

Закр́тый клуб

# Читаем вместе по-английски

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## 'Through the Looking-Glass' by Lewis Carroll



Автор – Диана Семёнычева  
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# Lesson 13

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Through the Looking-Glass

*Chapter VIII, Part III*

*Chapter IX, Part I*

# Chapter VIII

## 'It's My Own Invention'



# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

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- His accents **mild took up the tale:**
- He said "**I go my ways,**
- And when I find a **mountain-rill,**
- I **set it in a blaze;**
- And **thence** they make a stuff they call
- Rolands' **Macassar Oil** –
- Yet two-pence-half-penny is all
- They give me for my **toil."**

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

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- But I was thinking of a way
- To feed oneself on **batter,**
- And so **go on from day to day**
- **Getting a little fatter.**
- **I shook him well from side to side,**
- **Until his face was blue:**
- "Come, tell me how you live," I cried,
- "And what it is you do!"

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- He said "I **hunt for haddocks'** eyes
- Among the **heather** bright,
- And **work them into waistcoat-buttons**
- In the **silent night.**
- And these I **do not sell for gold**
- Or coin of **silvery shine,**
- But for a **copper halfpenny,**
- And that will purchase nine.

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- "I sometimes **dig for** buttered rolls,
- Or set **limed twigs** for crabs:
- I sometimes search the **grassy knolls**
- For wheels of **Hansom-cabs.**
- And that's the way" (he **gave a wink**)
- "By which I get my wealth –
- And very gladly will I drink
- **Your Honour's noble** health."

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- I heard him then, for I had just
- Completed my design
- To **keep** the **Menai bridge from rust**
- By **boiling** it in wine.
- I thanked much for telling me
- The way he got his wealth,
- But **chiefly** for his wish that he
- Might drink my noble health.



# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- And now, **if e'er by chance I put**
- **My fingers into glue,**
- Or **madly squeeze** a **righthand foot**
- Into a lefthand shoe,
- Or if I drop upon my **toe**
- A very **heavy weight,**
- I **weep,** for it **reminds me** so

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- **Of** that old man I **used to know** –
- Whose look was mild, whose speech was slow,
- Whose hair was whiter than the snow,
- Whose face was very like a **crow,**
- With eyes, **like cinders,** all **aglow,**
- Who seemed **distracted with** his **woe,**

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- Who **rocked** his body **to and fro**,
- And muttered **mumblingly** and low,
- As if his mouth were full of **dough**,
- Who **snorted like** a **buffalo** -
- That summer evening long ago,
- A-sitting on a gate.'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- As the Knight sang the last words of the **ballad**, he **gathered up the reins**, and **turned his horse's head along** the road by which they had come. 'You've only a few yards to go,' he said, 'down the hill and over that little brook, and then you'll be a Queen – But you'll stay and **see** me **off** first?' he added as Alice turned with an eager look in the direction to which he pointed.

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- 'I shan't be long. **You'll wait and wave your handkerchief when I get to that turn** in the road! I think it'll **encourage** me, you see.'
- 'Of course I'll wait,' said Alice: 'and thank you very much for coming so far – and for the song – I liked it very much.'
- '**I hope so,**' the Knight said doubtfully: 'but you didn't cry so much as I thought you would.'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- So they **shook hands**, and then the Knight **rode** slowly **away** into the forest. '**It won't take long to see him off**, I expect,' Alice said to herself, as she stood watching him. '**There he goes!** Right on his head **as usual!** However, he **gets on** again pretty easily – that **comes of** having so many things hung round the horse –'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- So she **went on talking to** herself, as she watched the horse walking **leisurely** along the road, and the Knight **tumbling off**, first on one side and then on the other. After the fourth or fifth tumble he reached the turn, and then she waved her handkerchief to him, and waited till he **was out of sight.**

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- 'I hope it encouraged him,' she said, as he turned to run down the hill: 'and now for the last brook, and to be a Queen! How grand it sounds!' **A very few** steps brought her to the edge of the brook. 'The Eighth Square **at last!**' she cried as she **bounded** across,



# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- and **threw herself down** to **rest on a lawn** as soft as **moss**, with little **flowerbeds dotted about it here and there**. 'Oh, how glad I am to get here! And what is this on my head?' she exclaimed in a tone of **dismay**, as she put her hands up to something very heavy, that **fitted tight** all round her head.

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter VIII – 'It's My Own Invention'

---

- 'But how can it have got there without my knowing it?' she said to herself, as she **lifted it off**, and set it on her lap to **make out** what it could possibly be.
- It was a golden crown.

# Chapter IX

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## Queen Alice



# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

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- ‘Well, this is grand!’ said Alice. ‘I never expected I should be a Queen so soon – and I’ll tell you what it is, your Majesty,’ she went on in a **severe** tone (she **was** always rather **fond of scolding herself**), ‘it’ll never **do for** you to **be lolling about on the grass like that!** Queens **have to be dignified**, you know!’

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- So she got up and **walked about** – rather **stiffly** just at first, as she was afraid that the crown might **come off**: but she **comforted herself with** the thought that there was nobody to see her, 'and if I really am a Queen,' she said as she sat down again, 'I **shall be able to manage it quite well in time.**'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- Everything was happening so **oddly** that she didn't feel a bit surprised at finding the Red Queen and the White Queen sitting close to her, one on each side: she would have liked very much to ask them how they came there, but she feared it would not be quite civil. However, **there would be no harm,** she thought, **in asking if** the game was over. 'Please, would you tell me –' she began, looking timidly at the Red Queen.

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- ‘Speak when you’re **spoken to!**’ The Queen **sharply** interrupted her.
- ‘But if everybody **obeyed** that rule,’ said Alice, who was always ready for a little argument, ‘and if you only spoke when you were spoken to, and the other person always waited for you to begin, you see nobody would ever say anything, so that –’

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'Ridiculous!' cried the Queen. 'Why, don't you see, child –' here she **broke off with a frown**, and, after thinking for a minute, suddenly **changed the subject of the conversation**. **'What do you mean by "If you really are a Queen"?** What right have you to **call yourself so?** You can't be a Queen, you know, **till you've passed** the proper examination. And **the sooner we begin it, the better.'**



# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

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- 'I only said "if"!' poor Alice **pleaded** in a **piteous** tone.
- The two Queens looked at each other, and the Red Queen remarked, with a little **shudder**, 'She says she only said "if" –'
- 'But she said **a great deal more** than that!' the White Queen **moaned, wringing her hands**. 'Oh, **ever so** much more than that!'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

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- 'So you did, you know,' the Red Queen said to Alice. 'Always speak the truth – think before you speak – and **write it down afterwards.**'
- 'I'm sure I didn't mean –' Alice was beginning, but the Red Queen interrupted her **impatiently.**

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'That's just what I **complain of!** You should have meant! What do you suppose is the use of child without any meaning? Even a joke should have some meaning – and a child's more important than a joke, I hope. You couldn't deny that, even if you tried with both hands.'
- 'I don't deny things with my hands ;' Alice objected.

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- **'Nobody said** you did,' said the Red Queen. 'I said you couldn't if you tried.'
- 'She's **in that state of mind,**' said the White Queen, 'that she wants to deny something – only she doesn't know what to deny!'
- 'A **nasty, vicious temper,**' the Red Queen remarked; and then there was an **uncomfortable silence** for a minute or two.

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- The Red Queen **broke the silence** by saying to the White Queen, 'I invite you to Alice's **dinner-party** this afternoon.'
- The White Queen smiled **feebly**, and said 'And I invite you.'
- 'I didn't know I **was to have a party at all,**' said Alice; 'but if there is to be one, I think I ought to invite the guests.'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'We gave you the opportunity of doing it,' the Red Queen remarked: 'but **I daresay** you've not had many lessons in manners yet?'
- 'Manners are not taught in lessons,' said Alice. 'Lessons teach you to **do sums**, and things of that sort.'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'And you do **Addition?**' the White Queen asked. 'What's one and one and one and one and one and one and one and one and one and one and one?'
- 'I don't know,' said Alice. 'I **lost count.**'
- 'She can't do Addition,' the Red Queen interrupted. 'Can you do **Subtraction?** Take nine from eight.'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'Nine from eight I can't, you know,' Alice replied very readily: 'but –'
- 'She can't do Subtraction,' said the White Queen. 'Can you do **Division?** Divide a **loaf** by a knife – what's the answer to that?'
- 'I suppose –' Alice was beginning, but the Red Queen answered for her. 'Bread-and-butter, of course. Try another Subtraction sum. Take a bone from a dog: **what remains?**'



# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- Alice considered. 'The bone wouldn't remain, of course, if I took it – and the dog wouldn't remain; it would come to bite me – and I'm sure I shouldn't remain!'
- 'Then you think **nothing would remain?**' said the Red Queen.
- 'I think that's the answer.'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'Wrong, **as usual,**' said the Red Queen: 'the dog's **temper** would remain.'
- 'But I don't see how –'
- 'Why, look here!' the Red Queen cried. 'The dog **would lose its temper,** wouldn't it?'
- 'Perhaps it would,' Alice replied **cautiously.**

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'Then if the dog went away, its temper would remain!' the Queen exclaimed **triumphantly**.
- Alice said, as gravely as she could, 'They might **go different ways.**' But she **couldn't help thinking to herself** 'What **dreadful nonsense** we are talking!'
- 'She can't do sums a bit!' the Queens said together, **with great emphasis**.

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'Can you do sums?' Alice said, **turning** suddenly **on** the White Queen, for she didn't like **being found fault with** so much.
- The Queen **gasped** and shut her eyes. 'I can do Addition,' she said, 'if you give me time – but I can do Subtraction, **under any circumstances!**'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'Of course you know your ABC?' said the Red Queen.
- **'To be sure** I do.' said Alice.
- 'So do I,' the White Queen whispered: **'we'll often say it over together,** dear. And **I'll tell you a secret** – I can read words of one letter! Isn't that grand! However, **don't be discouraged.** **You'll come to it in time.'**

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- Here the Red Queen began again. 'Can you answer useful questions?' she said. 'How is bread made?'
- 'I know that!' Alice cried eagerly. 'You take some **flour** -'
- 'Where do you pick the flower?' the White Queen asked. 'In a garden, or in the **hedges?**'
- '**Well,** it isn't picked at all,' Alice explained: 'it's **ground** -'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'How many acres of ground?' said the White Queen. 'You mustn't **leave out** so many things.'
- 'Fan her head!' the Red Queen anxiously interrupted. 'She'll be **feverish** after so much thinking.' So they **set to work** and fanned her with bunches of leaves, till she had to beg them to **leave off**, it **blew** her hair **about** so.

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- ‘She’s all right again now,’ said the Red Queen. ‘Do you know Languages? What’s the French for **fiddle-de-dee?**’
- ‘Fiddle-de-dee’s not English,’ Alice replied gravely.
- ‘Who ever said it was?’ said the Red Queen.



# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- Alice thought she **saw a way out of the difficulty this time.** 'If you'll tell me what language "fiddle-de-dee" is, I'll tell you the French for it!' she exclaimed triumphantly.
- But the Red Queen **drew herself up** rather **stiffly**, and said 'Queens **never make bargains.**'
- 'I wish Queens never asked questions,' Alice thought to herself.

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- **'Don't let us quarrel,'** the White Queen said in an **anxious** tone. **'What is the cause of lightning?'**
- **'The cause of lightning,'** Alice said very **decidedly,** for she felt quite certain about this, **'is the thunder – no, no!'** she hastily **corrected herself. 'I meant the other way.'**

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

---

- 'It's **too late** to correct it,' said the Red Queen: 'when you've once said a thing, that fixes it, and you must **take the consequences.**'
- 'Which reminds me –' the White Queen said, looking down and nervously **clasping and unclasping her hands,** 'we had **such a thunderstorm last Tuesday** – I mean one of the last set of Tuesdays, you know.'

# Through the Looking-Glass

## Chapter IX – Queen Alice

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- Alice was puzzled. 'In our country,' she remarked, 'there's only **one day at a time.**'
- The Red Queen said, 'That's a **poor thin way** of doing things. Now here, we mostly have days and nights two or three at a time, and sometimes in the winter we take as **many as five nights together** – for warmth, you know.'

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