

Закр́тый клуб

Читаем вместе по-английски

'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' by Lewis Carroll



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Lesson 5

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Chapter IV, Part II

Chapter V, Part I

Chapter IV

The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill



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Chapter IV – The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill

- Last came a little **feeble, squeaking** voice, ('That's Bill,' thought Alice,) 'Well, I hardly know – No more, thank **ye**; I'm better now – but I'm a deal too flustered to tell you – all I know is, something **comes at** me **like** a **Jack-in-the-box**, and **up I goes like a skyrocket!**'

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Chapter IV – The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill

- 'So you did, old fellow!' said the others.
- 'We must **burn the house down!**' said the Rabbit's voice; and Alice **called out** as loud as she could, '**If you do. I'll set Dinah at you!**'

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Chapter IV – The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill

- There was a **dead silence instantly**, and Alice thought to herself, 'I wonder what they WILL do next! **If they had any sense, they'd take** the roof **off.**' After a minute or two, they began **moving about** again, and Alice **heard the Rabbit say**, 'A **barrowful** will do, **to begin with.**'

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Chapter IV – The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill

- 'A barrowful of WHAT?' thought Alice; but **she had not long to doubt**, for the next moment **a shower of little pebbles** came **rattling in** at the window, and some of them **hit her in the face**. 'I'll put a stop to this,' she said to herself, and **shouted out**, 'You'd better not do that again!' which produced another dead silence.

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Chapter IV – The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill

- Alice noticed with some surprise that the pebbles **were all turning into** little cakes as they **lay** on the floor, and a **bright idea came into her head.** 'If I eat one of these cakes,' she thought, '**it's sure to** make SOME change in my size; and as it can't possibly make me larger, it must make me smaller, **I suppose.'**

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Chapter IV – The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill

- So she **swallowed** one of the cakes, and **was delighted to find** that she began **shrinking directly. As soon** as she was **small enough** to get through the door, she **ran out of** the house, and found **quite a crowd** of little animals and birds waiting outside. The poor little **Lizard**, Bill, was in the middle, **being held up by** two **guinea-pigs**, who were giving it something **out of a bottle.**

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Chapter IV – The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill

- They all **made a rush at** Alice the moment she appeared; but she **ran off** as hard as she could, and soon **found herself** safe in a **thick wood**.
- **'The first thing I've got to do,'** said Alice to herself, as she **wandered about** in the wood, **'is to grow to my right size** again; and the second thing is to **find my way into** that lovely garden. I think that will be the best plan.'

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Chapter IV – The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill

- It sounded an excellent plan, **no doubt**, and very **neatly** and simply arranged; **the only** difficulty was, that she **had not the smallest idea** how to **set about** it; and while she was **peering about** anxiously among the trees, a little **sharp bark** just over her head **made her look up in a great hurry.**

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- An enormous **puppy was looking down at** her with large round eyes, and **feebly stretching out one paw**, trying to touch her. **'Poor little thing!'** said Alice, in a **coaxing** tone, and she **tried hard to whistle to** it; but she **was terribly frightened all the time at the thought that** it might be hungry, **in which case** it would **be very likely to eat her up in spite of** all her coaxing.

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- Hardly knowing what she did, she **picked up** a little bit of **stick**, and **held it out to** the puppy; **whereupon** the puppy jumped into the air off all its feet at once, with a **yelp** of delight, and rushed at the stick, and **made believe** to **worry** it; then Alice **dodged** behind a great **thistle**, to **keep herself from being run over**;

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- and the moment she appeared **on the other side**, the puppy made another rush at the stick, and **tumbled head over heels** in its hurry to **get hold of it**; then Alice, thinking it was very like having a game of play with a **carthorse**, and expecting every moment to **be trampled** under its feet, ran round the thistle again;

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- then the puppy began a series of short charges at the stick, running a very little way forwards each time and a long way back, and barking **hoarsely all the while**, till **at last** it sat down a good way off, **panting**, with its tongue **hanging out of its mouth**, and its great eyes half shut.

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- This seemed to Alice a good opportunity for making her escape; so she **set off** at once, and ran till she **was quite tired** and **out of breath**, and till the puppy's bark sounded quite **faint in the distance**.

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- 'And yet what a dear little puppy it was!' said Alice, as she **leant against** a **buttercup** to **rest herself**, and **fanned herself** with one of the **leaves**: 'I should have liked teaching it **tricks** very much, if – **if I'd only been** the right size to do it! **Oh dear! I'd nearly forgotten** that **I've got to grow up** again! **Let me see** – how IS it to be managed? I suppose I **ought to** eat or drink **something or other**; but the great question is, what?'

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- The great question certainly was, what? Alice looked all round her at the flowers and the **blades of grass**, but she did not see anything that **looked like** the right thing to eat or drink **under the circumstances.**

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- There was a large mushroom growing near her, about the same **height** as herself; and when she had looked under it, and on both sides of it, and behind it, **it occurred to her** that she might **as well look and see** what was on the top of it.

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- She **stretched herself up on tiptoe**, and **peeped** over the edge of the mushroom, and her eyes immediately met those of a large **caterpillar**, that was sitting on the top **with its arms folded, quietly** smoking a long **hookah**, and **taking not the smallest notice of** her or of anything else.

Chapter V

Advice from a Caterpillar



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Chapter V – Advice from a Caterpillar

- The Caterpillar and Alice looked at each other for some time **in silence: at last** the Caterpillar took the hookah out of its mouth, and **addressed her** in a **languid, sleepy** voice.
- 'Who are YOU?' said the Caterpillar.

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Chapter V – Advice from a Caterpillar

- This was not an **encouraging** opening for a conversation. Alice replied, rather **shyly**, 'I – I hardly know, sir, just **at present – at least** I know who I WAS when I got up this morning, but I think I **must have been changed several times since then.**'
- '**What do you mean by that?**' said the Caterpillar **sternly.**
'**Explain yourself!**'

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Chapter V – Advice from a Caterpillar

- 'I can't explain MYSELF, I'm afraid, sir' said Alice, 'because I'm not myself, **you see.**'
- 'I don't see,' said the Caterpillar.
- 'I'm afraid I can't **put it more clearly,**' Alice replied very **politely,** 'for I can't understand it myself **to begin with;** and being so many different sizes in a day is very **confusing.**'

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- 'It isn't,' said the Caterpillar.
- 'Well, perhaps you **haven't found** it so **yet,**' said Alice; 'but when you **have to turn into** a **chrysalis** – you will **some day,** you know – and then after that into a butterfly, I should think you'**ll feel** it a little queer, **won't you?**'

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- 'Not a bit,' said the Caterpillar.
- 'Well, perhaps your feelings may be different,' said Alice; 'all I know is, it would feel very queer to ME.'
- 'You!' said the Caterpillar **contemptuously**. 'Who are YOU?'

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Chapter V – Advice from a Caterpillar

- Which brought them back again to the beginning of the conversation. Alice felt a little **irritated** at the Caterpillar's making such VERY short remarks, and she **drew herself up** and said, very **gravely**, 'I think, you ought to tell me who YOU are, first.'
- 'Why?' said the Caterpillar.

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- Here was another **puzzling question;** and as Alice could not **think of** any **good reason,** and as the Caterpillar seemed to be in a VERY **unpleasant state of mind,** she **turned away.**
- 'Come back!' the Caterpillar called after her. '**I've something important to say!**'

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Chapter V – Advice from a Caterpillar

- This sounded **promising**, certainly: Alice turned and came back again.
- **'Keep your temper,'** said the Caterpillar.
- 'Is that all?' said Alice, **swallowing down** her anger as well as she could.
- 'No,' said the Caterpillar.

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Chapter V – Advice from a Caterpillar

- Alice thought she might as well wait, as she **had nothing else to do**, and perhaps **after all** it might tell her something worth hearing. For some minutes it **puffed away** without speaking, but at last it **unfolded its arms**, took the hookah out of its mouth again, and said, 'So you think you're changed, do you?'
- 'I'm afraid I am, sir,' said Alice; 'I can't remember things as I used – and I don't keep the same size for ten minutes **together!**'

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- 'Can't remember **WHAT** things?' said the Caterpillar.
- 'Well, I've tried to say 'HOW **DOTH** THE LITTLE **BUSY BEE,**' but it all came different!' Alice replied in a very melancholy voice.
- 'Repeat "YOU ARE OLD, FATHER WILLIAM,"' said the Caterpillar.
- Alice **folded her hands,** and began: -

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- 'You are old, Father William,' the **young man** said,
- 'And **your hair has become** very white;
- And yet you **incessantly** stand on your head –
- Do you think, **at your age,** it is right?'

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- 'In my youth,' Father William replied to his son,
- 'I feared it might **injure** the brain;
- But, now that I'**m perfectly sure** I have none,
- Why, I do it **again and again.**'

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- 'You are old,' said the **youth**, 'as I mentioned before,
- And **have grown** most **uncommonly fat**;
- Yet you turned a **back-somersault** in at the door –
- **Pray**, what is the reason of that?'

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- 'In my youth,' said the **sage**, as he **shook his grey locks**,
- 'I kept all my **limbs** very **supple**
- **By the use of** this **ointment** – one shilling the box –
- **Allow me to sell** you a couple?'

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- 'You are old,' said the youth, 'and your **jaws** are **too weak**
- For anything tougher than **suet**;
- Yet you finished the goose, with the bones and the **beak** –
- Pray how **did you manage to do** it?'

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- 'In my youth,' said his father, 'I **took to the law,**
- And **argued each case** with my wife;
- And the **muscular strength,** which it gave to my jaw,
- **Has lasted the rest of my life.'**

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- 'You are old,' said the youth, 'one would hardly suppose
- That your eye was as **steady** as ever;
- Yet you balanced an **eel** on the end of your nose –
- What made you so **awfully clever?**'

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- 'I have answered three questions, and that is enough,'
- Said his father; 'don't **give yourself airs!**
- Do you think I can listen all day to **such stuff?**
- **Be off, or I'll kick you down stairs!**

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- 'That is not said right,' said the Caterpillar.
- 'Not **QUITE** right, I'm afraid,' said Alice, **timidly**; 'some of the words **have got altered.**'
- 'It is wrong from beginning to end,' said the Caterpillar **decidedly**, and there was silence for some minutes.

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- The Caterpillar was the first to speak.
- 'What size do you want to be?' it asked.
- 'Oh, I'm not particular **as to** size,' Alice hastily replied; 'only one doesn't like changing so often, you know.'
- 'I DON'T know,' said the Caterpillar.

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- Alice **said nothing**: she **had never been so much contradicted** in her life before, and she felt that she **was losing her temper**.
- **'Are you content now?'** said the Caterpillar.
- **'Well, I should like to be** a LITTLE larger, sir, **if you wouldn't mind,'** said Alice: 'three inches is such a **wretched** height to be.'

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