

The Woman in Black

CHAPTER	EVENTS	WHEN
<p>CHRISTMAS EVE</p> 	<p>Christmas at Monk's Piece. Kipps' step-children try to get him to tell a ghost story to entertain them. He refuses but decides to write down the experiences of his earlier life - The Woman In Black. Arthur Kipps is probably in his 50s by this time.</p>	<p>Sometime in the 1930's.</p>
<p>A LONDON PARTICULAR</p> 	<p>Arthur Kipps is in his early 20's at the beginning of the story. He is a junior solicitor, working for a man named Bentley. He gets sent to the funeral of a client called Mrs Drablow. He has also been instructed to sort out her effects.</p>	<p>Believed to be somewhere between 1900 and 1914. It is November and 26 years before the events in Chapter 1.</p>
<p>THE JOURNEY NORTH</p> 	<p>The chapter begins with a description of the London fog. He travels North from King's Cross Station in London, beyond Crewe and on to Homerby and finally, Crythin Gifford. He meets Sam Daily on the train. We learn that Arthur has a fiancé called Stella.</p>	<p>Monday.</p>

<p>THE FUNERAL OF MRS DRABLOW</p> 	<p>Kipps gets a strange reaction when he tells the landlord of the Gifford Arms of his business. He meets Mr Jerome, the land agent looking after the sale of Eel Marsh House. Kipps goes to the funeral and sees the woman in black for the first time. When he questions Jerome about the mysterious woman at the funeral he is clearly terrified but denies having seen anyone. He is told that Keckwick will help him get to Eel Marsh House.</p>	<p>Tuesday morning</p>
<p>ACROSS THE CAUSEWAY</p> 	<p>Keckwick arrives to take Kipps across the causeway and he is stunned by the surrounding scenery. Keckwick leaves him at the house. Kipps is at first enchanted by the house and begins to imagine living there with Stella. He goes to explore the ruined monastery next to the house and passes through the stone arches into a small burial ground. He sees the woman in black for the second time and is terrified by her. She disappears behind a grave stone. He is frightened, then angry and returns to the house resolved to solve the mystery. He begins to realise that this might be a ghost. He decides to walk back across the causeway.</p>	<p>Tuesday afternoon.</p>
<p>THE SOUND OF THE PONY AND TRAP</p> 	<p>A sea fret comes down and Kipps decides to return to the house. He hears the screams of a child and a pony and trap. He assumes they are with Keckwick. He returns to the house in a state of anxiety and tries to calm his nerves with brandy. He goes to look around the house and discovers a door that will not open without a keyhole. He falls asleep and is woken by the return of Keckwick at 2am. They return to the Gifford Arms. When he sleeps he dreams about the woman in black.</p>	<p>Tuesday evening and night.</p>
<p>MR JEROME IS AFRAID</p>	<p>Having decided to stay in Crythin Gifford and finish the job, he goes to see the land agent Jerome to ask for help at the house to sort out the papers. He learns that no-one will help him - the only person who will go to the island is Keckwick. He tells Jerome about the second appearance of the woman in black. Jerome is visibly disturbed and frightened by what he has</p>	<p>Wednesday.</p>



heard. The idea that the woman is a ghost is confirmed in his mind but he is determined to complete the task.

SPIDER



Kipps goes to dinner at the Daily's house. Daily tries to persuade him not to return to the house, but when it is clear that he is determined to go he lends him his dog, Spider for protection.

Wednesday evening.

IN THE NURSERY



Kipps goes back to the house accompanied by Spider. During the night he is woken by a thumping sound behind the locked door. Spider is alarmed. The next morning he returns to the Inn for more provisions. He begins to read Alice Drablow's letters and finds that she adopted a boy called Nathaniel Piertson from a relative, Jenet Humfrye. The letters are dated 60 years previously. He hears the bumping sound again and gets an axe to break down the door. He also the cries of the child and the sound of the pony and trap for the second time. The dog is terrified and he has to carry her inside where she returns to the locked door which is now open. He finds a perfectly preserved nursery full of toys, clothes and a rocking chair.

Thursday.

WHISTLE AND I'LL COME TO YOU



During the night Kipps cannot sleep - there is a violent storm and he hears the cries of a child. In the morning he takes Spider for a walk. They hear a whistle and the dog runs off into the quicksand. He manages to save her but looks up to see the woman in black at the nursery window. He again hears the sound of a pony and trap on the causeway.

Thursday / early hours of Friday.

<p>A PACKET OF LETTERS</p> 	<p>Sam Daily arrives to find Kipps collapsed at the front of the house. The pack his belongings and Alice's letters and return to Daily's house. Before he leaves he looks into the nursery to find it has been trashed.</p> <p>He pieces together the mystery – Jennet Humfrye was Alice Drablow's sister. She had an illegitimate child called Nathaniel Pierson who was adopted by Alice Drablow.</p> <p>When he was six he, his dog, nurse and Keckwick's father all drowned when they got lost on the causeway. Jennet Humfrye witnessed the accident from the nursery window. She died 12 years later from a wasting disease. Kipps develops a fever that lasts for two weeks and his fiancé Stella comes to visit him.</p> <p>Returns to London. Marries Stella</p>	<p>Friday.</p> <p>Flashback to 1850s.</p> <p>Twelve days later. Six weeks later.</p>
<p>THE WOMAN IN BLACK</p> 	<p>A year after their marriage Stella gives birth to a son.</p> <p>A year later they visit a London park. Stella and the boy go for a ride in a pony and trap. The woman in black appears from behind a tree. She startles the pony, which bolts and throws the boy against a tree. Stella is badly injured and dies ten months later.</p> <p>The story ends here.</p> <p>Kipps is a widower for fourteen years before he marries Esme, a widow with four children.</p> <p>Fourteen years later the family gather at Monk's piece for Christmas.</p> <p>Kipps writes his story</p>	<p>A year later. Another year later.</p> <p>14 years later. 14 years later. Christmas Eve 1930's sometime. New Year</p>