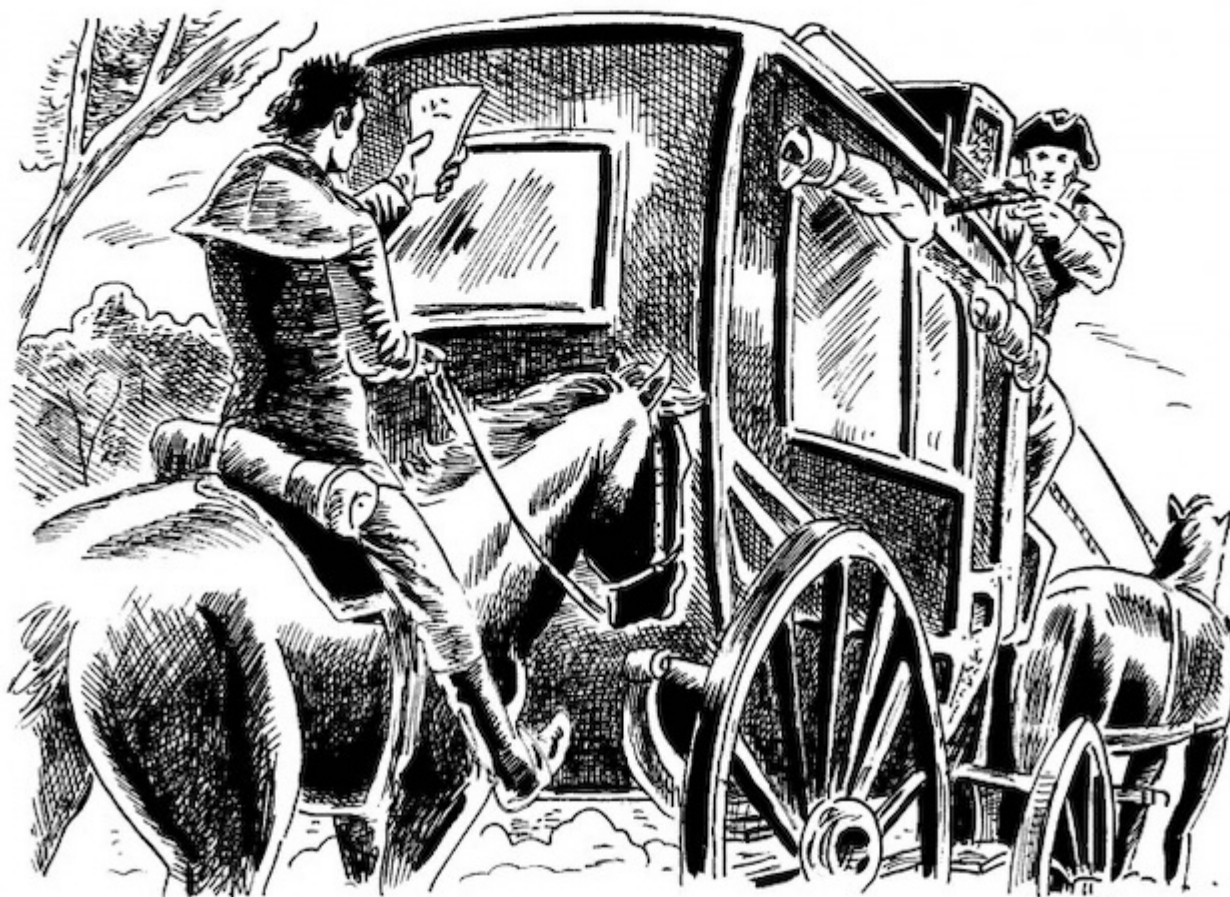


## *Recalled to Life*



*The guard raised his pistol when he heard a horse coming up behind them.*

- Preview**
1. Read the name of the story.
  2. Look at the picture.
  3. Read the sentence under the picture.
  4. Read the first three paragraphs of the story.
  5. Then answer the following question.

You learned from your preview that in the year 1775 people

- a. were hungry and afraid of their rulers.
- b. liked the way that the kings rule England and France.
- c. were happy to live in the forest.
- d. could arrest and execute anyone they didn't like.

*Turn to the Comprehension Check on page 10 for the right answer.*

**Now read the story.**

*Read to learn why Mr. Lorry is traveling to Dover.*

## Recalled to Life

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. It was the season of light, it was the season of darkness. It was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.

It was the year 1775. One king ruled France, and another king ruled England.

In France, the people could hardly recall the last time their stomachs had been full. They lived in fear of their rulers, who had the power to arrest and execute anyone they wanted to. Deep in the forests, trees grew that would someday be cut down to make a terrible machine that would execute those rulers!

In England, robbers roamed the countryside. The prisons were full, and the executioner was busy. Killers were executed, but so were people who may have only stolen a few pennies! The American colonies were causing problems, too. They believed England's king didn't have the right to rule them!

One night, in this year 1775, the coach to Dover waited on a hill. The driver was giving the horses a few minutes rest. The guard sitting next to him kept one hand on a locked chest and the other on his pistol. Mr. Lorry, a passenger, stood below. He was an older man wearing an odd wig too small for his head.

They heard a horse approaching. Pistol raised, the guard turned to peer into the darkness.

"Mr. Lorry, are you there?" a voice called.

"Is that you, Jerry?" asked Mr. Lorry.

Jerry rode up. His stiff black hair stood in spikes around his head. "I've brought a message from Tellson's Bank."

"*Doctor Manette's daughter will meet you in Dover,*" Mr. Lorry read from the note. "Take my reply back to Tellson's, Jerry. Tell them: *Recalled to Life.*"

"That's an odd message," grumbled Jerry. He turned and rode off.

As the coach bumped along the road, Mr. Lorry dreamed that he was

digging the doctor out of a grave. Sometimes he dug with a shovel, sometimes with a key. The doctor's ghost pulled itself from the grave. When Mr. Lorry reached out to help, the ghost fell into dust!

Mr. Lorry snapped awake. "Doctor Manette has been buried alive for eighteen years!" he thought. "Is there anything left of him to save?"

The next morning, he met the doctor's daughter at a Dover inn. Lucie Manette had the same bright eyes he remembered her having as a child.

"My father died years ago," said Lucie. "Then, yesterday, Tellson's wrote that I must return to France. Some of my father's property has been found, and I must claim it!"

"That isn't the real reason you must return," said Mr. Lorry. "The truth is we've found your father. He's alive!"

Eighteen years before, Doctor Manette had disappeared. His wife suspected he'd been locked up, but the prison wouldn't admit he was there. The king of France refused to help Madame Manette and her baby Lucie. Years passed. Madame Manette decided it would be easier for Lucie to believe her father was dead. She died herself a few months later. Mr. Lorry, a friend and the family's banker, brought Lucie to England. The bank hired a governess to raise her.

Then, just a few weeks before, Tellson's learned that the doctor had been freed. "We can't ask why. In France it's dangerous to ask questions. We don't even dare speak his name." Mr. Lorry explained. "Our secret plan to get him out of France is called *Recalled to Life.*"

Lucie fainted. Her governess, Miss Pross, rushed in and shoved Mr. Lorry. "You've upset my precious Lucie!" she shouted.

Although he didn't say it, Mr. Lorry was glad Miss Pross wouldn't be coming with them to France.

In France, a cask of red wine

broke open outside of Defarge's wine-shop. Defarge didn't mind. The deliverymen had dropped it before he'd paid, so it wasn't his problem. People scooped wine from puddles and licked the broken cask. The wine left a red stain on the stones. The people's hands were stained red, too. As a joke, a man named Gaspard dipped his fingers into the wine and wrote "BLOOD" on the wall.

"The time hasn't come yet, Gaspard" Defarge said. He wiped away the word.

Defarge went inside. His wife stood knitting behind the counter. A man wearing an odd wig sat at a table with a young lady. Three other men waited for Defarge in the corner.

"The spilled wine is gone, Jacques?" one of them asked.

"Every drop, Jacques," Defarge answered.

"These people live a hard life, Jacques," said another.

"Nothing to eat, Jacques," said the third.

Madame Defarge glanced at her husband and nodded. "You may go upstairs," Defarge told the three Jacqueses.

After they left, the man in the wig came over and whispered something to Defarge.

"I didn't recognize you," Defarge said as he led Lucie and Mr. Lorry to a stairway. At the top, the three Jacqueses were peering through a hole in the wall. When Defarge told them to leave, they hurried downstairs.

"You let people amuse themselves by watching a broken man?" Mr. Lorry demanded.

"I allow a chosen few to see what he has become," said Defarge. "It will make them stronger for the future." He took out a key. "Despair has destroyed the doctor. After so many years in prison, he's afraid of an open door."

Defarge turned the key. As the door swung open, they saw the doctor crouched in the corner.

# Recalled to Life

## COMPREHENSION CHECK

Choose the best answer.

**Preview Answer:**

- a. were hungry and afraid of their rulers.

- ①. When the driver stops the coach on the road to Dover
- \_\_\_ a. Mr. Lorry has lost his wig.  
\_\_\_ b. the horses refuse to go any farther.  
\_\_\_ c. the guard is nervous that robbers may attack.  
\_\_\_ d. two passengers recognize each other.
2. Jerry has caught up with the coach in order to
- \_\_\_ a. return a letter that Mr. Lorry dropped.  
\_\_\_ b. warn Mr. Lorry not to go to Dover.  
\_\_\_ c. attack the coach's guard.  
\_\_\_ d. to give Mr. Lorry a message from Tellson's Bank.
3. The ghost in Mr. Lorry's dream is
- \_\_\_ a. an old friend who has been in prison for eighteen years.  
\_\_\_ b. the young woman he is on his way to meet in Dover.  
\_\_\_ c. himself after working for Tellson's Bank for so many years.  
\_\_\_ d. Jerry, who looked like a ghost in the dark.
4. Tellson's Bank wants Lucie to go to France to
- \_\_\_ a. learn more about the world through travel.  
\_\_\_ b. bring her father to the safety of England.  
\_\_\_ c. claim property of her father's that has just been found.  
\_\_\_ d. find out why her father was locked up for eighteen years.
5. Lucie was raised by
- \_\_\_ a. Mr. Lorry in France.  
\_\_\_ b. a governess hired by Tellson's Bank.  
\_\_\_ c. her mother in England.  
\_\_\_ d. her father in prison.
6. When the man writes "BLOOD" on the wall with red wine
- \_\_\_ a. the hungry people decide they must fight to get more food.  
\_\_\_ b. the deliverymen demand to be paid for the spilled wine.  
\_\_\_ c. Defarge tells him the time for fighting hasn't come yet.  
\_\_\_ d. many people start laughing.
7. The three men in the wine-shop are called Jacques because
- \_\_\_ a. Jacques is such a popular name.  
\_\_\_ b. they are all members of a secret group.  
\_\_\_ c. they are Madame Defarge's brothers.  
\_\_\_ d. Defarge can't remember names, so he calls everyone Jacques.
8. Defarge lets members of his secret group watch Dr. Manette
- \_\_\_ a. so that the doctor can't escape.  
\_\_\_ b. because he is angry with Dr. Manette.  
\_\_\_ c. to make extra money over what he earns at his wine-shop.  
\_\_\_ d. to show how France's rulers destroy good people.
9. Another name for this story could be
- \_\_\_ a. "The Prisoner."  
\_\_\_ b. "Jerry and the Ghost."  
\_\_\_ c. "The Mighty King of England."  
\_\_\_ d. "Defarge's Wine-shop."
10. This story is mainly about how
- \_\_\_ a. the three Jacqueses are planning to start a war.  
\_\_\_ b. Lucie never met her father before this day.  
\_\_\_ c. Mr. Lorry wants to save an old friend in trouble.  
\_\_\_ d. Tellson's Bank does more than just manage people's money.

Check your answers with the keys on page 67.

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