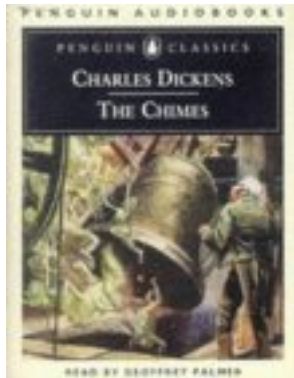

Charles Dickens

The Chimes (Christmas Books)



Title: The Chimes (Christmas Books)

Author: Charles Dickens

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Description

Sparklesoup brings you Charles Dickens' The Chimes. Printable and immediately easy-to-download.

Insightful reviews

Hilary: Although this little story was far from Dickens's best; it certainly did not give 'A Christmas Carol' a run for its money, I can not help but be enthralled by Dickens's writing. Even in this book where the plot is somewhat lacking, Dickens still manages to charm me. Much as there were many great Victorian writers, for me, Dickens is peerless.

Elizabeth: This is the second of Dickens' three Christmas books. Like the first book in the series, "A Christmas Carol," "The Chimes" takes place during the "Hungry Forties." That would be the 1840's.

The main character, Trotty Veck, is a very poor man who works as a ticket porter on the streets of London. He adores his daughter Meg who is on the verge of marrying her love named Richard. Meg and Richard are going to get married on New Year's Day.

Trotty loves the church chimes and he and Meg feel the chimes have always been their constant friend.

On New Year's Eve, Trotty, Meg and Richard have an encounter with some arrogant terrible men who are a higher social class than Trotty & co. These men make Trotty, Meg and Richard feel like they do not have a right to exist because they are so poor and a burden on society. Their words to Trotty and Meg just boiled my blood!

Throughout the day, Trotty begins to wonder if the poor are naturally wicked and a plague on society and he feels perhaps, he himself is unknowingly wicked.

Midway through the book, Trotty encounters a man and his little orphaned niece. The man is very poor and has no home and is on the verge of going to jail for some petty crime. Trotty invites the man and child home and spends all his money (which is not much money at all) on a New Year's Eve dinner for them. He gives the man his bed and his little daughter sleeps with Meg. These scenes just warmed my heart and brought a constant stream of tears to my eyes.

During the night, Trotty has a dream that the Chimes call to him and they are actually goblins that are very disappointed in him for losing faith in humanity. They tell Trotty he is dead and he must learn about the true nature of humankind by watching his daughter's life unfold. Trotty is once again convinced that people are indeed innately good and circumstances drive them to desperation and the poor are not a plague on society and they do have a right to exist. He also learns that poor like their "betters" are constantly trying to improve their lives... just like Trotty did during his life. Yet, the poor seem to always be fighting a losing battle because of the structure of society.

In his dream, Trotty sees the fate of all the people in his life. Even his next door neighbor, Mrs. Chickenstalker whom he owes money too (she owns a shop). He sees that she is very compassionate and not greedy by any means.

Trotty thanks the chimes for these lessons and then wakes up a new man (like Scrooge does) and like Scrooge, you feel such joy and relief that Trotty has a second chance to live life in a different way...in a more hopeful and joyful manner.

I loved this book so much. It brought tears to my eyes so many times. There are so many great quotes and lessons in this book and I know it will now be a yearly read for me.

Eric: More of a winter's tale or New Year's fable than a Christmas story, *The Chimes* touches on the same themes as most of Dickens' other works, mainly the plight of the poor. Some of the upper class characters are stilted up even higher on their horses than the infamous Ebenezer Scrooge of *A Christmas Carol*.

But upon finishing the book one might suddenly realize that it is not about the misery of the poor and the war of the classes. It is really about how to enjoy life no matter what your circumstances.

So if you are reading this for the holidays than I suggest you grab a blanket and something warm to drink, relax and enjoy yourself, and be prepared to set some resolutions for the New Year when you're done.

April: not anything of any significance occurred until eventually the very end. the tale has a great moral, yet could've been advised in a web page or with out lacking anything. it is also difficult to follow, like he wrote it whereas excessive on something.

Don: learn in tandem (unintentionally) this morning with the center of Understanding: Commentaries at the Prajnaparamita center Sutra and used to be struck via the bells in each. Thích Nhất Hạnh's narrow quantity explains bell is a bodhisattva: "A bell is a bodhisattva," Thay said, "It is helping us to wake up." With that during mind, while the bell used to be invited to sound we might positioned down our backyard tools, our hammers, our paint brushes or pen, and are available to ourselves for a second for a moment, respiring with a average serenity, smiling a type of part smile to ourselves and all these round us-the people, the trees, a flower, a toddler operating with delight, even our concerns and occasionally our pain. As we did this we'd simply pay attention deeply, and turn into one with the sound of the bell. it really is really extraordinary how deeply a bell can ring within a person. After this pause, we resumed our job with renewed energy, maybe even a bit extra attentively, a bit extra aware."The chimes in Dicken's New Years homily even have anything to say: "Who hears in us, the Chimes, one word bespeaking disregard, or stern regard, of any hope, or joy, or pain, or sorrow, of the many-sorrowed throng; who hears us make reaction to any creed that gauges human passions and affections, because it gauges the volume of depressing meals on which humanity might pine and wither; does us wrong. that inaccurate you might have performed us!" acknowledged the

Bell. "I have!" stated Trotty. "Oh forgive me!" "Who hears us echo the uninteresting vermin of the earth: the Putters Down of overwhelmed and damaged natures, shaped to be raised up larger than such maggots of the time can move slowly or can conceive," pursued the Goblin of the Bell; "who does so, does us wrong. and you have got performed us wrong!" "Not that means it," acknowledged Trotty. "In my ignorance, no longer that means it!" "Lastly, and such a lot of all," pursued the Bell. "Who turns his again upon the fallen and disfigured of his kind; abandons them as Vile; and doesn't hint and tune with pitying eyes the unfenced precipice during which they fell from sturdy -- greedy of their fall a few tufts and shreds of that misplaced soil, and clinging to them nonetheless while bruised and loss of life within the gulf below; does mistaken to Heaven and Man, to Time and to Eternity. and you have got performed that wrong!" "Spare me," cried Trotty, falling on his knees; "for Mercy's sake!" "Listen!" stated the Shadow "Listen!" cried the opposite Shadows "Listen!" acknowledged a transparent and childlike voice, which Trotty suggestion he acknowledged as having heard before... ..Anyway, simply a wierd little bit of synchronicity to savor. Dickens' didactic little tale isn't really precisely cheerful yet worthy a short learn nonetheless.

Caroline Åsgård: considering that I learn this as part of this A Christmas Carol and different Christmas Stories, i am simply gonna reproduction what I wrote within the Victorians! team while this used to be the publication of the month. I particularly loved it. i really have not learn it before, yet it is easy to inform that it is a stable outdated Charles Dickens story. I imagine he used to be fairly profitable with the "strike a blow for the poor". you spot the social adjustments from the view of those down below. My center warmed at how type Trotty is to strangers, and that he stocks what little he has. Then we've the extra darker, supernatural half within the belltower the place he's proven the visions of what terrible lives his loves ones will live, which used to be particularly sad, yet i really beloved it. But after all we get the satisfied finishing (I think, lol). This tale is a vital contribution to the literary works of the time (which I love, of course), and that i do not know the place we might were this day with out Dickens' stories.

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