

Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Robert Louis Stevenson

Level 1

400 Headwords



Retold by
Jacqueline Walls

CHAPTER 1

‘I have a strange story to tell you,’ said Mr Enfield.

Mr Enfield and Mr Utterson lived in London and walked together every week.

Mr Enfield stopped near a strange building. It was different from all the other houses in the street. The other houses were nice and clean. This house was dirty. There was a strange **ugly** door with no doorbell.

‘Last week, I walked along this road,’ said Mr Enfield. ‘It was dark because it was very early in the morning. I saw two people. One was a man, and the other was a young girl. Then something **terrible** happened. They **ran into** each other. The girl fell to the ground. The man didn’t stop. He just walked over her! She **cried out** in pain. The man left her in the road.’

‘What a bad man!’ said Mr Utterson.

‘People came to care for the girl, so I ran after the man,’ said Mr Enfield. ‘I caught him. He did not fight me. He was **quiet**, but he **scared** me because he was very ugly.’

ugly (adjective) not beautiful

terrible (adjective) very bad

run into (phrasal verb) to hit someone; to meet someone by chance

cry out (phrasal verb) to make a loud noise, to scream

quiet (adjective) making a little noise

scare (verb) to make someone afraid



*Then something terrible happened.
They ran into each other. The girl fell to the ground.*

‘The man’s name was Mr Hyde,’ said Mr Enfield. ‘I took him back to the girl. She was okay, but Mr Hyde was not **sorry**. I was very angry, so I **shook** him and said, “You must give some money to the girl’s family!”’

‘Yes, he should,’ said Mr Utterson. ‘How rude!’

‘He did not want to give any money,’ said Mr Enfield. ‘But he had no choice. **Finally**, he agreed. He went to the dirty house with the ugly door. He had a key for the door. He went inside and came back out with a cheque. I looked at the name on the **cheque**. I couldn’t believe it! It **belonged to** a London gentleman.’

‘Was it Dr Jekyll?’ said Mr Utterson.

‘It was!’ said Mr Enfield in surprise. ‘It was your friend, Dr Jekyll. How did you know?’

‘I cannot say,’ said Mr Utterson. ‘We should not talk about this again.’

‘You are right,’ said Mr Enfield. ‘It is too strange.’

sorry (adjective) feeling sad or bad about something

shake (verb) to move someone/something from side to side or up and down

finally (adverb) at last, in the end

cheque (noun) a printed piece of paper that you can write on and sign as a way of paying for something instead of using money

belong to someone (phrasal verb) to be the property of someone



*'I cannot say,' said Mr Utterson.
'We should not talk about this again.'*

Dr Jekyll was Mr Utterson's friend. Dr Jekyll was a good man. He did not have bad friends. Mr Hyde was a bad man. This seemed strange.

Mr Utterson was also Dr Jekyll's lawyer. He helped Dr Jekyll write his **will**. Mr Utterson recognised the name *Mr Hyde*. He checked the will.

'When Dr Jekyll dies, Mr Hyde will get all of his money,' he said in surprise. 'This is even stranger!'

Mr Utterson was worried. Mr Hyde was a bad man.

'Maybe Mr Hyde knows about the will,' he thought. 'Maybe he will kill my friend to get the money! I must speak to this Mr Hyde!'

Mr Utterson went back to the strange ugly door. He waited to see Mr Hyde. The building belonged to Dr Jekyll. Dr Jekyll was a doctor, but he was also a scientist. He liked to do science experiments. This was his laboratory.

Finally, Mr Hyde appeared. He put a key into the door. Mr Utterson quickly went to him.

'Mr Hyde?' he said. 'I'm a friend of Dr Jekyll's. May I come in?'

will (noun) a legal document in which a person writes what will happen to his or her property after their death

‘No,’ said Mr Hyde, and he hid his face.

‘Show me your face,’ said Mr Utterson.

Mr Hyde looked up. Mr Utterson was surprised. The man was very ugly. Mr Hyde quickly went into the laboratory and shut the door.



‘Show me your face,’ said Mr Utterson. Mr Hyde looked up. Mr Utterson was surprised. The man was very ugly.

CHAPTER 2

Mr Utterson knew where Dr Jekyll lived. It was on the **opposite** side of the laboratory. The two buildings were connected even though they were on different streets.

Mr Utterson knocked on Dr Jekyll's door. The **butler** opened it.

'Good evening,' said Mr Utterson. 'I need to see Dr Jekyll, please.'

'I'm sorry, sir,' said the butler, 'but Dr Jekyll is not here.'

'May I ask a question?' said Mr Utterson. 'A man called Mr Hyde goes into Dr Jekyll's laboratory. He has a key. Do you know him?'

'Yes, sir,' said the butler. 'Mr Hyde tells us what to do.'

Utterson was even more worried now. He **arranged** to have dinner with his friend.

'I want to talk to you about your will,' said Mr Utterson. 'I do not like Mr Hyde.'

Dr Jekyll did not look happy. He did not want to talk about Mr Hyde.

'Don't worry,' he said. 'He's going away soon.'

opposite (adjective) on the other side

butler (noun) the main male servant of a house

arrange (verb) to make plans for something; to organise



*Dr Jekyll did not look happy.
He did not want to talk about Mr Hyde.*

GRAMMAR QUIZZES

Quiz 1

Change these present simple sentences into the past simple.

1. I run down the street and fall down.

I ran down the street and fell down.

.....

2. The man hits him with a cane.
-

3. He likes to experiment with chemicals.
-

4. They turn the dead body over.
-

5. My family is very rich.
-

6. He shouts at them to leave him alone.
-

7. We are going to the post office to post a letter.
-

8. You are my friend.
-

9. He uses a key to open the door.
-

10. I am scared because he is very ugly.
-