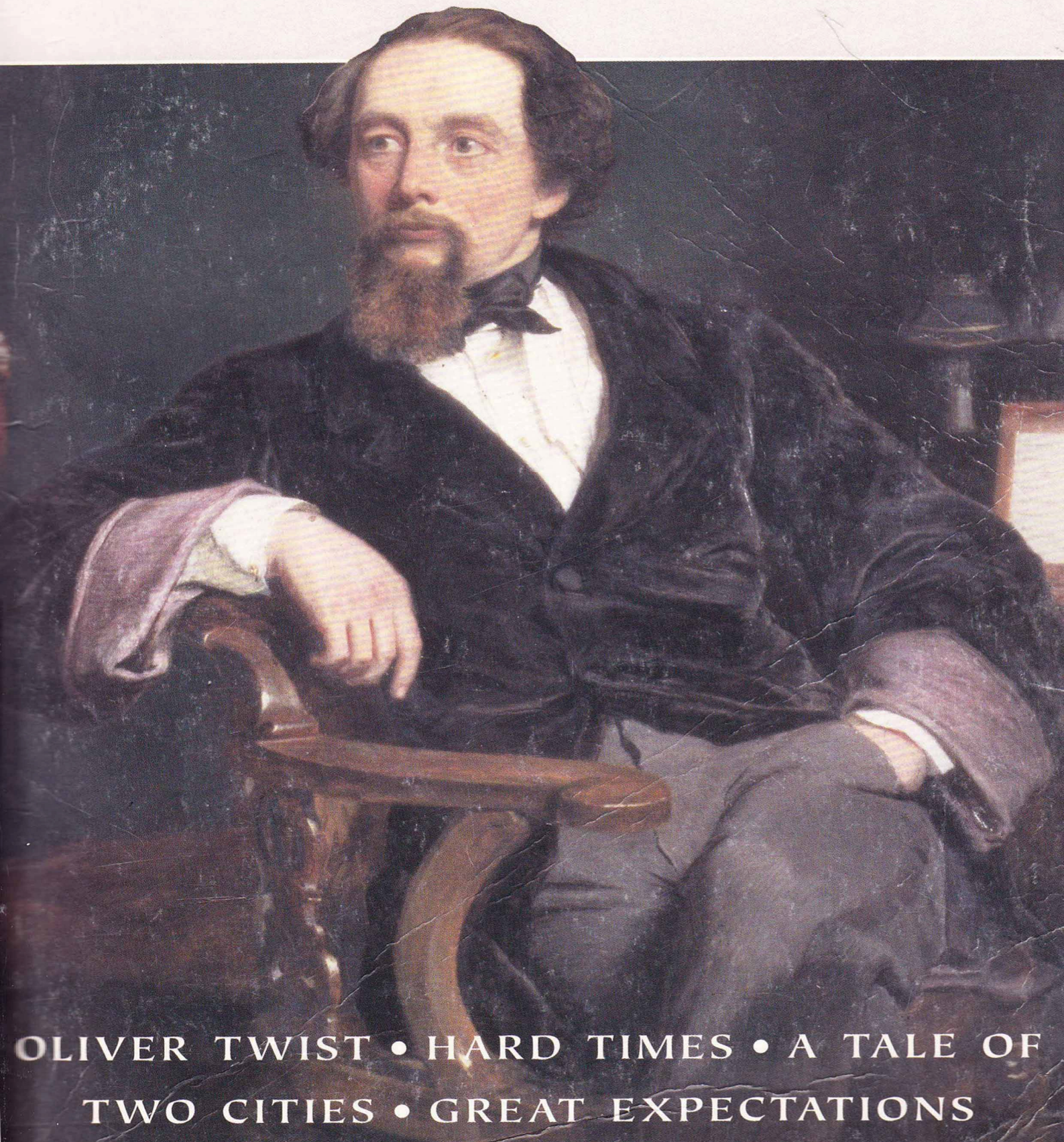


THE SHORTER NOVELS OF

CHARLES DICKENS



OLIVER TWIST • HARD TIMES • A TALE OF
TWO CITIES • GREAT EXPECTATIONS

CONTENTS

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Oliver Twist</i> – 1837 | 7 |
| <i>Hard Times</i> – 1854 | 377 |
| <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> – 1859 | 613 |
| <i>Great Expectations</i> – 1860 | 929 |

CONTENTS

| | | |
|----|---|----|
| I | <i>Treats of the place where Oliver Twist was born; and of the circumstances attending his birth</i> | 17 |
| 2 | <i>Treats of Oliver Twist's growth, education, and board</i> | 19 |
| 3 | <i>Relates how Oliver Twist was very near getting a place, which would not have been a sinecure</i> | 28 |
| 4 | <i>Oliver, being offered another place, makes his first entry into public life</i> | 36 |
| 5 | <i>Oliver mingles with new associates. Going to a funeral for the first time, he forms an unfavourable notion of his master's business</i> | 41 |
| 6 | <i>Oliver, being goaded by the taunts of Noah, rouses into action and rather astonishes him</i> | 50 |
| 7 | <i>Oliver continues refractory</i> | 55 |
| 8 | <i>Oliver walks to London. He encounters on the road a strange sort of young gentleman</i> | 60 |
| 9 | <i>Containing further particulars concerning the pleasant old gentleman and his hopeful pupils</i> | 66 |
| 10 | <i>Oliver becomes better acquainted with the characters of his new associates; and purchases experience at a high price. Being a short but very important in this history</i> | 72 |
| 11 | <i>Treats of Mr Fang, the police magistrate; and furnishes a slight specimen of his mode of administering justice</i> | 77 |
| 12 | <i>In which Oliver is taken better care of than he ever was before. And in which the narrative reverts to the merry old gentleman and his youthful friends</i> | 83 |
| 13 | <i>Some new acquaintances are introduced to the intelligent reader; connected with whom various pleasant matters are related appertaining to this history</i> | 91 |
| 14 | <i>Comprising further particulars of Oliver's stay at Mr Brownlow's, with the remarkable prediction which one Mr Grimwig uttered concerning him when he went out on an errand</i> | 98 |

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 15 | <i>Showing how very fond of Oliver Twist the merry old Jew and Miss Nancy were</i> | 106 |
| 16 | <i>Relates what became of Oliver Twist, after he had been claimed by Nancy</i> | 112 |
| 17 | <i>Oliver's destiny, continuing unpropitious, brings a great man to London to injure his reputation</i> | 120 |
| 18 | <i>How Oliver passed his time in the improving society of his reputable friends</i> | 128 |
| 19 | <i>In which a notable plan is discussed and determined on</i> | 135 |
| 20 | <i>Wherein Oliver is delivered over to Mr William Sikes</i> | 142 |
| 21 | <i>The expedition</i> | 148 |
| 22 | <i>The burglary</i> | 153 |
| 23 | <i>Which contains the substance of a pleasant conversation between Mr Bumble and a lady; and shows that even a beadle may be susceptible on some points</i> | 158 |
| 24 | <i>Treats of a very poor subject. But is a short one; and may be found of some importance in this history</i> | 166 |
| 25 | <i>Wherein this history refers to Mr Fagin and company</i> | 170 |
| 26 | <i>In which a mysterious character appears upon the scene; and many things, inseparable from this history, are done and performed</i> | 175 |
| 27 | <i>Atones for the unpoliteness of a former chapter; which deserted a lady most unceremoniously</i> | 184 |
| 28 | <i>Looks after Oliver, and proceeds with his adventures</i> | 191 |
| 29 | <i>Has an introductory account of the inmates of the house to which Oliver resorted</i> | 198 |
| 30 | <i>Relates what Oliver's new visitors thought of him</i> | 202 |
| 31 | <i>Involves a critical position</i> | 207 |
| 32 | <i>Of the happy life Oliver began to lead with his kind friends</i> | 217 |
| 33 | <i>Wherein the happiness of Oliver and his friends experiences a sudden check</i> | 225 |
| 34 | <i>Contains some introductory particulars relative to a young gentleman who now arrives upon the scene; and a new adventure which happened to Oliver</i> | 230 |
| 35 | <i>Containing the unsatisfactory result of Oliver's adventure; and a conversation of some importance between Harry Maylie and Rose</i> | 239 |

- 36 *Is a very short one, and may appear of no great importance in its place. But it should be read, notwithstanding, as a sequel to the last, and a key to one that will follow when its time arrives* 245
- 37 *In which the reader may perceive a contrast, not uncommon in matrimonial cases* 247
- 38 *Containing an account of what passed between Mr and Mrs Bumble, and Monks, at their nocturnal interview* 256
- 39 *Introduces some respectable characters with whom the reader is already acquainted, and shows how Monks and the Jew laid their worthy heads together* 265
- 40 *A strange interview, which is a sequel to the last chapter* 277
- 41 *Containing fresh discoveries, and showing that surprises, like misfortunes, seldom come alone* 282
- 42 *An old acquaintance of Oliver's, exhibiting decided marks of genius, becomes a public character in the metropolis* 290
- 43 *Wherein is shown how the Artful Dodger got into trouble* 299
- 44 *The time arrives for Nancy to redeem her pledge to Rose Maylie. She fails* 307
- 45 *Noah Claypole is employed by Fagin on a secret mission* 312
- 46 *The appointment kept* 315
- 47 *Fatal consequences* 323
- 48 *The flight of Sikes* 328
- 49 *Monks and Mr Brownlow at length meet. Their conversation, and the intelligence that interrupts it* 336
- 50 *The pursuit and escape* 344
- 52 *Affording an explanation of more mysteries than one, and comprehending a proposal of marriage, with no word of settlement or pin-money* 354
- 52 *The Jew's last night alive* 364
- 53 *And last* 371

ILLUSTRATIONS

| | |
|--|-----|
| <i>Oliver escapes being bound apprentice to the sweep</i> | 35 |
| <i>Oliver plucks up a spirit</i> | 53 |
| <i>Oliver introduced to the respectable old gentleman</i> | 67 |
| <i>Oliver amazed at the Dodger's mode of 'going to work'</i> | 75 |
| <i>Oliver recovering from the fever</i> | 87 |
| <i>Oliver claimed by his affectionate friends</i> | 111 |
| <i>Oliver's reception by Fagin and the boys</i> | 115 |
| <i>Master Bates explains a professional technicality</i> | 133 |
| <i>The burglary</i> | 159 |
| <i>Mr Bumble and Mrs Corney taking tea</i> | 163 |
| <i>Mr Claypole as he appeared when his master was out</i> | 189 |
| <i>Oliver Twist at Mrs Maylie's door</i> | 199 |
| <i>Oliver waited on by Bow Street Runners</i> | 215 |
| <i>Monks and the Jew</i> | 237 |
| <i>Mr Bumble degraded in the eyes of the paupers</i> | 251 |
| <i>The evidence destroyed</i> | 263 |
| <i>Mr Fagin and his pupil recovering Nancy</i> | 269 |
| <i>The Jew and Morris Bolter both begin to understand each other</i> | 295 |
| <i>The meeting</i> | 319 |
| <i>Sikes attempting to destroy his dog</i> | 335 |
| <i>The last chance</i> | 353 |
| <i>Fagin in the condemned cell</i> | 367 |
| <i>Rose Maylie and Oliver</i> | 375 |