

## Reading Comprehension

# THE STRANGE CASE OF DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE

*The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* is Robert Louis Stevenson's classic story of a man who can turn into a monster. Read an excerpt below, then answer the questions on page 2.

**ON SUNDAY**, when Mr. Utterson was on his usual walk with Mr. Enfield, their path once again went through the by-street. When they came in front of Dr. Jekyll's door, they stopped to gaze on it.

"Well," said Enfield, "that story's at an end. We shall never see more of Mr. Hyde."

"I hope not," said Utterson. "Did I tell you that I once saw him, and shared your feeling of repulsion?"

"It's impossible to do the one without the other," returned Enfield.

"Be that as it may, let's step into the court and take a look at the windows. To tell you the truth, I am worried about poor Jekyll. Even outside, I feel as if the presence of a friend might do him good."

The court was very cool; a little damp and full of premature twilight. The middle one of the three windows was halfway open; and sitting close beside it, with an air of sadness, like some kind of prisoner, was Dr. Jekyll.

"Jekyll!" he cried. "I trust you are better."

"I am very low, Utterson," replied the doctor, "very low. It will not last long, thank God."

"You stay indoors too much," said the lawyer. "You should be out, taking in the fresh air like Mr. Enfield and me. Come, now; get your hat and take a walk with us."

"I should like to very much," sighed Dr. Jekyll, "But no, I dare not. Still, I am very glad to see you. This is really a great pleasure; I would ask you and Mr. Enfield up, but the place is really not fit."

"Why then," said Utterson, good-naturedly, "the best thing we can do is to stay down here and speak with you from where we are."

"That is just what I was about to propose," returned the doctor with a smile. But the words were hardly uttered before the smile was struck out of his face and succeeded by an expression of terror and despair, which froze the very blood of the two gentlemen below. They saw it but for a glimpse, then the window was instantly thrust down.

But that glimpse had been enough to shock them. They turned and left the court without a word. In silence, too, they walked down the by-street; and it wasn't until they had come to the next intersection, where even for a Sunday there were still some stirrings of life, that Mr. Utterson at last turned and looked at his companion. They were both pale; and there was a horror in their eyes.

"God forgive us, God forgive us," said Mr. Utterson.

But Mr. Enfield only nodded his head very seriously and walked on once more in silence.



