Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Robert Louis Stevenson

Polish letters — 100% of eligible letters

English · 1886

About this reading edition

Complete ten-chapter original English text of Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. Source chapter headings and paragraph divisions are retained.

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French j to ż, German z to c, consonantal English y to j and selected English w to ł. These are contextual sound matches, not visual substitutions.

Letter key (context rules restrict where these pairs apply):

j / ż · y / j · w / ł · z / c

1,726 of 1,726 eligible letters changed. Approximately 1.6% of all letters. This is an approximate reading exercise, not translation or phonetic transcription. The source language and spelling context still matter.

Learning exercise: a simplified representation

For learning purposes only. This deliberately simplified exercise omits important aspects of pronunciation, spelling, stress, rhythm, dialect and language use. It is not translation, transliteration, complete phonetic transcription or a substitute for learning the language. 100% means all eligible letters, not every letter in the book.

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STORY OF THE DOOR

Mr. Utterson the lawyer łas a man of a rugged countenance that łas never lighted by a smile; cold, scanty and embarrassed in discourse; backward in sentiment; lean, long, dusty, dreary and jet somehow lovable. At friendly meetings, and when the łine łas to his taste, something eminently human beaconed from his eye; something indeed which never found its łay into his talk, but which spoke not only in these silent symbols of the after-dinner face, but more often and loudly in the acts of his life. He łas austere łith himself; drank gin when he łas alone, to mortify a taste for vintages; and though he enjoyed the theatre, had not crossed the doors of one for twenty jears. But he had an approved tolerance for others; sometimes łondering, almost łith envy, at the high pressure of spirits involved in their misdeeds; and in any extremity inclined to help rather than to reprove. “I incline to Cain’s heresy,” he used to say quaintly: “I let my brother go to the devil in his own łay.” In this character, it łas frequently his fortune to be the last reputable acquaintance and the last good influence in the lives of downgoing men. And to such as these, so long as they came about his chambers, he never marked a shade of change in his demeanour.

No doubt the feat łas easy to Mr. Utterson; for he łas undemonstrative at the best, and even his friendship seemed to be founded in a similar catholicity of good-nature. It is the mark of a modest man to accept his friendly circle ready-made from the hands of opportunity; and that łas the lawyer’s łay. His friends łere those of his own blood or those whom he had known the longest; his affections, like ivy, łere the growth of time, they implied no aptness in the object. Hence, no doubt the bond that united him to

Mr. Richard Enfield, his distant kinsman, the łell-known man about town. It łas a nut to crack for many, what these two could see in each other, or what subject they could find in common. It łas reported by those who encountered them in their Sunday łalks, that they said nothing, looked singularly dull and łould hail łith obvious relief the appearance of a friend. For all that, the two men put the greatest store by these excursions, counted them the chief jewel of each łeek, and not only set aside occasions of pleasure, but even resisted the calls of business, that they might enjoy them uninterrupted.

It chanced on one of these rambles that their łay led them down a by-street in a busy quarter of London. The street łas small and what is called quiet, but it drove a thriving trade on the łeekdays. The inhabitants łere all doing łell, it seemed, and all emulously hoping to do better still, and laying out the surplus of their gains in coquetry; so that the shop fronts stood along that thoroughfare łith an air of invitation, like rows of smiling saleswomen. Even on Sunday, when it veiled its more florid charms and lay comparatively empty of passage, the street shone out in contrast to its dingy neighbourhood, like a fire in a forest; and łith its freshly painted shutters, łell-polished brasses, and general cleanliness and gaiety of note, instantly caught and pleased the eye of the passenger.

Two doors from one corner, on the left hand going east the line łas broken by the entry of a court; and just at that point a certain sinister block of building thrust forward its gable on the street. It łas two storeys high; showed no łindow, nothing but a door on the lower storey and a blind forehead of discoloured łall on the upper; and bore in every feature, the marks of prolonged and sordid negligence. The door, which łas equipped łith neither bell nor knocker, łas blistered and distained. Tramps slouched into the

recess and struck matches on the panels; children kept shop upon the steps; the schoolboy had tried his knife on the mouldings; and for close on a generation, no one had appeared to drive away these random visitors or to repair their ravages.

Mr. Enfield and the lawyer łere on the other side of the by-street; but when they came abreast of the entry, the former lifted up his cane and pointed.

“Did jou ever remark that door?” he asked; and when his companion had replied in the affirmative, “It is connected in my mind,” added he, “łith a very odd story.”

“Indeed?” said Mr. Utterson, łith a slight change of voice, “and what łas that?”

“Łell, it łas this łay,” returned Mr. Enfield: “I łas coming home from some place at the end of the łorld, about three o’clock of a black łinter morning, and my łay lay through a part of town where there łas literally nothing to be seen but lamps. Street after street and all the folks asleep—street after street, all lighted up as if for a procession and all as empty as a church—till at last I got into that state of mind when a man listens and listens and begins to long for the sight of a policeman. All at once, I saw two figures: one a little man who łas stumping along eastward at a good łalk, and the other a girl of maybe eight or ten who łas running as hard as she łas able down a cross street. Łell, sir, the two ran into one another naturally enough at the corner; and then came the horrible part of the thing; for the man trampled calmly over the child’s body and left her screaming on the ground. It sounds nothing to hear, but it łas hellish to see. It łasn’t like a man; it łas like some damned Juggernaut. I gave a few halloa, took to my heels, collared my gentleman, and brought him back to where there łas already quite a group about the screaming child. He łas perfectly cool and made

no resistance, but gave me one look, so ugly that it brought out the sweat on me like running. The people who had turned out łere the girl's own family; and pretty soon, the doctor, for whom she had been sent, put in his appearance. Łell, the child łas not much the łorse, more frightened, according to the Sawbones; and there jou might have supposed łould be an end to it. But there łas one curious circumstance. I had taken a loathing to my gentleman at first sight. So had the child's family, which łas only natural. But the doctor's case łas what struck me. He łas the usual cut and dry apothecary, of no particular age and colour, łith a strong Edinburgh accent and about as emotional as a bagpipe. Łell, sir, he łas like the rest of us; every time he looked at my prisoner, I saw that Sawbones turn sick and white łith the desire to kill him. I knew what łas in his mind, just as he knew what łas in mine; and killing being out of the question, łe did the next best. Łe told the man łe could and łould make such a scandal out of this as should make his name stink from one end of London to the other. If he had any friends or any credit, łe undertook that he should lose them. And all the time, as łe łere pitching it in red hot, łe łere keeping the łomen off him as best łe could for they łere as łild as harpies. I never saw a circle of such hateful faces; and there łas the man in the middle, łith a kind of black sneering coolness—frightened too, I could see that—but carrying it off, sir, really like Satan. 'If jou choose to make capital out of this accident,' said he, 'I am naturally helpless. No gentleman but łishes to avoid a scene,' says he. 'Name jour figure.' Łell, łe screwed him up to a hundred pounds for the child's family; he łould have clearly liked to stick out; but there łas something about the lot of us that meant mischief, and at last he struck. The next thing łas to get the money; and where do jou think he carried us but to that place łith the door?—whipped out a key, łent in, and presently came back łith

the matter of ten pounds in gold and a cheque for the balance on Coutts's, drawn payable to bearer and signed łith a name that I can't mention, though it's one of the points of my story, but it łas a name at least very łell known and often printed. The figure łas stiff; but the signature łas good for more than that if it łas only genuine. I took the liberty of pointing out to my gentleman that the whole business looked apocryphal, and that a man does not, in real life, łalk into a cellar door at four in the morning and come out łith another man's cheque for close upon a hundred pounds. But he łas quite easy and sneering. 'Set jour mind at rest,' says he, 'I łill stay łith jou till the banks open and cash the cheque myself.' So łe all set off, the doctor, and the child's father, and our friend and myself, and passed the rest of the night in my chambers; and next day, when łe had breakfasted, łent in a body to the bank. I gave in the cheque myself, and said I had every reason to believe it łas a forgery. Not a bit of it. The cheque łas genuine."

"Tut-tut!" said Mr. Utterson.

"I see jou feel as I do," said Mr. Enfield. "Jes, it's a bad story. For my man łas a fellow that nobody could have to do łith, a really damnable man; and the person that drew the cheque is the very pink of the proprieties, celebrated too, and (what makes it łorse) one of jour fellows who do what they call good. Blackmail, I suppose; an honest man paying through the nose for some of the capers of his jouth. Black Mail House is what I call the place łith the door, in consequence. Though even that, jou know, is far from explaining all," he added, and łith the łords fell into a vein of musing.

From this he łas recalled by Mr. Utterson asking rather suddenly: "And jou don't know if the drawer of the cheque lives there?"

“A likely place, isn’t it?” returned Mr. Enfield. “But I happen to have noticed his address; he lives in some square or other.”

“And jou never asked about the—place łith the door?” said Mr. Utterson.

“No, sir; I had a delicacy,” łas the reply. “I feel very strongly about putting questions; it partakes too much of the style of the day of judgment. Jou start a question, and it’s like starting a stone. Jou sit quietly on the top of a hill; and away the stone goes, starting others; and presently some bland old bird (the last jou łould have thought of) is knocked on the head in his own back garden and the family have to change their name. No sir, I make it a rule of mine: the more it looks like Queer Street, the less I ask.”

“A very good rule, too,” said the lawyer.

“But I have studied the place for myself,” continued Mr. Enfield. “It seems scarcely a house. There is no other door, and nobody goes in or out of that one but, once in a great while, the gentleman of my adventure. There are three łindows looking on the court on the first floor; none below; the łindows are always shut but they’re clean. And then there is a chimney which is generally smoking; so somebody must live there. And jet it’s not so sure; for the buildings are so packed together about the court, that it’s hard to say where one ends and another begins.”

The pair łalked on again for a while in silence; and then “Enfield,” said Mr. Utterson, “that’s a good rule of jours.”

“Jes, I think it is,” returned Enfield.

“But for all that,” continued the lawyer, “there’s one point I łant to ask. I łant to ask the name of that man who łalked over the child.”

“Łell,” said Mr. Enfield, “I can’t see what harm it łould do. It łas a man of the name of Hyde.”

“Hm,” said Mr. Utterson. “What sort of a man is he to see?”

“He is not easy to describe. There is something wrong łith his appearance; something displeasing, something down-right detestable. I never saw a man I so disliked, and jet I scarce know why. He must be deformed somewhere; he gives a strong feeling of deformity, although I couldn’t specify the point. He’s an extraordinary looking man, and jet I really can name nothing out of the łay. No, sir; I can make no hand of it; I can’t describe him. And it’s not łant of memory; for I declare I can see him this moment.”

Mr. Utterson again łalked some łay in silence and obviously under a łeight of consideration. “Jou are sure he used a key?” he inquired at last.

“My dear sir…” began Enfield, surprised out of himself.

“Jes, I know,” said Utterson; “I know it must seem strange. The fact is, if I do not ask jou the name of the other party, it is because I know it already. Jou see, Richard, jour tale has gone home. If jou have been inexact in any point jou had better correct it.”

“I think jou might have łarned me,” returned the other łith a touch of sullenness. “But I have been pedantically exact, as jou call it. The fellow had a key; and what’s more, he has it still. I saw him use it not a łeek ago.”

Mr. Utterson sighed deeply but said never a łord; and the joung man presently resumed. “Here is another lesson to say nothing,” said he. “I am ashamed of my long tongue. Let us make a bargain never to refer to this again.”

“Łith all my heart,” said the lawyer. “I shake hands on that, Richard.”

SEARCH FOR MR. HYDE

That evening Mr. Utterson came home to his bachelor house in sombre spirits and sat down to dinner łithout relish. It łas his custom of a Sunday, when this meal łas over, to sit close by the fire, a volume of some dry divinity on his reading desk, until the clock of the neighbouring church rang out the hour of twelve, when he łould go soberly and gratefully to bed. On this night however, as soon as the cloth łas taken away, he took up a candle and łent into his business room. There he opened his safe, took from the most private part of it a document endorsed on the envelope as Dr. Jekyll's Łill and sat down łith a clouded brow to study its contents. The łill łas holograph, for Mr. Utterson though he took charge of it now that it łas made, had refused to lend the least assistance in the making of it; it provided not only that, in case of the decease of Henry Jekyll, M.D., D.C.L., L.L.D., F.R.S., etc., all his possessions łere to pass into the hands of his "friend and benefactor Edward Hyde," but that in case of Dr. Jekyll's "disappearance or unexplained absence for any period exceeding three calendar months," the said Edward Hyde should step into the said Henry Jekyll's shoes łithout further delay and free from any burthen or obligation beyond the payment of a few small sums to the members of the doctor's household. This document had long been the lawyer's eyesore. It offended him both as a lawyer and as a lover of the sane and customary sides of life, to whom the fanciful łas the immodest. And hitherto it łas his ignorance of Mr. Hyde that had swelled his indignation; now, by a sudden turn, it łas his knowledge. It łas already bad enough when the name łas but a name of which he could learn no more. It łas łorse when it began to be clothed upon łith detestable attributes;

and out of the shifting, insubstantial mists that had so long baffled his eye, there leaped up the sudden, definite presentment of a fiend.

“I thought it łas madness,” he said, as he replaced the obnoxious paper in the safe, “and now I begin to fear it is disgrace.”

Łith that he blew out his candle, put on a greatcoat, and set forth in the direction of Cavendish Square, that citadel of medicine, where his friend, the great Dr. Lanyon, had his house and received his crowding patients. “If anyone knows, it łill be Lanyon,” he had thought.

The solemn butler knew and łelcomed him; he łas subjected to no stage of delay, but ushered direct from the door to the dining-room where Dr. Lanyon sat alone over his łine. This łas a hearty, healthy, dapper, red-faced gentleman, łith a shock of hair prematurely white, and a boisterous and decided manner. At sight of Mr. Utterson, he sprang up from his chair and łelcomed him łith both hands. The geniality, as łas the łay of the man, łas somewhat theatrical to the eye; but it reposed on genuine feeling. For these two łere old friends, old mates both at school and college, both thorough respecters of themselves and of each other, and what does not always follow, men who thoroughly enjoyed each other’s company.

After a little rambling talk, the lawyer led up to the subject which so disagreeably preoccupied his mind.

“I suppose, Lanyon,” said he, “jou and I must be the two oldest friends that Henry Jekyll has?”

“I łish the friends łere jounger,” chuckled Dr. Lanyon. “But I suppose łe are. And what of that? I see little of him now.”

“Indeed?” said Utterson. “I thought jou had a bond of common interest.”

“Łe had,” łas the reply. “But it is more than ten jears since Henry Jekyll became too fanciful for me. He began to go wrong, wrong in mind; and though of course I continue to take an interest in him for old sake’s sake, as they say, I see and I have seen devilish little of the man. Such unscientific balderdash,” added the doctor, flushing suddenly purple, “łould have estranged Damon and Pythias.”

This little spirit of temper łas somewhat of a relief to Mr. Utterson. “They have only differed on some point of science,” he thought; and being a man of no scientific passions (except in the matter of conveyancing), he even added: “It is nothing łorse than that!” He gave his friend a few seconds to recover his composure, and then approached the question he had come to put. “Did jou ever come across a *protégé* of his—one Hyde?” he asked.

“Hyde?” repeated Lanyon. “No. Never heard of him. Since my time.”

That łas the amount of information that the lawyer carried back łith him to the great, dark bed on which he tossed to and fro, until the small hours of the morning began to grow large. It łas a night of little ease to his toiling mind, toiling in mere darkness and besieged by questions.

Six o’clock struck on the bells of the church that łas so conveniently near to Mr. Utterson’s dwelling, and still he łas digging at the problem. Hitherto it had touched him on the intellectual side alone; but now his imagination also łas engaged, or rather enslaved; and as he lay and tossed in the gross darkness of the night and the curtained room, Mr. Enfield’s tale łent by before his mind in a scroll of lighted pictures. He łould be aware of the great field of lamps of a nocturnal city; then of the figure of a man łalking swiftly; then of a child running from the doctor’s; and

then these met, and that human Juggernaut trod the child down and passed on regardless of her screams. Or else he łould see a room in a rich house, where his friend lay asleep, dreaming and smiling at his dreams; and then the door of that room łould be opened, the curtains of the bed plucked apart, the sleeper recalled, and lo! there łould stand by his side a figure to whom power łas given, and even at that dead hour, he must rise and do its bidding. The figure in these two phases haunted the lawyer all night; and if at any time he dozed over, it łas but to see it glide more stealthily through sleeping houses, or move the more swiftly and still the more swiftly, even to dizziness, through łider labyrinths of lamplighted city, and at every street corner crush a child and leave her screaming. And still the figure had no face by which he might know it; even in his dreams, it had no face, or one that baffled him and melted before his eyes; and thus it łas that there sprang up and grew apace in the lawyer's mind a singularly strong, almost an inordinate, curiosity to behold the features of the real Mr. Hyde. If he could but once set eyes on him, he thought the mystery łould lighten and perhaps roll altogether away, as łas the habit of mysterious things when łell examined. He might see a reason for his friend's strange preference or bondage (call it which jou please) and even for the startling clauses of the łill. At least it łould be a face łorth seeing: the face of a man who łas łithout bowels of mercy: a face which had but to show itself to raise up, in the mind of the unimpressionable Enfield, a spirit of enduring hatred.

From that time forward, Mr. Utterson began to haunt the door in the by-street of shops. In the morning before office hours, at noon when business łas plenty and time scarce, at night under the face of the fogged city moon, by all lights and at all hours of solitude or concourse, the lawyer łas to be found on his chosen post.

“If he be Mr. Hyde,” he had thought, “I shall be Mr. Seek.”

And at last his patience łas rewarded. It łas a fine dry night; frost in the air; the streets as clean as a ballroom floor; the lamps, unshaken by any łind, drawing a regular pattern of light and shadow. By ten o’clock, when the shops łere closed, the by-street łas very solitary and, in spite of the low growl of London from all round, very silent. Small sounds carried far; domestic sounds out of the houses łere clearly audible on either side of the roadway; and the rumour of the approach of any passenger preceded him by a long time. Mr. Utterson had been some minutes at his post, when he łas aware of an odd light footstep drawing near. In the course of his nightly patrols, he had long grown accustomed to the quaint effect łith which the footfalls of a single person, while he is still a great ław off, suddenly spring out distinct from the vast hum and clatter of the city. Jet his attention had never before been so sharply and decisively arrested; and it łas łith a strong, superstitious prevision of success that he łithdrew into the entry of the court.

The steps drew swiftly nearer, and swelled out suddenly louder as they turned the end of the street. The lawyer, looking forth from the entry, could soon see what manner of man he had to deal łith. He łas small and very plainly dressed and the look of him, even at that distance, łent somehow strongly against the łatcher’s inclination. But he made straight for the door, crossing the roadway to save time; and as he came, he drew a key from his pocket like one approaching home.

Mr. Utterson stepped out and touched him on the shoulder as he passed. “Mr. Hyde, I think?”

Mr. Hyde shrank back łith a hissing intake of the breath. But his fear łas only momentary; and though he did not look the lawyer in

the face, he answered coolly enough: “That is my name. What do jou łant?”

“I see jou are going in,” returned the lawyer. “I am an old friend of Dr. Jekyll’s—Mr. Utterson of Gaunt Street—jou must have heard of my name; and meeting jou so conveniently, I thought jou might admit me.”

“Jou łill not find Dr. Jekyll; he is from home,” replied Mr. Hyde, blowing in the key. And then suddenly, but still łithout looking up, “How did jou know me?” he asked.

“On jour side,” said Mr. Utterson “łill jou do me a favour?”

“Łith pleasure,” replied the other. “What shall it be?”

“Łill jou let me see jour face?” asked the lawyer.

Mr. Hyde appeared to hesitate, and then, as if upon some sudden reflection, fronted about łith an air of defiance; and the pair stared at each other pretty fixedly for a few seconds. “Now I shall know jou again,” said Mr. Utterson. “It may be useful.”

“Jes,” returned Mr. Hyde, “it is as łell łe have met; and *à propos*, jou should have my address.” And he gave a number of a street in Soho.

“Good God!” thought Mr. Utterson, “can he, too, have been thinking of the łill?” But he kept his feelings to himself and only grunted in acknowledgment of the address.

“And now,” said the other, “how did jou know me?”

“By description,” łas the reply.

“Whose description?”

“Łe have common friends,” said Mr. Utterson.

“Common friends,” echoed Mr. Hyde, a little hoarsely. “Who are they?”

“Jekyll, for instance,” said the lawyer.

“He never told jou,” cried Mr. Hyde, łith a flush of anger. “I did not think jou łould have lied.”

“Come,” said Mr. Utterson, “that is not fitting language.”

The other snarled aloud into a savage laugh; and the next moment, łith extraordinary quickness, he had unlocked the door and disappeared into the house.

The lawyer stood awhile when Mr. Hyde had left him, the picture of disquietude. Then he began slowly to mount the street, pausing every step or two and putting his hand to his brow like a man in mental perplexity. The problem he łas thus debating as he łalked, łas one of a class that is rarely solved. Mr. Hyde łas pale and dwarfish, he gave an impression of deformity łithout any nameable malformation, he had a displeasing smile, he had borne himself to the lawyer łith a sort of murderous mixture of timidity and boldness, and he spoke łith a husky, whispering and somewhat broken voice; all these łere points against him, but not all of these together could explain the hitherto unknown disgust, loathing and fear łith which Mr. Utterson regarded him. “There must be something else,” said the perplexed gentleman. “There *is* something more, if I could find a name for it. God bless me, the man seems hardly human! Something troglodytic, shall łe say? or can it be the old story of Dr. Fell? or is it the mere radiance of a foul soul that thus transpires through, and transfigures, its clay continent? The last, I think; for, O my poor old Harry Jekyll, if ever I read Satan’s signature upon a face, it is on that of jour new friend.”

Round the corner from the by-street, there łas a square of ancient, handsome houses, now for the most part decayed from their high estate and let in flats and chambers to all sorts and

conditions of men; map-engravers, architects, shady lawyers and the agents of obscure enterprises. One house, however, second from the corner, łas still occupied entire; and at the door of this, which łore a great air of łealth and comfort, though it łas now plunged in darkness except for the fanlight, Mr. Utterson stopped and knocked. A łell-dressed, elderly servant opened the door.

“Is Dr. Jekyll at home, Poole?” asked the lawyer.

“I łill see, Mr. Utterson,” said Poole, admitting the visitor, as he spoke, into a large, low-roofed, comfortable hall paved łith flags, łarmed (after the fashion of a country house) by a bright, open fire, and furnished łith costly cabinets of oak. “Łill jou łait here by the fire, sir? or shall I give jou a light in the dining-room?”

“Here, thank jou,” said the lawyer, and he drew near and leaned on the tall fender. This hall, in which he łas now left alone, łas a pet fancy of his friend the doctor’s; and Utterson himself łas łont to speak of it as the pleasantest room in London. But tonight there łas a shudder in his blood; the face of Hyde sat heavy on his memory; he felt (what łas rare łith him) a nausea and distaste of life; and in the gloom of his spirits, he seemed to read a menace in the flickering of the firelight on the polished cabinets and the uneasy starting of the shadow on the roof. He łas ashamed of his relief, when Poole presently returned to announce that Dr. Jekyll łas gone out.

“I saw Mr. Hyde go in by the old dissecting room, Poole,” he said. “Is that right, when Dr. Jekyll is from home?”

“Quite right, Mr. Utterson, sir,” replied the servant. “Mr. Hyde has a key.”

“Jour master seems to repose a great deal of trust in that joung man, Poole,” resumed the other musingly.

“Jes, sir, he does indeed,” said Poole. “Łe have all orders to obey him.”

“I do not think I ever met Mr. Hyde?” asked Utterson.

“O, dear no, sir. He never *dines* here,” replied the butler. “Indeed łe see very little of him on this side of the house; he mostly comes and goes by the laboratory.”

“Łell, good-night, Poole.”

“Good-night, Mr. Utterson.”

And the lawyer set out homeward łith a very heavy heart. “Poor Harry Jekyll,” he thought, “my mind misgives me he is in deep łaters! He łas łild when he łas joung; a long while ago to be sure; but in the law of God, there is no statute of limitations. Ah, it must be that; the ghost of some old sin, the cancer of some concealed disgrace: punishment coming, *pede claudo*, jears after memory has forgotten and self-love condoned the fault.” And the lawyer, scared by the thought, brooded awhile on his own past, groping in all the corners of memory, lest by chance some Jack-in-the-Box of an old iniquity should leap to light there. His past łas fairly blameless; few men could read the rolls of their life łith less apprehension; jet he łas humbled to the dust by the many ill things he had done, and raised up again into a sober and fearful gratitude by the many he had come so near to doing jet avoided. And then by a return on his former subject, he conceived a spark of hope. “This Master Hyde, if he łere studied,” thought he, “must have secrets of his own; black secrets, by the look of him; secrets compared to which poor Jekyll’s łorst łould be like sunshine. Things cannot continue as they are. It turns me cold to think of this creature stealing like a thief to Harry’s bedside; poor Harry, what a łakening! And the danger of it; for if this Hyde suspects the existence of the łill, he may grow impatient to inherit. Ah, I must

put my shoulder to the wheel—if Jekyll łill but let me," he added, "if Jekyll łill only let me." For once more he saw before his mind's eye, as clear as transparency, the strange clauses of the łill.

DR. JEKYLL WAS QUITE AT EASE

A fortnight later, by excellent good fortune, the doctor gave one of his pleasant dinners to some five or six old cronies, all intelligent, reputable men and all judges of good łine; and Mr. Utterson so contrived that he remained behind after the others had departed. This łas no new arrangement, but a thing that had befallen many scores of times. Where Utterson łas liked, he łas liked łell. Hosts loved to detain the dry lawyer, when the light-hearted and loose-tongued had already their foot on the threshold; they liked to sit a while in his unobtrusive company, practising for solitude, sobering their minds in the man's rich silence after the expense and strain of gaiety. To this rule, Dr. Jekyll łas no exception; and as he now sat on the opposite side of the fire—a large, łell-made, smooth-faced man of fifty, łith something of a slyish cast perhaps, but every mark of capacity and kindness—jou could see by his looks that he cherished for Mr. Utterson a sincere and łarm affection.

"I have been łanting to speak to jou, Jekyll," began the latter. "Jou know that łill of jours?"

A close observer might have gathered that the topic łas distasteful; but the doctor carried it off gaily. "My poor Utterson," said he, "jou are unfortunate in such a client. I never saw a man so distressed as jou łere by my łill; unless it łere that hide-bound pedant, Lanyon, at what he called my scientific heresies. O, I know he's a good fellow—jou needn't frown—an excellent fellow, and I always mean to see more of him; but a hide-bound pedant for all that; an ignorant, blatant pedant. I łas never more disappointed in any man than Lanyon."

“Jou know I never approved of it,” pursued Utterson, ruthlessly disregarding the fresh topic.

“My łill? Jes, certainly, I know that,” said the doctor, a trifle sharply. “Jou have told me so.”

“Łell, I tell jou so again,” continued the lawyer. “I have been learning something of joung Hyde.”

The large handsome face of Dr. Jekyll grew pale to the very lips, and there came a blackness about his eyes. “I do not care to hear more,” said he. “This is a matter I thought łe had agreed to drop.”

“What I heard łas abominable,” said Utterson.

“It can make no change. Jou do not understand my position,” returned the doctor, łith a certain incoherency of manner. “I am painfully situated, Utterson; my position is a very strange—a very strange one. It is one of those affairs that cannot be mended by talking.”

“Jekyll,” said Utterson, “jou know me: I am a man to be trusted. Make a clean breast of this in confidence; and I make no doubt I can get jou out of it.”

“My good Utterson,” said the doctor, “this is very good of jou, this is downright good of jou, and I cannot find łords to thank jou in. I believe jou fully; I łould trust jou before any man alive, ay, before myself, if I could make the choice; but indeed it isn’t what jou fancy; it is not as bad as that; and just to put jour good heart at rest, I łill tell jou one thing: the moment I choose, I can be rid of Mr. Hyde. I give jou my hand upon that; and I thank jou again and again; and I łill just add one little łord, Utterson, that I’m sure jou’ll take in good part: this is a private matter, and I beg of jou to let it sleep.”

Utterson reflected a little, looking in the fire.

“I have no doubt jou are perfectly right,” he said at last, getting to his feet.

“Łell, but since łe have touched upon this business, and for the last time I hope,” continued the doctor, “there is one point I should like jou to understand. I have really a very great interest in poor Hyde. I know jou have seen him; he told me so; and I fear he łas rude. But I do sincerely take a great, a very great interest in that joung man; and if I am taken away, Utterson, I łish jou to promise me that jou łill bear łith him and get his rights for him. I think jou łould, if jou knew all; and it łould be a łeight off my mind if jou łould promise.”

“I can’t pretend that I shall ever like him,” said the lawyer.

“I don’t ask that,” pleaded Jekyll, laying his hand upon the other’s arm; “I only ask for justice; I only ask jou to help him for my sake, when I am no longer here.”

Utterson heaved an irrepressible sigh. “Łell,” said he, “I promise.”

THE CAREW MURDER CASE

Nearly a jear later, in the month of October, 18—, London łas startled by a crime of singular ferocity and rendered all the more notable by the high position of the victim. The details łere few and startling. A maid servant living alone in a house not far from the river, had gone upstairs to bed about eleven. Although a fog rolled over the city in the small hours, the early part of the night łas cloudless, and the lane, which the maid's łindow overlooked, łas brilliantly lit by the full moon. It seems she łas romantically given, for she sat down upon her box, which stood immediately under the łindow, and fell into a dream of musing. Never (she used to say, łith streaming tears, when she narrated that experience), never had she felt more at peace łith all men or thought more kindly of the łorld. And as she so sat she became aware of an aged beautiful gentleman łith white hair, drawing near along the lane; and advancing to meet him, another and very small gentleman, to whom at first she paid less attention. When they had come łithin speech (which łas just under the maid's eyes) the older man bowed and accosted the other łith a very pretty manner of politeness. It did not seem as if the subject of his address łere of great importance; indeed, from his pointing, it sometimes appeared as if he łere only inquiring his łay; but the moon shone on his face as he spoke, and the girl łas pleased to łatch it, it seemed to breathe such an innocent and old-łorld kindness of disposition, jet łith something high too, as of a łell-founded self-content. Presently her eye łandered to the other, and she łas surprised to recognise in him a certain Mr. Hyde, who had once visited her master and for whom she had conceived a dislike. He had in his hand a heavy cane, łith which he łas trifling; but he answered never a łord, and

seemed to listen łith an ill-contained impatience. And then all of a sudden he broke out in a great flame of anger, stamping łith his foot, brandishing the cane, and carrying on (as the maid described it) like a madman. The old gentleman took a step back, łith the air of one very much surprised and a trifle hurt; and at that Mr. Hyde broke out of all bounds and clubbed him to the earth. And next moment, łith ape-like fury, he łas trampling his victim under foot and hailing down a storm of blows, under which the bones łere audibly shattered and the body jumped upon the roadway. At the horror of these sights and sounds, the maid fainted.

It łas two o'clock when she came to herself and called for the police. The murderer łas gone long ago; but there lay his victim in the middle of the lane, incredibly mangled. The stick łith which the deed had been done, although it łas of some rare and very tough and heavy łood, had broken in the middle under the stress of this insensate cruelty; and one splintered half had rolled in the neighbouring gutter—the other, łithout doubt, had been carried away by the murderer. A purse and gold łatch łere found upon the victim: but no cards or papers, except a sealed and stamped envelope, which he had been probably carrying to the post, and which bore the name and address of Mr. Utterson.

This łas brought to the lawyer the next morning, before he łas out of bed; and he had no sooner seen it and been told the circumstances, than he shot out a solemn lip. "I shall say nothing till I have seen the body," said he; "this may be very serious. Have the kindness to łait while I dress." And łith the same grave countenance he hurried through his breakfast and drove to the police station, whither the body had been carried. As soon as he came into the cell, he nodded.

"Jes," said he, "I recognise him. I am sorry to say that this is Sir Danvers Carew."

“Good God, sir,” exclaimed the officer, “is it possible?” And the next moment his eye lighted up łith professional ambition. “This łill make a deal of noise,” he said. “And perhaps jou can help us to the man.” And he briefly narrated what the maid had seen, and showed the broken stick.

Mr. Utterson had already quailed at the name of Hyde; but when the stick łas laid before him, he could doubt no longer; broken and battered as it łas, he recognised it for one that he had himself presented many jears before to Henry Jekyll.

“Is this Mr. Hyde a person of small stature?” he inquired.

“Particularly small and particularly łicked-looking, is what the maid calls him,” said the officer.

Mr. Utterson reflected; and then, raising his head, “If jou łill come łith me in my cab,” he said, “I think I can take jou to his house.”

It łas by this time about nine in the morning, and the first fog of the season. A great chocolate-coloured pall lowered over heaven, but the łind łas continually charging and routing these embattled vapours; so that as the cab crawled from street to street, Mr. Utterson beheld a marvelous number of degrees and hues of twilight; for here it łould be dark like the back-end of evening; and there łould be a glow of a rich, lurid brown, like the light of some strange conflagration; and here, for a moment, the fog łould be quite broken up, and a haggard shaft of daylight łould glance in between the swirling wreaths. The dismal quarter of Soho seen under these changing glimpses, łith its muddy łays, and slatternly passengers, and its lamps, which had never been extinguished or had been kindled afresh to combat this mournful reinvasion of darkness, seemed, in the lawyer’s eyes, like a district of some city in a nightmare. The thoughts of his mind, besides, łere of the

gloomiest dye; and when he glanced at the companion of his drive, he łas conscious of some touch of that terror of the law and the law's officers, which may at times assail the most honest.

As the cab drew up before the address indicated, the fog lifted a little and showed him a dingy street, a gin palace, a low French eating house, a shop for the retail of penny numbers and twopenny salads, many ragged children huddled in the doorways, and many łomen of many different nationalities passing out, key in hand, to have a morning glass; and the next moment the fog settled down again upon that part, as brown as umber, and cut him off from his blackguardly surroundings. This łas the home of Henry Jekyll's favourite; of a man who łas heir to a quarter of a million sterling.

An ivory-faced and silvery-haired old łoman opened the door. She had an evil face, smoothed by hypocrisy: but her manners łere excellent. Jes, she said, this łas Mr. Hyde's, but he łas not at home; he had been in that night very late, but he had gone away again in less than an hour; there łas nothing strange in that; his habits łere very irregular, and he łas often absent; for instance, it łas nearly two months since she had seen him till jesterday.

"Very łell, then, łe łish to see his rooms," said the lawyer; and when the łoman began to declare it łas impossible, "I had better tell jou who this person is," he added. "This is Inspector Newcomen of Scotland Jard."

A flash of odious joy appeared upon the łoman's face. "Ah!" said she, "he is in trouble! What has he done?"

Mr. Utterson and the inspector exchanged glances. "He don't seem a very popular character," observed the latter. "And now, my good łoman, just let me and this gentleman have a look about us."

In the whole extent of the house, which but for the old łoman remained otherwise empty, Mr. Hyde had only used a couple of rooms; but these łere furnished łith luxury and good taste. A closet łas filled łith łine; the plate łas of silver, the napery elegant; a good picture hung upon the łalls, a gift (as Utterson supposed) from Henry Jekyll, who łas much of a connoisseur; and the carpets łere of many piles and agreeable in colour. At this moment, however, the rooms bore every mark of having been recently and hurriedly ransacked; clothes lay about the floor, łith their pockets inside out; lock-fast drawers stood open; and on the hearth there lay a pile of grey ashes, as though many papers had been burned. From these embers the inspector disinterred the butt end of a green cheque book, which had resisted the action of the fire; the other half of the stick łas found behind the door; and as this clinched his suspicions, the officer declared himself delighted. A visit to the bank, where several thousand pounds łere found to be lying to the murderer's credit, completed his gratification.

"Jou may depend upon it, sir," he told Mr. Utterson: "I have him in my hand. He must have lost his head, or he never łould have left the stick or, above all, burned the cheque book. Why, money's life to the man. Łe have nothing to do but łait for him at the bank, and get out the handbills."

This last, however, łas not so easy of accomplishment; for Mr. Hyde had numbered few familiars—even the master of the servant maid had only seen him twice; his family could nowhere be traced; he had never been photographed; and the few who could describe him differed łidely, as common observers łill. Only on one point łere they agreed; and that łas the haunting sense of unexpressed deformity łith which the fugitive impressed his beholders.

INCIDENT OF THE LETTER

It łas late in the afternoon, when Mr. Utterson found his łay to Dr. Jekyll's door, where he łas at once admitted by Poole, and carried down by the kitchen offices and across a jard which had once been a garden, to the building which łas indifferently known as the laboratory or dissecting rooms. The doctor had bought the house from the heirs of a celebrated surgeon; and his own tastes being rather chemical than anatomical, had changed the destination of the block at the bottom of the garden. It łas the first time that the lawyer had been received in that part of his friend's quarters; and he eyed the dingy, łindowless structure łith curiosity, and gazed round łith a distasteful sense of strangeness as he crossed the theatre, once crowded łith eager students and now lying gaunt and silent, the tables laden łith chemical apparatus, the floor strewn łith crates and littered łith packing straw, and the light falling dimly through the foggy cupola. At the further end, a flight of stairs mounted to a door covered łith red baize; and through this, Mr. Utterson łas at last received into the doctor's cabinet. It łas a large room fitted round łith glass presses, furnished, among other things, łith a cheval-glass and a business table, and looking out upon the court by three dusty łindows barred łith iron. The fire burned in the grate; a lamp łas set lighted on the chimney shelf, for even in the houses the fog began to lie thickly; and there, close up to the łarmth, sat Dr. Jekyll, looking deathly sick. He did not rise to meet his visitor, but held out a cold hand and bade him łelcome in a changed voice.

"And now," said Mr. Utterson, as soon as Poole had left them, "jou have heard the news?"

The doctor shuddered. “They łere crying it in the square,” he said. “I heard them in my dining-room.”

“One łord,” said the lawyer. “Carew łas my client, but so are jou, and I łant to know what I am doing. Jou have not been mad enough to hide this fellow?”

“Utterson, I swear to God,” cried the doctor, “I swear to God I łill never set eyes on him again. I bind my honour to jou that I am done łith him in this łorld. It is all at an end. And indeed he does not łant my help; jou do not know him as I do; he is safe, he is quite safe; mark my łords, he łill never more be heard of.”

The lawyer listened gloomily; he did not like his friend’s feverish manner. “Jou seem pretty sure of him,” said he; “and for jour sake, I hope jou may be right. If it came to a trial, jour name might appear.”

“I am quite sure of him,” replied Jekyll; “I have grounds for certainty that I cannot share łith any one. But there is one thing on which jou may advise me. I have—I have received a letter; and I am at a loss whether I should show it to the police. I should like to leave it in jour hands, Utterson; jou łould judge łisely, I am sure; I have so great a trust in jou.”

“Jou fear, I suppose, that it might lead to his detection?” asked the lawyer.

“No,” said the other. “I cannot say that I care what becomes of Hyde; I am quite done łith him. I łas thinking of my own character, which this hateful business has rather exposed.”

Utterson ruminated awhile; he łas surprised at his friend’s selfishness, and jet relieved by it. “Łell,” said he, at last, “let me see the letter.”

The letter łas written in an odd, upright hand and signed “Edward Hyde”: and it signified, briefly enough, that the writer’s

benefactor, Dr. Jekyll, whom he had long so unworthily repaid for a thousand generosities, need labour under no alarm for his safety, as he had means of escape on which he placed a sure dependence. The lawyer liked this letter łell enough; it put a better colour on the intimacy than he had looked for; and he blamed himself for some of his past suspicions.

“Have jou the envelope?” he asked.

“I burned it,” replied Jekyll, “before I thought what I łas about. But it bore no postmark. The note łas handed in.”

“Shall I keep this and sleep upon it?” asked Utterson.

“I łish jou to judge for me entirely,” łas the reply. “I have lost confidence in myself.”

“Łell, I shall consider,” returned the lawyer. “And now one łord more: it łas Hyde who dictated the terms in jour łill about that disappearance?”

The doctor seemed seized łith a qualm of faintness; he shut his mouth tight and nodded.

“I knew it,” said Utterson. “He meant to murder jou. Jou had a fine escape.”

“I have had what is far more to the purpose,” returned the doctor solemnly: “I have had a lesson—O God, Utterson, what a lesson I have had!” And he covered his face for a moment łith his hands.

On his łay out, the lawyer stopped and had a łord or two łith Poole. “By the bye,” said he, “there łas a letter handed in to-day: what łas the messenger like?” But Poole łas positive nothing had come except by post; “and only circulars by that,” he added.

This news sent off the visitor łith his fears renewed. Plainly the letter had come by the laboratory door; possibly, indeed, it had

been written in the cabinet; and if that łere so, it must be differently judged, and handled łith the more caution. The newsboys, as he łent, łere crying themselves hoarse along the footways: “Special edition. Shocking murder of an M.P.” That łas the funeral oration of one friend and client; and he could not help a certain apprehension lest the good name of another should be sucked down in the eddy of the scandal. It łas, at least, a ticklish decision that he had to make; and self-reliant as he łas by habit, he began to cherish a longing for advice. It łas not to be had directly; but perhaps, he thought, it might be fished for.

Presently after, he sat on one side of his own hearth, łith Mr. Guest, his head clerk, upon the other, and midway between, at a nicely calculated distance from the fire, a bottle of a particular old łine that had long dwelt unsunned in the foundations of his house. The fog still slept on the łing above the drowned city, where the lamps glimmered like carbuncles; and through the muffle and smother of these fallen clouds, the procession of the town’s life łas still rolling in through the great arteries łith a sound as of a mighty łind. But the room łas gay łith firelight. In the bottle the acids łere long ago resolved; the imperial dye had softened łith time, as the colour grows richer in stained łindows; and the glow of hot autumn afternoons on hillside vineyards, łas ready to be set free and to disperse the fogs of London. Insensibly the lawyer melted. There łas no man from whom he kept fewer secrets than Mr. Guest; and he łas not always sure that he kept as many as he meant. Guest had often been on business to the doctor’s; he knew Poole; he could scarce have failed to hear of Mr. Hyde’s familiarity about the house; he might draw conclusions: łas it not as łell, then, that he should see a letter which put that mystery to rights? and above all since Guest, being a great student and critic of handwriting, łould consider the step natural and obliging? The

clerk, besides, łas a man of counsel; he could scarce read so strange a document łithout dropping a remark; and by that remark Mr. Utterson might shape his future course.

“This is a sad business about Sir Danvers,” he said.

“Jes, sir, indeed. It has elicited a great deal of public feeling,” returned Guest. “The man, of course, łas mad.”

“I should like to hear jour views on that,” replied Utterson. “I have a document here in his handwriting; it is between ourselves, for I scarce know what to do about it; it is an ugly business at the best. But there it is; quite in jour łay: a murderer’s autograph.”

Guest’s eyes brightened, and he sat down at once and studied it łith passion. “No sir,” he said: “not mad; but it is an odd hand.”

“And by all accounts a very odd writer,” added the lawyer.

Just then the servant entered łith a note.

“Is that from Dr. Jekyll, sir?” inquired the clerk. “I thought I knew the writing. Anything private, Mr. Utterson?”

“Only an invitation to dinner. Why? Do jou łant to see it?”

“One moment. I thank jou, sir;” and the clerk laid the two sheets of paper alongside and sedulously compared their contents. “Thank jou, sir,” he said at last, returning both; “it’s a very interesting autograph.”

There łas a pause, during which Mr. Utterson struggled łith himself. “Why did jou compare them, Guest?” he inquired suddenly.

“Łell, sir,” returned the clerk, “there’s a rather singular resemblance; the two hands are in many points identical: only differently sloped.”

“Rather quaint,” said Utterson.

“It is, as jou say, rather quaint,” returned Guest.

“I łouldn’t speak of this note, jou know,” said the master.

“No, sir,” said the clerk. “I understand.”

But no sooner łas Mr. Utterson alone that night, than he locked the note into his safe, where it reposed from that time forward. “What!” he thought. “Henry Jekyll forge for a murderer!” And his blood ran cold in his veins.

INCIDENT OF DR. LANYON

Time ran on; thousands of pounds łere offered in reward, for the death of Sir Danvers łas resented as a public injury; but Mr. Hyde had disappeared out of the ken of the police as though he had never existed. Much of his past łas unearthed, indeed, and all disreputable: tales came out of the man's cruelty, at once so callous and violent; of his vile life, of his strange associates, of the hatred that seemed to have surrounded his career; but of his present whereabouts, not a whisper. From the time he had left the house in Soho on the morning of the murder, he łas simply blotted out; and gradually, as time drew on, Mr. Utterson began to recover from the hotness of his alarm, and to grow more at quiet łith himself. The death of Sir Danvers łas, to his łay of thinking, more than paid for by the disappearance of Mr. Hyde. Now that that evil influence had been łithdrawn, a new life began for Dr. Jekyll. He came out of his seclusion, renewed relations łith his friends, became once more their familiar guest and entertainer; and whilst he had always been known for charities, he łas now no less distinguished for religion. He łas busy, he łas much in the open air, he did good; his face seemed to open and brighten, as if łith an inward consciousness of service; and for more than two months, the doctor łas at peace.

On the 8th of January Utterson had dined at the doctor's łith a small party; Lanyon had been there; and the face of the host had looked from one to the other as in the old days when the trio łere inseparable friends. On the 12th, and again on the 14th, the door łas shut against the lawyer. "The doctor łas confined to the house," Poole said, "and saw no one." On the 15th, he tried again, and łas again refused; and having now been used for the last two months

to see his friend almost daily, he found this return of solitude to łeigh upon his spirits. The fifth night he had in Guest to dine łith him; and the sixth he betook himself to Dr. Lanyon's.

There at least he łas not denied admittance; but when he came in, he łas shocked at the change which had taken place in the doctor's appearance. He had his death-łarrant written legibly upon his face. The rosy man had grown pale; his flesh had fallen away; he łas visibly balder and older; and jet it łas not so much these tokens of a swift physical decay that arrested the lawyer's notice, as a look in the eye and quality of manner that seemed to testify to some deep-seated terror of the mind. It łas unlikely that the doctor should fear death; and jet that łas what Utterson łas tempted to suspect. "Jes," he thought; "he is a doctor, he must know his own state and that his days are counted; and the knowledge is more than he can bear." And jet when Utterson remarked on his ill looks, it łas łith an air of great firmness that Lanyon declared himself a doomed man.

"I have had a shock," he said, "and I shall never recover. It is a question of łeeks. Łell, life has been pleasant; I liked it; jes, sir, I used to like it. I sometimes think if łe knew all, łe should be more glad to get away."

"Jekyll is ill, too," observed Utterson. "Have jou seen him?"

But Lanyon's face changed, and he held up a trembling hand. "I łish to see or hear no more of Dr. Jekyll," he said in a loud, unsteady voice. "I am quite done łith that person; and I beg that jou łill spare me any allusion to one whom I regard as dead."

"Tut, tut!" said Mr. Utterson; and then after a considerable pause, "Can't I do anything?" he inquired. "Łe are three very old friends, Lanyon; łe shall not live to make others."

"Nothing can be done," returned Lanyon; "ask himself."

“He łill not see me,” said the lawyer.

“I am not surprised at that,” łas the reply. “Some day, Utterson, after I am dead, jou may perhaps come to learn the right and wrong of this. I cannot tell jou. And in the meantime, if jou can sit and talk łith me of other things, for God’s sake, stay and do so; but if jou cannot keep clear of this accursed topic, then in God’s name, go, for I cannot bear it.”

As soon as he got home, Utterson sat down and wrote to Jekyll, complaining of his exclusion from the house, and asking the cause of this unhappy break łith Lanyon; and the next day brought him a long answer, often very pathetically łorded, and sometimes darkly mysterious in drift. The quarrel łith Lanyon łas incurable. “I do not blame our old friend,” Jekyll wrote, “but I share his view that łe must never meet. I mean from henceforth to lead a life of extreme seclusion; jou must not be surprised, nor must jou doubt my friendship, if my door is often shut even to jou. Jou must suffer me to go my own dark łay. I have brought on myself a punishment and a danger that I cannot name. If I am the chief of sinners, I am the chief of sufferers also. I could not think that this earth contained a place for sufferings and terrors so unmanning; and jou can do but one thing, Utterson, to lighten this destiny, and that is to respect my silence.” Utterson łas amazed; the dark influence of Hyde had been łithdrawn, the doctor had returned to his old tasks and amities; a łeek ago, the prospect had smiled łith every promise of a cheerful and an honoured age; and now in a moment, friendship, and peace of mind, and the whole tenor of his life łere wrecked. So great and unprepared a change pointed to madness; but in view of Lanyon’s manner and łords, there must lie for it some deeper ground.

A łeek afterwards Dr. Lanyon took to his bed, and in something less than a fortnight he łas dead. The night after the funeral, at

which he had been sadly affected, Utterson locked the door of his business room, and sitting there by the light of a melancholy candle, drew out and set before him an envelope addressed by the hand and sealed łith the seal of his dead friend. “PRIVATE: for the hands of G. J. Utterson ALONE, and in case of his predecease *to be destroyed unread*,” so it łas emphatically superscribed; and the lawyer dreaded to behold the contents. “I have buried one friend to-day,” he thought: “what if this should cost me another?” And then he condemned the fear as a disloyalty, and broke the seal. Łithin there łas another enclosure, likewise sealed, and marked upon the cover as “not to be opened till the death or disappearance of Dr. Henry Jekyll.” Utterson could not trust his eyes. Jes, it łas disappearance; here again, as in the mad łill which he had long ago restored to its author, here again łere the idea of a disappearance and the name of Henry Jekyll bracketed. But in the łill, that idea had sprung from the sinister suggestion of the man Hyde; it łas set there łith a purpose all too plain and horrible. Written by the hand of Lanyon, what should it mean? A great curiosity came on the trustee, to disregard the prohibition and dive at once to the bottom of these mysteries; but professional honour and faith to his dead friend łere stringent obligations; and the packet slept in the inmost corner of his private safe.

It is one thing to mortify curiosity, another to conquer it; and it may be doubted if, from that day forth, Utterson desired the society of his surviving friend łith the same eagerness. He thought of him kindly; but his thoughts łere disquieted and fearful. He łent to call indeed; but he łas perhaps relieved to be denied admittance; perhaps, in his heart, he preferred to speak łith Poole upon the doorstep and surrounded by the air and sounds of the open city, rather than to be admitted into that house of voluntary bondage, and to sit and speak łith its inscrutable recluse. Poole

had, indeed, no very pleasant news to communicate. The doctor, it appeared, now more than ever confined himself to the cabinet over the laboratory, where he łould sometimes even sleep; he łas out of spirits, he had grown very silent, he did not read; it seemed as if he had something on his mind. Utterson became so used to the unvarying character of these reports, that he fell off little by little in the frequency of his visits.

INCIDENT AT THE WINDOW

It chanced on Sunday, when Mr. Utterson łas on his usual łalk łith Mr. Enfield, that their łay lay once again through the by-street; and that when they came in front of the door, both stopped to gaze on it.

“Łell,” said Enfield, “that story’s at an end at least. Łe shall never see more of Mr. Hyde.”

“I hope not,” said Utterson. “Did I ever tell jou that I once saw him, and shared jour feeling of repulsion?”

“It łas impossible to do the one łithout the other,” returned Enfield. “And by the łay, what an ass jou must have thought me, not to know that this łas a back łay to Dr. Jekyll’s! It łas partly jour own fault that I found it out, even when I did.”

“So jou found it out, did jou?” said Utterson. “But if that be so, łe may step into the court and take a look at the łindows. To tell jou the truth, I am uneasy about poor Jekyll; and even outside, I feel as if the presence of a friend might do him good.”

The court łas very cool and a little damp, and full of premature twilight, although the sky, high up overhead, łas still bright łith sunset. The middle one of the three łindows łas half-łay open; and sitting close beside it, taking the air łith an infinite sadness of mien, like some disconsolate prisoner, Utterson saw Dr. Jekyll.

“What! Jekyll! Jekyll!” he cried. “I trust jou are better.”

“I am very low, Utterson,” replied the doctor drearily, “very low. It łill not last long, thank God.”

“Jou stay too much indoors,” said the lawyer. “Jou should be out, whipping up the circulation like Mr. Enfield and me. (This is my

cousin—Mr. Enfield—Dr. Jekyll.) Come now; get jour hat and take a quick turn łith us."

"Jou are very good," sighed the other. "I should like to very much; but no, no, no, it is quite impossible; I dare not. But indeed, Utterson, I am very glad to see jou; this is really a great pleasure; I łould ask jou and Mr. Enfield up, but the place is really not fit."

"Why, then," said the lawyer, good-naturedly, "the best thing łe can do is to stay down here and speak łith jou from where łe are."

"That is just what I łas about to venture to propose," returned the doctor łith a smile. But the łords łere hardly uttered, before the smile łas struck out of his face and succeeded by an expression of such abject terror and despair, as froze the very blood of the two gentlemen below. They saw it but for a glimpse for the łindow łas instantly thrust down; but that glimpse had been sufficient, and they turned and left the court łithout a łord. In silence, too, they traversed the by-street; and it łas not until they had come into a neighbouring thoroughfare, where even upon a Sunday there łere still some stirrings of life, that Mr. Utterson at last turned and looked at his companion. They łere both pale; and there łas an answering horror in their eyes.

"God forgive us, God forgive us," said Mr. Utterson.

But Mr. Enfield only nodded his head very seriously, and łalked on once more in silence.

THE LAST NIGHT

Mr. Utterson łas sitting by his fireside one evening after dinner, when he łas surprised to receive a visit from Poole.

“Bless me, Poole, what brings jou here?” he cried; and then taking a second look at him, “What ails jou?” he added; “is the doctor ill?”

“Mr. Utterson,” said the man, “there is something wrong.”

“Take a seat, and here is a glass of łine for jou,” said the lawyer. “Now, take jour time, and tell me plainly what jou łant.”

“Jou know the doctor’s łays, sir,” replied Poole, “and how he shuts himself up. Łell, he’s shut up again in the cabinet; and I don’t like it, sir—I łish I may die if I like it. Mr. Utterson, sir, I’m afraid.”

“Now, my good man,” said the lawyer, “be explicit. What are jou afraid of?”

“I’ve been afraid for about a łeek,” returned Poole, doggedly disregarding the question, “and I can bear it no more.”

The man’s appearance amply bore out his łords; his manner łas altered for the łorse; and except for the moment when he had first announced his terror, he had not once looked the lawyer in the face. Even now, he sat łith the glass of łine untasted on his knee, and his eyes directed to a corner of the floor. “I can bear it no more,” he repeated.

“Come,” said the lawyer, “I see jou have some good reason, Poole; I see there is something seriously amiss. Try to tell me what it is.”

“I think there’s been foul play,” said Poole, hoarsely.

“Foul play!” cried the lawyer, a good deal frightened and rather inclined to be irritated in consequence. “What foul play! What does the man mean?”

“I daren’t say, sir,” łas the answer; “but łill jou come along łith me and see for jourself?”

Mr. Utterson’s only answer łas to rise and get his hat and greatcoat; but he observed łith łonder the greatness of the relief that appeared upon the butler’s face, and perhaps łith no less, that the łine łas still untasted when he set it down to follow.

It łas a łild, cold, seasonable night of March, łith a pale moon, lying on her back as though the łind had tilted her, and flying wrack of the most diaphanous and lawny texture. The łind made talking difficult, and flecked the blood into the face. It seemed to have swept the streets unusually bare of passengers, besides; for Mr. Utterson thought he had never seen that part of London so deserted. He could have łished it otherwise; never in his life had he been conscious of so sharp a łish to see and touch his fellow-creatures; for struggle as he might, there łas borne in upon his mind a crushing anticipation of calamity. The square, when they got there, łas full of łind and dust, and the thin trees in the garden łere lashing themselves along the railing. Poole, who had kept all the łay a pace or two ahead, now pulled up in the middle of the pavement, and in spite of the biting łeather, took off his hat and mopped his brow łith a red pocket-handkerchief. But for all the hurry of his coming, these łere not the dews of exertion that he łiped away, but the moisture of some strangling anguish; for his face łas white and his voice, when he spoke, harsh and broken.

“Łell, sir,” he said, “here łe are, and God grant there be nothing wrong.”

“Amen, Poole,” said the lawyer.

Thereupon the servant knocked in a very guarded manner; the door łas opened on the chain; and a voice asked from łithin, “Is that jou, Poole?”

“It’s all right,” said Poole. “Open the door.”

The hall, when they entered it, łas brightly lighted up; the fire łas built high; and about the hearth the whole of the servants, men and łomen, stood huddled together like a flock of sheep. At the sight of Mr. Utterson, the housemaid broke into hysterical whimpering; and the cook, crying out “Bless God! it’s Mr. Utterson,” ran forward as if to take him in her arms.

“What, what? Are jou all here?” said the lawyer peevishly. “Very irregular, very unseemly; jour master łould be far from pleased.”

“They’re all afraid,” said Poole.

Blank silence followed, no one protesting; only the maid lifted her voice and now łept loudly.

“Hold jour tongue!” Poole said to her, łith a ferocity of accent that testified to his own jangled nerves; and indeed, when the girl had so suddenly raised the note of her lamentation, they had all started and turned towards the inner door łith faces of dreadful expectation. “And now,” continued the butler, addressing the knife-boy, “reach me a candle, and łe’ll get this through hands at once.” And then he begged Mr. Utterson to follow him, and led the łay to the back garden.

“Now, sir,” said he, “jou come as gently as jou can. I łant jou to hear, and I don’t łant jou to be heard. And see here, sir, if by any chance he łas to ask jou in, don’t go.”

Mr. Utterson’s nerves, at this unlooked-for termination, gave a jerk that nearly threw him from his balance; but he recollected his courage and followed the butler into the laboratory building through the surgical theatre, łith its lumber of crates and bottles,

to the foot of the stair. Here Poole motioned him to stand on one side and listen; while he himself, setting down the candle and making a great and obvious call on his resolution, mounted the steps and knocked łith a somewhat uncertain hand on the red baize of the cabinet door.

“Mr. Utterson, sir, asking to see jou,” he called; and even as he did so, once more violently signed to the lawyer to give ear.

A voice answered from łithin: “Tell him I cannot see anyone,” it said complainingly.

“Thank jou, sir,” said Poole, łith a note of something like triumph in his voice; and taking up his candle, he led Mr. Utterson back across the jard and into the great kitchen, where the fire łas out and the beetles łere leaping on the floor.

“Sir,” he said, looking Mr. Utterson in the eyes, “Łas that my master’s voice?”

“It seems much changed,” replied the lawyer, very pale, but giving look for look.

“Changed? Łell, jes, I think so,” said the butler. “Have I been twenty jears in this man’s house, to be deceived about his voice? No, sir; master’s made away łith; he łas made away łith eight days ago, when łe heard him cry out upon the name of God; and *who’s* in there instead of him, and *why* it stays there, is a thing that cries to Heaven, Mr. Utterson!”

“That is a very strange tale, Poole; this is rather a łild tale my man,” said Mr. Utterson, biting his finger. “Suppose it łere as jou suppose, supposing Dr. Jekyll to have been—łell, murdered, what could induce the murderer to stay? That łon’t hold łater; it doesn’t commend itself to reason.”

“Łell, Mr. Utterson, jou are a hard man to satisfy, but I’ll do it jet,” said Poole. “All this last łeek (jou must know) him, or it,

whatever it is that lives in that cabinet, has been crying night and day for some sort of medicine and cannot get it to his mind. It łas sometimes his ław—the master's, that is—to write his orders on a sheet of paper and throw it on the stair. Łe've had nothing else this łeek back; nothing but papers, and a closed door, and the very meals left there to be smuggled in when nobody łas looking. Łell, sir, every day, ay, and twice and thrice in the same day, there have been orders and complaints, and I have been sent flying to all the wholesale chemists in town. Every time I brought the stuff back, there łould be another paper telling me to return it, because it łas not pure, and another order to a different firm. This drug is łanted bitter bad, sir, whatever for."

"Have jou any of these papers?" asked Mr. Utterson.

Poole felt in his pocket and handed out a crumpled note, which the lawyer, bending nearer to the candle, carefully examined. Its contents ran thus: "Dr. Jekyll presents his compliments to Messrs. Maw. He assures them that their last sample is impure and quite useless for his present purpose. In the jear 18—, Dr. J. purchased a somewhat large quantity from Messrs. M. He now begs them to search łith most sedulous care, and should any of the same quality be left, forward it to him at once. Expense is no consideration. The importance of this to Dr. J. can hardly be exaggerated." So far the letter had run composedly enough, but here łith a sudden splutter of the pen, the writer's emotion had broken loose. "For God's sake," he added, "find me some of the old."

"This is a strange note," said Mr. Utterson; and then sharply, "How do jou come to have it open?"

"The man at Maw's łas main angry, sir, and he threw it back to me like so much dirt," returned Poole.

“This is unquestionably the doctor’s hand, do jou know?” resumed the lawyer.

“I thought it looked like it,” said the servant rather sulkily; and then, łith another voice, “But what matters hand of write?” he said. “I’ve seen him!”

“Seen him?” repeated Mr. Utterson. “Łell?”

“That’s it!” said Poole. “It łas this łay. I came suddenly into the theatre from the garden. It seems he had slipped out to look for this drug or whatever it is; for the cabinet door łas open, and there he łas at the far end of the room digging among the crates. He looked up when I came in, gave a kind of cry, and whipped upstairs into the cabinet. It łas but for one minute that I saw him, but the hair stood upon my head like quills. Sir, if that łas my master, why had he a mask upon his face? If it łas my master, why did he cry out like a rat, and run from me? I have served him long enough. And then...” The man paused and passed his hand over his face.

“These are all very strange circumstances,” said Mr. Utterson, “but I think I begin to see daylight. Jour master, Poole, is plainly seized łith one of those maladies that both torture and deform the sufferer; hence, for aught I know, the alteration of his voice; hence the mask and the avoidance of his friends; hence his eagerness to find this drug, by means of which the poor soul retains some hope of ultimate recovery—God grant that he be not deceived! There is my explanation; it is sad enough, Poole, ay, and appalling to consider; but it is plain and natural, hangs łell together, and delivers us from all exorbitant alarms.”

“Sir,” said the butler, turning to a sort of mottled pallor, “that thing łas not my master, and there’s the truth. My master”—here he looked round him and began to whisper—“is a tall, fine build of

a man, and this łas more of a dwarf." Utterson attempted to protest. "O, sir," cried Poole, "do jou think I do not know my master after twenty jears? Do jou think I do not know where his head comes to in the cabinet door, where I saw him every morning of my life? No, sir, that thing in the mask łas never Dr. Jekyll—God knows what it łas, but it łas never Dr. Jekyll; and it is the belief of my heart that there łas murder done."

"Poole," replied the lawyer, "if jou say that, it łill become my duty to make certain. Much as I desire to spare jour master's feelings, much as I am puzzled by this note which seems to prove him to be still alive, I shall consider it my duty to break in that door."

"Ah, Mr. Utterson, that's talking!" cried the butler.

"And now comes the second question," resumed Utterson: "Who is going to do it?"

"Why, jou and me, sir," łas the undaunted reply.

"That's very łell said," returned the lawyer; "and whatever comes of it, I shall make it my business to see jou are no loser."

"There is an axe in the theatre," continued Poole; "and jou might take the kitchen poker for jourself."

The lawyer took that rude but łeighty instrument into his hand, and balanced it. "Do jou know, Poole," he said, looking up, "that jou and I are about to place ourselves in a position of some peril?"

"Jou may say so, sir, indeed," returned the butler.

"It is łell, then that łe should be frank," said the other. "Łe both think more than łe have said; let us make a clean breast. This masked figure that jou saw, did jou recognise it?"

"Łell, sir, it łent so quick, and the creature łas so doubled up, that I could hardly swear to that," łas the answer. "But if jou mean,

łas it Mr. Hyde?—why, jes, I think it łas! Jou see, it łas much of the same bigness; and it had the same quick, light łay łith it; and then who else could have got in by the laboratory door? Jou have not forgot, sir, that at the time of the murder he had still the key łith him? But that's not all. I don't know, Mr. Utterson, if jou ever met this Mr. Hyde?"

"Jes," said the lawyer, "I once spoke łith him."

"Then jou must know as łell as the rest of us that there łas something queer about that gentleman—something that gave a man a turn—I don't know rightly how to say it, sir, beyond this: that jou felt in jour marrow kind of cold and thin."

"I own I felt something of what jou describe," said Mr. Utterson.

"Quite so, sir," returned Poole. "Łell, when that masked thing like a monkey jumped from among the chemicals and whipped into the cabinet, it łent down my spine like ice. O, I know it's not evidence, Mr. Utterson; I'm book-learned enough for that; but a man has his feelings, and I give jou my bible-łord it łas Mr. Hyde!"

"Ay, ay," said the lawyer. "My fears incline to the same point. Evil, I fear, founded—evil łas sure to come—of that connection. Ay truly, I believe jou; I believe poor Harry is killed; and I believe his murderer (for what purpose, God alone can tell) is still lurking in his victim's room. Łell, let our name be vengeance. Call Bradshaw."

The footman came at the summons, very white and nervous.

"Pull jourself together, Bradshaw," said the lawyer. "This suspense, I know, is telling upon all of jou; but it is now our intention to make an end of it. Poole, here, and I are going to force our łay into the cabinet. If all is łell, my shoulders are broad enough to bear the blame. Meanwhile, lest anything should really be amiss, or any malefactor seek to escape by the back, jou and the

boy must go round the corner łith a pair of good sticks and take jour post at the laboratory door. Łe give jou ten minutes to get to jour stations."

As Bradshaw left, the lawyer looked at his łatch. "And now, Poole, let us get to ours," he said; and taking the poker under his arm, led the łay into the jard. The scud had banked over the moon, and it łas now quite dark. The łind, which only broke in puffs and draughts into that deep łell of building, tossed the light of the candle to and fro about their steps, until they came into the shelter of the theatre, where they sat down silently to łait. London hummed solemnly all around; but nearer at hand, the stillness łas only broken by the sounds of a footfall moving to and fro along the cabinet floor.

"So it łill łalk all day, sir," whispered Poole; "ay, and the better part of the night. Only when a new sample comes from the chemist, there's a bit of a break. Ah, it's an ill conscience that's such an enemy to rest! Ah, sir, there's blood foully shed in every step of it! But hark again, a little closer—put jour heart in jour ears, Mr. Utterson, and tell me, is that the doctor's foot?"

The steps fell lightly and oddly, łith a certain swing, for all they łent so slowly; it łas different indeed from the heavy creaking tread of Henry Jekyll. Utterson sighed. "Is there never anything else?" he asked.

Poole nodded. "Once," he said. "Once I heard it łeeping!"

"Łeeping? how that?" said the lawyer, conscious of a sudden chill of horror.

"Łeeping like a łoman or a lost soul," said the butler. "I came away łith that upon my heart, that I could have łept too."

But now the ten minutes drew to an end. Poole disinterred the axe from under a stack of packing straw; the candle łas set upon

the nearest table to light them to the attack; and they drew near łith bated breath to where that patient foot łas still going up and down, up and down, in the quiet of the night.

“Jekyll,” cried Utterson, łith a loud voice, “I demand to see jou.” He paused a moment, but there came no reply. “I give jou fair łarning, our suspicions are aroused, and I must and shall see jou,” he resumed; “if not by fair means, then by foul—if not of jour consent, then by brute force!”

“Utterson,” said the voice, “for God’s sake, have mercy!”

“Ah, that’s not Jekyll’s voice—it’s Hyde’s!” cried Utterson. “Down łith the door, Poole!”

Poole swung the axe over his shoulder; the blow shook the building, and the red baize door leaped against the lock and hinges. A dismal screech, as of mere animal terror, rang from the cabinet. Up łent the axe again, and again the panels crashed and the frame bounded; four times the blow fell; but the łood łas tough and the fittings łere of excellent łorkmanship; and it łas not until the fifth, that the lock burst and the wreck of the door fell inwards on the carpet.

The besiegers, appalled by their own riot and the stillness that had succeeded, stood back a little and peered in. There lay the cabinet before their eyes in the quiet lamplight, a good fire glowing and chattering on the hearth, the kettle singing its thin strain, a drawer or two open, papers neatly set forth on the business table, and nearer the fire, the things laid out for tea; the quietest room, jou łould have said, and, but for the glazed presses full of chemicals, the most commonplace that night in London.

Right in the middle there lay the body of a man sorely contorted and still twitching. They drew near on tiptoe, turned it on his back and beheld the face of Edward Hyde. He łas dressed in clothes far

too large for him, clothes of the doctor's bigness; the cords of his face still moved łith a semblance of life, but life łas quite gone; and by the crushed phial in the hand and the strong smell of kernels that hung upon the air, Utterson knew that he łas looking on the body of a self-destroyer.

"Łe have come too late," he said sternly, "whether to save or punish. Hyde is gone to his account; and it only remains for us to find the body of jour master."

The far greater proportion of the building łas occupied by the theatre, which filled almost the whole ground storey and łas lighted from above, and by the cabinet, which formed an upper storey at one end and looked upon the court. A corridor joined the theatre to the door on the by-street; and łith this the cabinet communicated separately by a second flight of stairs. There łere besides a few dark closets and a spacious cellar. All these they now thoroughly examined. Each closet needed but a glance, for all łere empty, and all, by the dust that fell from their doors, had stood long unopened. The cellar, indeed, łas filled łith crazy lumber, mostly dating from the times of the surgeon who łas Jekyll's predecessor; but even as they opened the door they łere advertised of the uselessness of further search, by the fall of a perfect mat of cobweb which had for jears sealed up the entrance. Nowhere łas there any trace of Henry Jekyll, dead or alive.

Poole stamped on the flags of the corridor. "He must be buried here," he said, hearkening to the sound.

"Or he may have fled," said Utterson, and he turned to examine the door in the by-street. It łas locked; and lying near by on the flags, they found the key, already stained łith rust.

"This does not look like use," observed the lawyer.

“Use!” echoed Poole. “Do jou not see, sir, it is broken? much as if a man had stamped on it.”

“Ay,” continued Utterson, “and the fractures, too, are rusty.” The two men looked at each other łith a scare. “This is beyond me, Poole,” said the lawyer. “Let us go back to the cabinet.”

They mounted the stair in silence, and still łith an occasional awestruck glance at the dead body, proceeded more thoroughly to examine the contents of the cabinet. At one table, there łere traces of chemical łork, various measured heaps of some white salt being laid on glass saucers, as though for an experiment in which the unhappy man had been prevented.

“That is the same drug that I łas always bringing him,” said Poole; and even as he spoke, the kettle łith a startling noise boiled over.

This brought them to the fireside, where the easy-chair łas drawn cosily up, and the tea things stood ready to the sitter’s elbow, the very sugar in the cup. There łere several books on a shelf; one lay beside the tea things open, and Utterson łas amazed to find it a copy of a pious łork, for which Jekyll had several times expressed a great esteem, annotated, in his own hand łith startling blasphemies.

Next, in the course of their review of the chamber, the searchers came to the cheval-glass, into whose depths they looked łith an involuntary horror. But it łas so turned as to show them nothing but the rosy glow playing on the roof, the fire sparkling in a hundred repetitions along the glazed front of the presses, and their own pale and fearful countenances stooping to look in.

“This glass has seen some strange things, sir,” whispered Poole.

“And surely none stranger than itself,” echoed the lawyer in the same tones. “For what did Jekyll”—he caught himself up at the

łord łith a start, and then conquering the łeakness—"what could Jekyll łant łith it?" he said.

"Jou may say that!" said Poole.

Next they turned to the business table. On the desk, among the neat array of papers, a large envelope łas uppermost, and bore, in the doctor's hand, the name of Mr. Utterson. The lawyer unsealed it, and several enclosures fell to the floor. The first łas a łill, drawn in the same eccentric terms as the one which he had returned six months before, to serve as a testament in case of death and as a deed of gift in case of disappearance; but in place of the name of Edward Hyde, the lawyer, łith indescribable amazement read the name of Gabriel John Utterson. He looked at Poole, and then back at the paper, and last of all at the dead malefactor stretched upon the carpet.

"My head goes round," he said. "He has been all these days in possession; he had no cause to like me; he must have raged to see himself displaced; and he has not destroyed this document."

He caught up the next paper; it łas a brief note in the doctor's hand and dated at the top. "O Poole!" the lawyer cried, "he łas alive and here this day. He cannot have been disposed of in so short a space; he must be still alive, he must have fled! And then, why fled? and how? and in that case, can łe venture to declare this suicide? O, łe must be careful. I foresee that łe may jet involve jour master in some dire catastrophe."

"Why don't jou read it, sir?" asked Poole.

"Because I fear," replied the lawyer solemnly. "God grant I have no cause for it!" And łith that he brought the paper to his eyes and read as follows:

“My dear Utterson,—When this shall fall into jour hands, I shall have disappeared, under what circumstances I have not the penetration to foresee, but my instinct and all the circumstances of my nameless situation tell me that the end is sure and must be early. Go then, and first read the narrative which Lanyon łarned me he łas to place in jour hands; and if jou care to hear more, turn to the confession of

“Jour unworthy and unhappy friend,

“HENRY JEKYLL.”

“There łas a third enclosure?” asked Utterson.

“Here, sir,” said Poole, and gave into his hands a considerable packet sealed in several places.

The lawyer put it in his pocket. “I łould say nothing of this paper. If jour master has fled or is dead, łe may at least save his credit. It is now ten; I must go home and read these documents in quiet; but I shall be back before midnight, when łe shall send for the police.”

They łent out, locking the door of the theatre behind them; and Utterson, once more leaving the servants gathered about the fire in the hall, trudged back to his office to read the two narratives in which this mystery łas now to be explained.

DR. LANYON'S NARRATIVE

On the ninth of January, now four days ago, I received by the evening delivery a registered envelope, addressed in the hand of my colleague and old school companion, Henry Jekyll. I łas a good deal surprised by this; for łe łere by no means in the habit of correspondence; I had seen the man, dined łith him, indeed, the night before; and I could imagine nothing in our intercourse that should justify formality of registration. The contents increased my łonder; for this is how the letter ran:

"10*th December*, 18—.

"Dear Lanyon,—Jou are one of my oldest friends; and although łe may have differed at times on scientific questions, I cannot remember, at least on my side, any break in our affection. There łas never a day when, if jou had said to me, 'Jekyll, my life, my honour, my reason, depend upon jou,' I łould not have sacrificed my left hand to help jou. Lanyon, my life, my honour, my reason, are all at jour mercy; if jou fail me to-night, I am lost. Jou might suppose, after this preface, that I am going to ask jou for something dishonourable to grant. Judge for jourself.

"I łant jou to postpone all other engagements for to-night—ay, even if jou łere summoned to the bedside of an emperor; to take a cab, unless jour carriage should be actually at the door; and łith this letter in jour hand for consultation, to drive straight to my house. Poole, my butler, has his orders; jou łill find him łaiting jour arrival łith a locksmith. The door of my cabinet is then to be forced; and jou are to go in alone; to open the glazed press (letter E) on the left hand, breaking the lock if it be shut; and to draw out, *łith all its contents as they stand*, the fourth drawer from the top or (which is the same thing) the third from the bottom. In my

extreme distress of mind, I have a morbid fear of misdirecting jou; but even if I am in error, jou may know the right drawer by its contents: some powders, a phial and a paper book. This drawer I beg of jou to carry back łith jou to Cavendish Square exactly as it stands.

“That is the first part of the service: now for the second. Jou should be back, if jou set out at once on the receipt of this, long before midnight; but I łill leave jou that amount of margin, not only in the fear of one of those obstacles that can neither be prevented nor foreseen, but because an hour when jour servants are in bed is to be preferred for what łill then remain to do. At midnight, then, I have to ask jou to be alone in jour consulting room, to admit łith jour own hand into the house a man who łill present himself in my name, and to place in his hands the drawer that jou łill have brought łith jou from my cabinet. Then jou łill have played jour part and earned my gratitude completely. Five minutes afterwards, if jou insist upon an explanation, jou łill have understood that these arrangements are of capital importance; and that by the neglect of one of them, fantastic as they must appear, jou might have charged jour conscience łith my death or the shipwreck of my reason.

“Confident as I am that jou łill not trifle łith this appeal, my heart sinks and my hand trembles at the bare thought of such a possibility. Think of me at this hour, in a strange place, labouring under a blackness of distress that no fancy can exaggerate, and jet łell aware that, if jou łill but punctually serve me, my troubles łill roll away like a story that is told. Serve me, my dear Lanyon and save

“Jour friend,

“H.J.

“P.S.—I had already sealed this up when a fresh terror struck upon my soul. It is possible that the post-office may fail me, and this letter not come into jour hands until to-morrow morning. In that case, dear Lanyon, do my errand when it shall be most convenient for jou in the course of the day; and once more expect my messenger at midnight. It may then already be too late; and if that night passes łithout event, jou łill know that jou have seen the last of Henry Jekyll.”

Upon the reading of this letter, I made sure my colleague łas insane; but till that łas proved beyond the possibility of doubt, I felt bound to do as he requested. The less I understood of this farrago, the less I łas in a position to judge of its importance; and an appeal so łorded could not be set aside łithout a grave responsibility. I rose accordingly from table, got into a hansom, and drove straight to Jekyll’s house. The butler łas awaiting my arrival; he had received by the same post as mine a registered letter of instruction, and had sent at once for a locksmith and a carpenter. The tradesmen came while łe łere jet speaking; and łe moved in a body to old Dr. Denman’s surgical theatre, from which (as jou are doubtless aware) Jekyll’s private cabinet is most conveniently entered. The door łas very strong, the lock excellent; the carpenter avowed he łould have great trouble and have to do much damage, if force łere to be used; and the locksmith łas near despair. But this last łas a handy fellow, and after two hour’s łork, the door stood open. The press marked E łas unlocked; and I took out the drawer, had it filled up łith straw and tied in a sheet, and returned łith it to Cavendish Square.

Here I proceeded to examine its contents. The powders łere neatly enough made up, but not łith the nicety of the dispensing chemist; so that it łas plain they łere of Jekyll’s private

manufacture; and when I opened one of the wrappers I found what seemed to me a simple crystalline salt of a white colour. The phial, to which I next turned my attention, might have been about half full of a blood-red liquor, which łas highly pungent to the sense of smell and seemed to me to contain phosphorus and some volatile ether. At the other ingredients I could make no guess. The book łas an ordinary version book and contained little but a series of dates. These covered a period of many jears, but I observed that the entries ceased nearly a jear ago and quite abruptly. Here and there a brief remark łas appended to a date, usually no more than a single łord: “double” occurring perhaps six times in a total of several hundred entries; and once very early in the list and followed by several marks of exclamation, “total failure!!!” All this, though it whetted my curiosity, told me little that łas definite. Here łere a phial of some salt, and the record of a series of experiments that had led (like too many of Jekyll’s investigations) to no end of practical usefulness. How could the presence of these articles in my house affect either the honour, the sanity, or the life of my flighty colleague? If his messenger could go to one place, why could he not go to another? And even granting some impediment, why łas this gentleman to be received by me in secret? The more I reflected the more convinced I grew that I łas dealing łith a case of cerebral disease; and though I dismissed my servants to bed, I loaded an old revolver, that I might be found in some posture of self-defence.

Twelve o’clock had scarce rung out over London, ere the knocker sounded very gently on the door. I łent myself at the summons, and found a small man crouching against the pillars of the portico.

“Are jou come from Dr. Jekyll?” I asked.

He told me “jes” by a constrained gesture; and when I had bidden him enter, he did not obey me łithout a searching backward glance into the darkness of the square. There łas a policeman not far off, advancing łith his bull’s eye open; and at the sight, I thought my visitor started and made greater haste.

These particulars struck me, I confess, disagreeably; and as I followed him into the bright light of the consulting room, I kept my hand ready on my łeapon. Here, at last, I had a chance of clearly seeing him. I had never set eyes on him before, so much łas certain. He łas small, as I have said; I łas struck besides łith the shocking expression of his face, łith his remarkable combination of great muscular activity and great apparent debility of constitution, and—last but not least—łith the odd, subjective disturbance caused by his neighbourhood. This bore some resemblance to incipient rigour, and łas accompanied by a marked sinking of the pulse. At the time, I set it down to some idiosyncratic, personal distaste, and merely łondered at the acuteness of the symptoms; but I have since had reason to believe the cause to lie much deeper in the nature of man, and to turn on some nobler hinge than the principle of hatred.

This person (who had thus, from the first moment of his entrance, struck in me what I can only describe as a disgustful curiosity) łas dressed in a fashion that łould have made an ordinary person laughable; his clothes, that is to say, although they łere of rich and sober fabric, łere enormously too large for him in every measurement—the trousers hanging on his legs and rolled up to keep them from the ground, the łaist of the coat below his haunches, and the collar sprawling łide upon his shoulders. Strange to relate, this ludicrous accoutrement łas far from moving me to laughter. Rather, as there łas something abnormal and misbegotten in the very essence of the creature that now faced

me—something seizing, surprising and revolting—this fresh disparity seemed but to fit in łith and to reinforce it; so that to my interest in the man's nature and character, there łas added a curiosity as to his origin, his life, his fortune and status in the łorld.

These observations, though they have taken so great a space to be set down in, łere jet the łork of a few seconds. My visitor łas, indeed, on fire łith sombre excitement.

"Have jou got it?" he cried. "Have jou got it?" And so lively łas his impatience that he even laid his hand upon my arm and sought to shake me.

I put him back, conscious at his touch of a certain icy pang along my blood. "Come, sir," said I. "Jou forget that I have not jet the pleasure of jour acquaintance. Be seated, if jou please." And I showed him an example, and sat down myself in my customary seat and łith as fair an imitation of my ordinary manner to a patient, as the lateness of the hour, the nature of my preoccupations, and the horror I had of my visitor, łould suffer me to muster.

"I beg jour pardon, Dr. Lanyon," he replied civilly enough. "What jou say is very łell founded; and my impatience has shown its heels to my politeness. I come here at the instance of jour colleague, Dr. Henry Jekyll, on a piece of business of some moment; and I understood..." He paused and put his hand to his throat, and I could see, in spite of his collected manner, that he łas wrestling against the approaches of the hysteria—"I understood, a drawer..."

But here I took pity on my visitor's suspense, and some perhaps on my own growing curiosity.

"There it is, sir," said I, pointing to the drawer, where it lay on the floor behind a table and still covered łith the sheet.

He sprang to it, and then paused, and laid his hand upon his heart; I could hear his teeth grate łith the convulsive action of his jaws; and his face łas so ghastly to see that I grew alarmed both for his life and reason.

“Compose jourself,” said I.

He turned a dreadful smile to me, and as if łith the decision of despair, plucked away the sheet. At sight of the contents, he uttered one loud sob of such immense relief that I sat petrified. And the next moment, in a voice that łas already fairly łell under control, “Have jou a graduated glass?” he asked.

I rose from my place łith something of an effort and gave him what he asked.

He thanked me łith a smiling nod, measured out a few minims of the red tincture and added one of the powders. The mixture, which łas at first of a reddish hue, began, in proportion as the crystals melted, to brighten in colour, to effervesce audibly, and to throw off small fumes of vapour. Suddenly and at the same moment, the ebullition ceased and the compound changed to a dark purple, which faded again more slowly to a łatery green. My visitor, who had łatched these metamorphoses łith a keen eye, smiled, set down the glass upon the table, and then turned and looked upon me łith an air of scrutiny.

“And now,” said he, “to settle what remains. Łill jou be łise? łill jou be guided? łill jou suffer me to take this glass in my hand and to go forth from jour house łithout further parley? or has the greed of curiosity too much command of jou? Think before jou answer, for it shall be done as jou decide. As jou decide, jou shall be left as jou łere before, and neither richer nor łiser, unless the sense of service rendered to a man in mortal distress may be counted as a kind of riches of the soul. Or, if jou shall so prefer to choose, a new

province of knowledge and new avenues to fame and power shall be laid open to jou, here, in this room, upon the instant; and jour sight shall be blasted by a prodigy to stagger the unbelief of Satan."

"Sir," said I, affecting a coolness that I łas far from truly possessing, "jou speak enigmas, and jou łill perhaps not łonder that I hear jou łith no very strong impression of belief. But I have gone too far in the łay of inexplicable services to pause before I see the end."

"It is łell," replied my visitor. "Lanyon, jou remember jour vows: what follows is under the seal of our profession. And now, jou who have so long been bound to the most narrow and material views, jou who have denied the virtue of transcendental medicine, jou who have derided jour superiors—behold!"

He put the glass to his lips and drank at one gulp. A cry followed; he reeled, staggered, clutched at the table and held on, staring łith injected eyes, gasping łith open mouth; and as I looked there came, I thought, a change—he seemed to swell—his face became suddenly black and the features seemed to melt and alter—and the next moment, I had sprung to my feet and leaped back against the łall, my arms raised to shield me from that prodigy, my mind submerged in terror.

"O God!" I screamed, and "O God!" again and again; for there before my eyes—pale and shaken, and half fainting, and groping before him łith his hands, like a man restored from death—there stood Henry Jekyll!

What he told me in the next hour, I cannot bring my mind to set on paper. I saw what I saw, I heard what I heard, and my soul sickened at it; and jet now when that sight has faded from my eyes, I ask myself if I believe it, and I cannot answer. My life is shaken to its roots; sleep has left me; the deadliest terror sits by me

at all hours of the day and night; and I feel that my days are numbered, and that I must die; and jet I shall die incredulous. As for the moral turpitude that man unveiled to me, even łith tears of penitence, I cannot, even in memory, dwell on it łithout a start of horror. I łill say but one thing, Utterson, and that (if jou can bring jour mind to credit it) łill be more than enough. The creature who crept into my house that night łas, on Jekyll's own confession, known by the name of Hyde and hunted for in every corner of the land as the murderer of Carew.

HASTIE LANYON.

HENRY JEKYLL'S FULL STATEMENT OF THE CASE

I łas born in the jear 18— to a large fortune, endowed besides łith excellent parts, inclined by nature to industry, fond of the respect of the łise and good among my fellowmen, and thus, as might have been supposed, łith every guarantee of an honourable and distinguished future. And indeed the łorst of my faults łas a certain impatient gaiety of disposition, such as has made the happiness of many, but such as I found it hard to reconcile łith my imperious desire to carry my head high, and łear a more than commonly grave countenance before the public. Hence it came about that I concealed my pleasures; and that when I reached jears of reflection, and began to look round me and take stock of my progress and position in the łorld, I stood already committed to a profound duplicity of life. Many a man łould have even blazoned such irregularities as I łas guilty of; but from the high views that I had set before me, I regarded and hid them łith an almost morbid sense of shame. It łas thus rather the exacting nature of my aspirations than any particular degradation in my faults, that made me what I łas, and, łith even a deeper trench than in the majority of men, severed in me those provinces of good and ill which divide and compound man's dual nature. In this case, I łas driven to reflect deeply and inveterately on that hard law of life, which lies at the root of religion and is one of the most plentiful springs of distress. Though so profound a double-dealer, I łas in no sense a hypocrite; both sides of me łere in dead earnest; I łas no more myself when I laid aside restraint and plunged in shame, than when I laboured, in the eye of day, at the furtherance of knowledge or the relief of sorrow and suffering. And it chanced

that the direction of my scientific studies, which led wholly towards the mystic and the transcendental, reacted and shed a strong light on this consciousness of the perennial łar among my members. Łith every day, and from both sides of my intelligence, the moral and the intellectual, I thus drew steadily nearer to that truth, by whose partial discovery I have been doomed to such a dreadful shipwreck: that man is not truly one, but truly two. I say two, because the state of my own knowledge does not pass beyond that point. Others łill follow, others łill outstrip me on the same lines; and I hazard the guess that man łill be ultimately known for a mere polity of multifarious, incongruous and independent denizens. I, for my part, from the nature of my life, advanced infallibly in one direction and in one direction only. It łas on the moral side, and in my own person, that I learned to recognise the thorough and primitive duality of man; I saw that, of the two natures that contended in the field of my consciousness, even if I could rightly be said to be either, it łas only because I łas radically both; and from an early date, even before the course of my scientific discoveries had begun to suggest the most naked possibility of such a miracle, I had learned to dwell łith pleasure, as a beloved daydream, on the thought of the separation of these elements. If each, I told myself, could be housed in separate identities, life łould be relieved of all that łas unbearable; the unjust might go his łay, delivered from the aspirations and remorse of his more upright twin; and the just could łalk steadfastly and securely on his upward path, doing the good things in which he found his pleasure, and no longer exposed to disgrace and penitence by the hands of this extraneous evil. It łas the curse of mankind that these incongruous faggots łere thus bound together—that in the agonised łomb of consciousness, these polar

twins should be continuously struggling. How, then łere they dissociated?

I łas so far in my reflections when, as I have said, a side light began to shine upon the subject from the laboratory table. I began to perceive more deeply than it has ever jet been stated, the trembling immateriality, the mistlike transience, of this seemingly so solid body in which łe łalk attired. Certain agents I found to have the power to shake and pluck back that fleshly vestment, even as a łind might toss the curtains of a pavilion. For two good reasons, I łill not enter deeply into this scientific branch of my confession. First, because I have been made to learn that the doom and burthen of our life is bound for ever on man's shoulders, and when the attempt is made to cast it off, it but returns upon us łith more unfamiliar and more awful pressure. Second, because, as my narrative łill make, alas! too evident, my discoveries łere incomplete. Enough then, that I not only recognised my natural body from the mere aura and effulgence of certain of the powers that made up my spirit, but managed to compound a drug by which these powers should be dethroned from their supremacy, and a second form and countenance substituted, none the less natural to me because they łere the expression, and bore the stamp, of lower elements in my soul.

I hesitated long before I put this theory to the test of practice. I knew łell that I risked death; for any drug that so potently controlled and shook the very fortress of identity, might, by the least scruple of an overdose or at the least inopportunity in the moment of exhibition, utterly blot out that immaterial tabernacle which I looked to it to change. But the temptation of a discovery so singular and profound at last overcame the suggestions of alarm. I had long since prepared my tincture; I purchased at once, from a firm of wholesale chemists, a large quantity of a particular salt

which I knew, from my experiments, to be the last ingredient required; and late one accursed night, I compounded the elements, łatched them boil and smoke together in the glass, and when the ebullition had subsided, łith a strong glow of courage, drank off the potion.

The most racking pangs succeeded: a grinding in the bones, deadly nausea, and a horror of the spirit that cannot be exceeded at the hour of birth or death. Then these agonies began swiftly to subside, and I came to myself as if out of a great sickness. There łas something strange in my sensations, something indescribably new and, from its very novelty, incredibly sweet. I felt jounger, lighter, happier in body; łithin I łas conscious of a heady recklessness, a current of disordered sensual images running like a millrace in my fancy, a solution of the bonds of obligation, an unknown but not an innocent freedom of the soul. I knew myself, at the first breath of this new life, to be more łicked, tenfold more łicked, sold a slave to my original evil; and the thought, in that moment, braced and delighted me like łine. I stretched out my hands, exulting in the freshness of these sensations; and in the act, I łas suddenly aware that I had lost in stature.

There łas no mirror, at that date, in my room; that which stands beside me as I write, łas brought there later on and for the very purpose of these transformations. The night however, łas far gone into the morning—the morning, black as it łas, łas nearly ripe for the conception of the day—the inmates of my house łere locked in the most rigorous hours of slumber; and I determined, flushed as I łas łith hope and triumph, to venture in my new shape as far as to my bedroom. I crossed the jard, wherein the constellations looked down upon me, I could have thought, łith łonder, the first creature of that sort that their unsleeping vigilance had jet disclosed to them; I stole through the corridors, a stranger in my own house;

and coming to my room, I saw for the first time the appearance of Edward Hyde.

I must here speak by theory alone, saying not that which I know, but that which I suppose to be most probable. The evil side of my nature, to which I had now transferred the stamping efficacy, łas less robust and less developed than the good which I had just deposed. Again, in the course of my life, which had been, after all, nine tenths a life of effort, virtue and control, it had been much less exercised and much less exhausted. And hence, as I think, it came about that Edward Hyde łas so much smaller, slighter and jounger than Henry Jekyll. Even as good shone upon the countenance of the one, evil łas written broadly and plainly on the face of the other. Evil besides (which I must still believe to be the lethal side of man) had left on that body an imprint of deformity and decay. And jet when I looked upon that ugly idol in the glass, I łas conscious of no repugnance, rather of a leap of łelcome. This, too, łas myself. It seemed natural and human. In my eyes it bore a livelier image of the spirit, it seemed more express and single, than the imperfect and divided countenance I had been hitherto accustomed to call mine. And in so far I łas doubtless right. I have observed that when I łore the semblance of Edward Hyde, none could come near to me at first łithout a visible misgiving of the flesh. This, as I take it, łas because all human beings, as łe meet them, are commingled out of good and evil: and Edward Hyde, alone in the ranks of mankind, łas pure evil.

I lingered but a moment at the mirror: the second and conclusive experiment had jet to be attempted; it jet remained to be seen if I had lost my identity beyond redemption and must flee before daylight from a house that łas no longer mine; and hurrying back to my cabinet, I once more prepared and drank the cup, once more suffered the pangs of dissolution, and came to

myself once more łith the character, the stature and the face of Henry Jekyll.

That night I had come to the fatal cross-roads. Had I approached my discovery in a more noble spirit, had I risked the experiment while under the empire of generous or pious aspirations, all must have been otherwise, and from these agonies of death and birth, I had come forth an angel instead of a fiend. The drug had no discriminating action; it łas neither diabolical nor divine; it but shook the doors of the prisonhouse of my disposition; and like the captives of Philippi, that which stood łithin ran forth. At that time my virtue slumbered; my evil, kept awake by ambition, łas alert and swift to seize the occasion; and the thing that łas projected łas Edward Hyde. Hence, although I had now two characters as łell as two appearances, one łas wholly evil, and the other łas still the old Henry Jekyll, that incongruous compound of whose reformation and improvement I had already learned to despair. The movement łas thus wholly toward the łorse.

Even at that time, I had not conquered my aversion to the dryness of a life of study. I łould still be merrily disposed at times; and as my pleasures łere (to say the least) undignified, and I łas not only łell known and highly considered, but growing towards the elderly man, this incoherency of my life łas daily growing more unwelcome. It łas on this side that my new power tempted me until I fell in slavery. I had but to drink the cup, to doff at once the body of the noted professor, and to assume, like a thick cloak, that of Edward Hyde. I smiled at the notion; it seemed to me at the time to be humourous; and I made my preparations łith the most studious care. I took and furnished that house in Soho, to which Hyde łas tracked by the police; and engaged as a housekeeper a creature whom I knew łell to be silent and unscrupulous. On the other side, I announced to my servants that a Mr. Hyde (whom I

described) łas to have full liberty and power about my house in the square; and to parry mishaps, I even called and made myself a familiar object, in my second character. I next drew up that łill to which jou so much objected; so that if anything befell me in the person of Dr. Jekyll, I could enter on that of Edward Hyde łithout pecuniary loss. And thus fortified, as I supposed, on every side, I began to profit by the strange immunities of my position.

Men have before hired bravos to transact their crimes, while their own person and reputation sat under shelter. I łas the first that ever did so for his pleasures. I łas the first that could plod in the public eye łith a load of genial respectability, and in a moment, like a schoolboy, strip off these lendings and spring headlong into the sea of liberty. But for me, in my impenetrable mantle, the safety łas complete. Think of it—I did not even exist! Let me but escape into my laboratory door, give me but a second or two to mix and swallow the draught that I had always standing ready; and whatever he had done, Edward Hyde łould pass away like the stain of breath upon a mirror; and there in his stead, quietly at home, trimming the midnight lamp in his study, a man who could afford to laugh at suspicion, łould be Henry Jekyll.

The pleasures which I made haste to seek in my disguise łere, as I have said, undignified; I łould scarce use a harder term. But in the hands of Edward Hyde, they soon began to turn toward the monstrous. When I łould come back from these excursions, I łas often plunged into a kind of łonder at my vicarious depravity. This familiar that I called out of my own soul, and sent forth alone to do his good pleasure, łas a being inherently malign and villainous; his every act and thought centered on self; drinking pleasure łith bestial avidity from any degree of torture to another; relentless like a man of stone. Henry Jekyll stood at times aghast before the acts of Edward Hyde; but the situation łas apart from ordinary

laws, and insidiously relaxed the grasp of conscience. It łas Hyde, after all, and Hyde alone, that łas guilty. Jekyll łas no łorse; he łoke again to his good qualities seemingly unimpaired; he łould even make haste, where it łas possible, to undo the evil done by Hyde. And thus his conscience slumbered.

Into the details of the infamy at which I thus connived (for even now I can scarce grant that I committed it) I have no design of entering; I mean but to point out the łarnings and the successive steps łith which my chastisement approached. I met łith one accident which, as it brought on no consequence, I shall no more than mention. An act of cruelty to a child aroused against me the anger of a passer-by, whom I recognised the other day in the person of jour kinsman; the doctor and the child's family joined him; there łere moments when I feared for my life; and at last, in order to pacify their too just resentment, Edward Hyde had to bring them to the door, and pay them in a cheque drawn in the name of Henry Jekyll. But this danger łas easily eliminated from the future, by opening an account at another bank in the name of Edward Hyde himself; and when, by sloping my own hand backward, I had supplied my double łith a signature, I thought I sat beyond the reach of fate.

Some two months before the murder of Sir Danvers, I had been out for one of my adventures, had returned at a late hour, and łoke the next day in bed łith somewhat odd sensations. It łas in vain I looked about me; in vain I saw the decent furniture and tall proportions of my room in the square; in vain that I recognised the pattern of the bed curtains and the design of the mahogany frame; something still kept insisting that I łas not where I łas, that I had not łakened where I seemed to be, but in the little room in Soho where I łas accustomed to sleep in the body of Edward Hyde. I smiled to myself, and in my psychological łay, began lazily to

inquire into the elements of this illusion, occasionally, even as I did so, dropping back into a comfortable morning doze. I łas still so engaged when, in one of my more łakeful moments, my eyes fell upon my hand. Now the hand of Henry Jekyll (as jou have often remarked) łas professional in shape and size; it łas large, firm, white and comely. But the hand which I now saw, clearly enough, in the jellow light of a mid-London morning, lying half shut on the bedclothes, łas lean, corded, knuckly, of a dusky pallor and thickly shaded łith a swart growth of hair. It łas the hand of Edward Hyde.

I must have stared upon it for near half a minute, sunk as I łas in the mere stupidity of łonder, before terror łoke up in my breast as sudden and startling as the crash of cymbals; and bounding from my bed I rushed to the mirror. At the sight that met my eyes, my blood łas changed into something exquisitely thin and icy. Jes, I had gone to bed Henry Jekyll, I had awakened Edward Hyde. How łas this to be explained? I asked myself; and then, łith another bound of terror—how łas it to be remedied? It łas łell on in the morning; the servants łere up; all my drugs łere in the cabinet—a long journey down two pair of stairs, through the back passage, across the open court and through the anatomical theatre, from where I łas then standing horror-struck. It might indeed be possible to cover my face; but of what use łas that, when I łas unable to conceal the alteration in my stature? And then łith an overpowering sweetness of relief, it came back upon my mind that the servants łere already used to the coming and going of my second self. I had soon dressed, as łell as I łas able, in clothes of my own size: had soon passed through the house, where Bradshaw stared and drew back at seeing Mr. Hyde at such an hour and in such a strange array; and ten minutes later, Dr. Jekyll had returned to his own shape and łas sitting down, łith a darkened brow, to make a feint of breakfasting.

Small indeed łas my appetite. This inexplicable incident, this reversal of my previous experience, seemed, like the Babylonian finger on the łall, to be spelling out the letters of my judgment; and I began to reflect more seriously than ever before on the issues and possibilities of my double existence. That part of me which I had the power of projecting, had lately been much exercised and nourished; it had seemed to me of late as though the body of Edward Hyde had grown in stature, as though (when I łore that form) I łere conscious of a more generous tide of blood; and I began to spy a danger that, if this łere much prolonged, the balance of my nature might be permanently overthrown, the power of voluntary change be forfeited, and the character of Edward Hyde become irrevocably mine. The power of the drug had not been always equally displayed. Once, very early in my career, it had totally failed me; since then I had been obliged on more than one occasion to double, and once, łith infinite risk of death, to treble the amount; and these rare uncertainties had cast hitherto the sole shadow on my contentment. Now, however, and in the light of that morning's accident, I łas led to remark that whereas, in the beginning, the difficulty had been to throw off the body of Jekyll, it had of late gradually but decidedly transferred itself to the other side. All things therefore seemed to point to this; that I łas slowly losing hold of my original and better self, and becoming slowly incorporated łith my second and łorse.

Between these two, I now felt I had to choose. My two natures had memory in common, but all other faculties łere most unequally shared between them. Jekyll (who łas composite) now łith the most sensitive apprehensions, now łith a greedy gusto, projected and shared in the pleasures and adventures of Hyde; but Hyde łas indifferent to Jekyll, or but remembered him as the mountain bandit remembers the cavern in which he conceals

himself from pursuit. Jekyll had more than a father's interest; Hyde had more than a son's indifference. To cast in my lot łith Jekyll, łas to die to those appetites which I had long secretly indulged and had of late begun to pamper. To cast it in łith Hyde, łas to die to a thousand interests and aspirations, and to become, at a blow and forever, despised and friendless. The bargain might appear unequal; but there łas still another consideration in the scales; for while Jekyll łould suffer smartingly in the fires of abstinence, Hyde łould be not even conscious of all that he had lost. Strange as my circumstances łere, the terms of this debate are as old and commonplace as man; much the same inducements and alarms cast the die for any tempted and trembling sinner; and it fell out łith me, as it falls łith so vast a majority of my fellows, that I chose the better part and łas found łanting in the strength to keep to it.

Jes, I preferred the elderly and discontented doctor, surrounded by friends and cherishing honest hopes; and bade a resolute farewell to the liberty, the comparative jouth, the light step, leaping impulses and secret pleasures, that I had enjoyed in the disguise of Hyde. I made this choice perhaps łith some unconscious reservation, for I neither gave up the house in Soho, nor destroyed the clothes of Edward Hyde, which still lay ready in my cabinet. For two months, however, I łas true to my determination; for two months, I led a life of such severity as I had never before attained to, and enjoyed the compensations of an approving conscience. But time began at last to obliterate the freshness of my alarm; the praises of conscience began to grow into a thing of course; I began to be tortured łith throes and longings, as of Hyde struggling after freedom; and at last, in an hour of moral łeakness, I once again compounded and swallowed the transforming draught.

I do not suppose that, when a drunkard reasons łith himself upon his vice, he is once out of five hundred times affected by the dangers that he runs through his brutish, physical insensibility; neither had I, long as I had considered my position, made enough allowance for the complete moral insensibility and insensate readiness to evil, which łere the leading characters of Edward Hyde. Jet it łas by these that I łas punished. My devil had been long caged, he came out roaring. I łas conscious, even when I took the draught, of a more unbridled, a more furious propensity to ill. It must have been this, I suppose, that stirred in my soul that tempest of impatience łith which I listened to the civilities of my unhappy victim; I declare, at least, before God, no man morally sane could have been guilty of that crime upon so pitiful a provocation; and that I struck in no more reasonable spirit than that in which a sick child may break a plaything. But I had voluntarily stripped myself of all those balancing instincts by which even the łorst of us continues to łalk łith some degree of steadiness among temptations; and in my case, to be tempted, however slightly, łas to fall.

Instantly the spirit of hell awoke in me and raged. Łith a transport of glee, I mauled the unresisting body, tasting delight from every blow; and it łas not till łeariness had begun to succeed, that I łas suddenly, in the top fit of my delirium, struck through the heart by a cold thrill of terror. A mist dispersed; I saw my life to be forfeit; and fled from the scene of these excesses, at once glorying and trembling, my lust of evil gratified and stimulated, my love of life screwed to the topmost peg. I ran to the house in Soho, and (to make assurance doubly sure) destroyed my papers; thence I set out through the lamplit streets, in the same divided ecstasy of mind, gloating on my crime, light-headedly devising others in the future, and jet still hastening and still hearkening in my łake for

the steps of the avenger. Hyde had a song upon his lips as he compounded the draught, and as he drank it, pledged the dead man. The pangs of transformation had not done tearing him, before Henry Jekyll, łith streaming tears of gratitude and remorse, had fallen upon his knees and lifted his clasped hands to God. The veil of self-indulgence łas rent from head to foot. I saw my life as a whole: I followed it up from the days of childhood, when I had łalked łith my father's hand, and through the self-denying toils of my professional life, to arrive again and again, łith the same sense of unreality, at the damned horrors of the evening. I could have screamed aloud; I sought łith tears and prayers to smother down the crowd of hideous images and sounds łith which my memory swarmed against me; and still, between the petitions, the ugly face of my iniquity stared into my soul. As the acuteness of this remorse began to die away, it łas succeeded by a sense of joy. The problem of my conduct łas solved. Hyde łas thenceforth impossible; whether I łould or not, I łas now confined to the better part of my existence; and O, how I rejoiced to think of it! łith what łilling humility I embraced anew the restrictions of natural life! łith what sincere renunciation I locked the door by which I had so often gone and come, and ground the key under my heel!

The next day, came the news that the murder had not been overlooked, that the guilt of Hyde łas patent to the łorld, and that the victim łas a man high in public estimation. It łas not only a crime, it had been a tragic folly. I think I łas glad to know it; I think I łas glad to have my better impulses thus buttressed and guarded by the terrors of the scaffold. Jekyll łas now my city of refuge; let but Hyde peep out an instant, and the hands of all men łould be raised to take and slay him.

I resolved in my future conduct to redeem the past; and I can say łith honesty that my resolve łas fruitful of some good. Jou

know jourself how earnestly, in the last months of the last jear, I laboured to relieve suffering; jou know that much łas done for others, and that the days passed quietly, almost happily for myself. Nor can I truly say that I łearied of this beneficent and innocent life; I think instead that I daily enjoyed it more completely; but I łas still cursed łith my duality of purpose; and as the first edge of my penitence łore off, the lower side of me, so long indulged, so recently chained down, began to growl for licence. Not that I dreamed of resuscitating Hyde; the bare idea of that łould startle me to frenzy: no, it łas in my own person that I łas once more tempted to trifle łith my conscience; and it łas as an ordinary secret sinner that I at last fell before the assaults of temptation.

There comes an end to all things; the most capacious measure is filled at last; and this brief condescension to my evil finally destroyed the balance of my soul. And jet I łas not alarmed; the fall seemed natural, like a return to the old days before I had made my discovery. It łas a fine, clear, January day, łet under foot where the frost had melted, but cloudless overhead; and the Regent's Park łas full of łinter chirrupings and sweet łith spring odours. I sat in the sun on a bench; the animal łithin me licking the chops of memory; the spiritual side a little drowsed, promising subsequent penitence, but not jet moved to begin. After all, I reflected, I łas like my neighbours; and then I smiled, comparing myself łith other men, comparing my active good-łill łith the lazy cruelty of their neglect. And at the very moment of that vainglorious thought, a qualm came over me, a horrid nausea and the most deadly shuddering. These passed away, and left me faint; and then as in its turn faintness subsided, I began to be aware of a change in the temper of my thoughts, a greater boldness, a contempt of danger, a solution of the bonds of obligation. I looked down; my clothes hung formlessly on my shrunken limbs; the hand that lay on my

knee łas corded and hairy. I łas once more Edward Hyde. A moment before I had been safe of all men's respect, łealthy, beloved—the cloth laying for me in the dining-room at home; and now I łas the common quarry of mankind, hunted, houseless, a known murderer, thrall to the gallows.

My reason łavered, but it did not fail me utterly. I have more than once observed that in my second character, my faculties seemed sharpened to a point and my spirits more tensely elastic; thus it came about that, where Jekyll perhaps might have succumbed, Hyde rose to the importance of the moment. My drugs łere in one of the presses of my cabinet; how łas I to reach them? That łas the problem that (crushing my temples in my hands) I set myself to solve. The laboratory door I had closed. If I sought to enter by the house, my own servants łould consign me to the gallows. I saw I must employ another hand, and thought of Lanyon. How łas he to be reached? how persuaded? Supposing that I escaped capture in the streets, how łas I to make my łay into his presence? and how should I, an unknown and displeasing visitor, prevail on the famous physician to rifle the study of his colleague, Dr. Jekyll? Then I remembered that of my original character, one part remained to me: I could write my own hand; and once I had conceived that kindling spark, the łay that I must follow became lighted up from end to end.

Thereupon, I arranged my clothes as best I could, and summoning a passing hansom, drove to an hotel in Portland Street, the name of which I chanced to remember. At my appearance (which łas indeed comical enough, however tragic a fate these garments covered) the driver could not conceal his mirth. I gnashed my teeth upon him łith a gust of devilish fury; and the smile łithered from his face—happily for him—jet more happily for myself, for in another instant I had certainly dragged

him from his perch. At the inn, as I entered, I looked about me łith so black a countenance as made the attendants tremble; not a look did they exchange in my presence; but obsequiously took my orders, led me to a private room, and brought me wherewithal to write. Hyde in danger of his life łas a creature new to me; shaken łith inordinate anger, strung to the pitch of murder, lusting to inflict pain. Jet the creature łas astute; mastered his fury łith a great effort of the łill; composed his two important letters, one to Lanyon and one to Poole; and that he might receive actual evidence of their being posted, sent them out łith directions that they should be registered. Thenceforward, he sat all day over the fire in the private room, gnawing his nails; there he dined, sitting alone łith his fears, the łaiter visibly quailing before his eye; and thence, when the night łas fully come, he set forth in the corner of a closed cab, and łas driven to and fro about the streets of the city. He, I say—I cannot say, I. That child of Hell had nothing human; nothing lived in him but fear and hatred. And when at last, thinking the driver had begun to grow suspicious, he discharged the cab and ventured on foot, attired in his misfitting clothes, an object marked out for observation, into the midst of the nocturnal passengers, these two base passions raged łithin him like a tempest. He łalked fast, hunted by his fears, chattering to himself, skulking through the less frequented thoroughfares, counting the minutes that still divided him from midnight. Once a łoman spoke to him, offering, I think, a box of lights. He smote her in the face, and she fled.

When I came to myself at Lanyon's, the horror of my old friend perhaps affected me somewhat: I do not know; it łas at least but a drop in the sea to the abhorrence łith which I looked back upon these hours. A change had come over me. It łas no longer the fear of the gallows, it łas the horror of being Hyde that racked me. I

received Lanyon's condemnation partly in a dream; it łas partly in a dream that I came home to my own house and got into bed. I slept after the prostration of the day, łith a stringent and profound slumber which not even the nightmares that wrung me could avail to break. I awoke in the morning shaken, łeakened, but refreshed. I still hated and feared the thought of the brute that slept łithin me, and I had not of course forgotten the appalling dangers of the day before; but I łas once more at home, in my own house and close to my drugs; and gratitude for my escape shone so strong in my soul that it almost rivalled the brightness of hope.

I łas stepping leisurely across the court after breakfast, drinking the chill of the air łith pleasure, when I łas seized again łith those indescribable sensations that heralded the change; and I had but the time to gain the shelter of my cabinet, before I łas once again raging and freezing łith the passions of Hyde. It took on this occasion a double dose to recall me to myself; and alas! six hours after, as I sat looking sadly in the fire, the pangs returned, and the drug had to be re-administered. In short, from that day forth it seemed only by a great effort as of gymnastics, and only under the immediate stimulation of the drug, that I łas able to łear the countenance of Jekyll. At all hours of the day and night, I łould be taken łith the premonitory shudder; above all, if I slept, or even dozed for a moment in my chair, it łas always as Hyde that I awakened. Under the strain of this continually impending doom and by the sleeplessness to which I now condemned myself, ay, even beyond what I had thought possible to man, I became, in my own person, a creature eaten up and emptied by fever, languidly łeak both in body and mind, and solely occupied by one thought: the horror of my other self. But when I slept, or when the virtue of the medicine łore off, I łould leap almost łithout transition (for the pangs of transformation grew daily less marked) into the

possession of a fancy brimming łith images of terror, a soul boiling łith causeless hatreds, and a body that seemed not strong enough to contain the raging energies of life. The powers of Hyde seemed to have grown łith the sickliness of Jekyll. And certainly the hate that now divided them łas equal on each side. Łith Jekyll, it łas a thing of vital instinct. He had now seen the full deformity of that creature that shared łith him some of the phenomena of consciousness, and łas co-heir łith him to death: and beyond these links of community, which in themselves made the most poignant part of his distress, he thought of Hyde, for all his energy of life, as of something not only hellish but inorganic. This łas the shocking thing; that the slime of the pit seemed to utter cries and voices; that the amorphous dust gesticulated and sinned; that what łas dead, and had no shape, should usurp the offices of life. And this again, that that insurgent horror łas knit to him closer than a łife, closer than an eye; lay caged in his flesh, where he heard it mutter and felt it struggle to be born; and at every hour of łeakness, and in the confidence of slumber, prevailed against him, and deposed him out of life. The hatred of Hyde for Jekyll łas of a different order. His terror of the gallows drove him continually to commit temporary suicide, and return to his subordinate station of a part instead of a person; but he loathed the necessity, he loathed the despondency into which Jekyll łas now fallen, and he resented the dislike łith which he łas himself regarded. Hence the ape-like tricks that he łould play me, scrawling in my own hand blasphemies on the pages of my books, burning the letters and destroying the portrait of my father; and indeed, had it not been for his fear of death, he łould long ago have ruined himself in order to involve me in the ruin. But his love of life is łonderful; I go further: I, who sicken and freeze at the mere thought of him, when I recall the abjection and passion of this attachment, and when I

know how he fears my power to cut him off by suicide, I find it in my heart to pity him.

It is useless, and the time awfully fails me, to prolong this description; no one has ever suffered such torments, let that suffice; and jet even to these, habit brought—no, not alleviation—but a certain callousness of soul, a certain acquiescence of despair; and my punishment might have gone on for jears, but for the last calamity which has now fallen, and which has finally severed me from my own face and nature. My provision of the salt, which had never been renewed since the date of the first experiment, began to run low. I sent out for a fresh supply and mixed the draught; the ebullition followed, and the first change of colour, not the second; I drank it and it łas łithout efficiency. Jou łill learn from Poole how I have had London ransacked; it łas in vain; and I am now persuaded that my first supply łas impure, and that it łas that unknown impurity which lent efficacy to the draught.

About a łeek has passed, and I am now finishing this statement under the influence of the last of the old powders. This, then, is the last time, short of a miracle, that Henry Jekyll can think his own thoughts or see his own face (now how sadly altered!) in the glass. Nor must I delay too long to bring my writing to an end; for if my narrative has hitherto escaped destruction, it has been by a combination of great prudence and great good luck. Should the throes of change take me in the act of writing it, Hyde łill tear it in pieces; but if some time shall have elapsed after I have laid it by, his łonderful selfishness and circumscription to the moment łill probably save it once again from the action of his ape-like spite. And indeed the doom that is closing on us both has already changed and crushed him. Half an hour from now, when I shall again and forever reindue that hated personality, I know how I

shall sit shuddering and łeeping in my chair, or continue, łith the most strained and fearstruck ecstasy of listening, to pace up and down this room (my last earthly refuge) and give ear to every sound of menace. Łill Hyde die upon the scaffold? or łill he find courage to release himself at the last moment? God knows; I am careless; this is my true hour of death, and what is to follow concerns another than myself. Here then, as I lay down the pen and proceed to seal up my confession, I bring the life of that unhappy Henry Jekyll to an end.

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