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APPENDIX

1. Synopsis of *A Tale of Two Cities*

The year is 1775, and social ills plague both France and England. Jerry Cruncher stops the Dover mail-coach with an urgent message for Jarvis Lorry. The message instructs Lorry to wait at Dover for a young woman, and Lorry responds with the words, "Recalled to Life." At Dover, Lorry is met by Lucie Manette. Lorry escorts Lucie to Paris, where they meet Defarge who has kept Manette safe in a attic.

The year is now 1780. Charles Darnay stands accused of treason against the English crown. A lawyer named Stryver pleads Darnay's case, but it is not until Sydney Carton assists him that the court sets Darnay free. Lucie and Doctor Manette watched the court proceedings, and that night, Carton escorts Darnay to a tavern and asks how it feels to receive the sympathy of a woman like Lucie.

In France, Marquis Evrémonte runs down a plebeian child with his carriage. Showing an attitude typical of the aristocracy in regard to the poor at that time, the Marquis shows no regret, but instead curses the peasantry and hurries home to his chateaux. That night, the Marquis is murdered; the murderer has left a note signed with the nickname adopted by French revolutionaries: "Jacques."

A year passes, and Darnay asks Manette for permission to marry Lucie. Darnay, on the morning of his wedding, keeps his promise to Manette; he reveals his true identity and, Manette relapses into his old prison habit of making shoes. After nine days, Manette regains his presence of mind.

The year is now 1789. The peasants in Paris storm the Bastille and the French Revolution begins. The revolutionaries murder aristocrats in the streets, and Gabelle, a man charged with the maintenance of the Evrémonde estate, is imprisoned. Three years later, he writes to Darnay, asking to be rescued. After that, Darnay departs immediately for France.

As soon as Darnay arrives in Paris, the French revolutionaries arrest him as an emigrant. Lucie and Manette make their way to Paris in hopes of saving him. To help free him, Manette uses his influence with the revolutionaries. Darnay receives an acquittal, but that same night he is arrested again. The charges come from Defarge and his vengeful wife. Carton arrives in Paris with a plan to rescue Darnay.

At Darnay's trial, Defarge produces a letter that he discovered in Manette's old jail cell in the Bastille. The letter explains the cause of Manette's imprisonment. Upon hearing the story, the jury condemns Darnay for the crimes of his ancestors and sentences him to die. That night, Carton overhears Madame Defarge plotting to have Lucie and her daughter executed as well. Carton arranges for the Manettes' immediate departure from France. He then visits Darnay in prison, tricks him into changing clothes with him, and drugs his friend unconscious. As Darnay, Lucie, their child, and Dr. Manette speed away from Paris, Madame Defarge arrives at Lucie's apartment. There she finds Miss Pross, and a fight happens. Then, Madame Defarge dies by the bullet of her own gun. Sydney Carton meets his death at the guillotine, and he has finally find a meaning in his life.

2. Biography of Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens (Collins, 2019: 1) was born on February 7, 1812, at Portsea on the southern coast of England. At the age of twelve Charles worked in a factory that handled shoe polish. While his father was in debtor's prison, the rest of the family moved to live near the prison, leaving Charles to live alone. This experience of lonely hardship was the most significant event of his life. It colored his view of the world and would later be described in a number of his novels.

By 1832 he had become a reporter for two London newspapers and, in the following year, began to contribute a series of impressions and sketches to other newspapers and magazines. These scenes of London life went far to establish his reputation and were published in 1836 as *Sketches by Boz*, his first book. On the strength of this success Charles married Catherine Hogarth.

In 1836 Dickens also began to publish *The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club* in monthly installments. So great was Dickens's success with the procedure that *Pickwick* became one of the most popular works of the time, and continued to be so after it was published in book form in 1837.

After *Pickwick's* success, Dickens began publishing his new novel, *Oliver Twist*. He continued publishing his novel in his later magazines, *Household Worlds* and *All the Year Round*. Though Dickens's career was successful, for the next decade his books did not achieve the standard of his early successes. These works include: *Nicholas Nickleby* (1838–1839), *The Old Curiosity Shop* (1840–1841), and *Barnaby Rudge* (1841).

In 1842 Dickens, went on a five-month lecture tour of the United States. On his return he wrote *American Notes*. His next novel is *Martin Chuzzlewit* (1843–1844). During the years in which *Chuzzlewit* appeared, Dickens also published two Christmas stories, *A Christmas Carol* and *The Chimes*.

After a year abroad in Italy and writing *Pictures from Italy* (1846), Dickens published installments of *Dombey and Son*, which continued till 1848. This completed novel established a new standard in the Dickensian novel and marked the turning point in his career.

Dickens's next novel is *David Copperfield* (1849–1850). This autobiographical novel fictionalized elements of Dickens's childhood, his pursuit of a journalism career, and his love life. In 1850 Dickens began a new magazine, *Household Words*.

In the period of 1950s, Dickens wrote his major novels such as *Bleak House* (1852–1853), *Hard Times* (1854), *Little Dorrit* (1855–1857), and *A Tale of Two Cities* (1859). Besides, Dickens also *The Uncommercial Traveller* in 1860.

Dickens's next novel, *Great Expectations* (1860–1861), is regarded by some as his most perfectly executed work of art. Three years later he produced *Our Mutual Friend*, which provides an insight of how he viewed London.

Dickens died of a fatal stroke on June 9, 1870, leaving the novel, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, unfinished. The day of his burial was made a day of national mourning in England.