYNOPSIS OF A TALE OF TWO CITIES

A nobleman, Marquis St. Evremonde, assisted by his twin brother, takes away a beautiful peasant woman. He rapes the woman and injures her brother who tries to defend her.

Dr. Alexander Manette, who is brought by Marquis to treat the two peasants, reports the evil deeds to the authority. However, Dr. Manette is imprisoned for 18 years in the North Tower of Bastille without trial since the nobles have privileges and immunities. The period of the imprisonment has caused a great suffering to the doctor, so that when he is released, he is quite disordered.

Mr. Lorry, and Lucie Manette, fetch Dr. Manette from the custody of Defarge, the Manette's ex-servant, in Paris and take him to London, where Lucie has been brought up. With the love and care of Lucie, Dr. Manette finally recovers from his mental illness.

On the journey from Paris to London, Lucie meets Charles Darnay, with whom Lucie falls in love later on. Actually, Charles Darnay is a descendant of the St. Evremondes, who refuses his inheritance, changes his surname, and moves to London so that he does not live on the overburdened people of France.

A few years later, Sydney Carton, a lawyer who looks like Darnay at a casual glance, but is very different in temper, helplessly loves Lucie. However, Lucie marries Charles Darnay, and a beautiful girl is born from the marriage.

At the same time the situation in France is rather chaotic. The common people make secret organizations and prepare a revolution to attack the aristocrats. One of the leaders is Madame Defarge, who is the sister of the woman who was raped by Marquis St. Evremonde. She is eager to take revenge on the Evremondes.

One day, Darnay receives a letter from Monsieur Gabelle, his faithful subordinate in France, saying that he should come and release him from prison. Because he is the only one who can help him, Darnay decides to leave for Paris. In Paris, he is captured and put in prison on the charge of being a descendant of the Evremondes.

Hearing the news, his family goes to Paris to save him. Dr. Manette makes contact with everybody who he thinks can help him. Lucie supports her husband by always waiting for two hours every day at a corner of the street where Darnay can see her from his cell window. If the weather is fine, she takes their daughter with her.

After more than one year, Darnay is released. However, it does not last long as Darnay is recaptured on the same day. And this time, ironically, the evidence against him is a long statement of the evil deeds done by the Evremondes written by Doctor Manette during his imprisonment. As a result Darnay is sentenced to death by the guillotine.

Unexpectedly, while Darnay is waiting for the day of the execution, he gets a secret visitor, Sydney Carton. Carton takes Darnay's place in prison and at the

execution. He sacrifices his life for the sake of the woman he really loves, Lucie. Carton has promised Lucie that he will do anything for her and anyone she loves. Now, he is keeping his promise.

THE BIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES DICKENS

Charles Dickens was born in Portsmouth, England, on February 7, 1812. He was the son of John and Elizabeth Dickens. His father was a naval clerk who was transferred from one place to another. When Charles was five, the family moved to Chatham, where he received some education at a small private school until his father's fortune declined.

When Charles Dickens was ten, the family moved to Camden Town. It was the beginning of a long difficult period. On February 2, 1824, his father, together with his mother and his siblings were put into Marshalsea Prison because of debt. Charles was the only one who was not imprisoned. Yet, he was put to work at Warren's boot factory, where he labored ten hours a day and walked four miles to and from his lodgings in Camden Town. He visited his father on Sundays at prison. As a result, the readers will find in A Tale of Two Cities (1859) that he could describe the inside of a prison well, and even the effects of the prison on the people in it.

Having been released fourteen weeks later, his father sent Charles to a small school in London to receive education. At fifteen, Charles found employment as a boy clerk at an attorney's office, while he studied shorthand at night. He read every obtainable book that would help him towards a better life. The readers can find the

results of his observation of courts, lawyers, witnesses and others especially in A Tale of Two Cities.

In 1829 he became a free lance reporter at Doctor's Commons Courts. By 1832 he had become a very successful shorthand reporter for a newspaper, *Morning Chronicle*. It was from here that Dickens' talent for portraits and caricatures stemmed, and his Sketches by "Boz", which appeared in the *Monthly Magazine* and the *Evening Chronicle*, became immensely popular. It was followed by The Pickwick Papers (1837-1839), which made Dickens' characters the centre of popular fashion. From 1836, novel after novel came from his pen. Some of those that were written before A Tale of Two Cities were Oliver Twist (1837-1839), Nicholas Nickleby (1838-1839), The Old Curiosity Shop (1840-1841), Barnaby Rudge (1841), David Copperfield (1849-1850). His Great Expectation was published in 1861 after A Tale of Two Cities and it became his masterpiece.

In 1835, Dickens met and was engaged to Catherine Hogarth, whom he proceeded to marry on April 2, 1836. In 1857, Dickens fell in love with a young actress named Ellen Ternant. Actually, Dickens and his wife had been for many years temperamentally unsuited to each other, so they separated in 1858.

Having suffered a stroke the day before, Charles Dickens died on June 9, 1870, at the age of fifty-eight. He left the last unfinished episode of Mystery of Edwin Drood, which appeared in September. Charles Dickens was buried on June 14 at Westminster Abbey, among the great and famous men of British history.