

## 『荒涼館』の気になるディテイル

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(1) Gilian West, “Some Inconsistencies in *Bleak House*” *The Dickensian*, Autumn 1991, p.165:

He has also perhaps forgotten to bring back into the unravelling of the mystery the scraps from newspapers concerning coroners’ inquests found in Nemo’s portmanteau, (p. 194), which presumably reported his counterfeited death by drowning in an Irish harbour.

[昔の Penguin 版 (1971) のページ番号]

(2) West, p164:

1. Miss Flite introduces her guests to Krook as ‘the wards in Jarndyce’—

‘Yes,’ said the old man abstractedly. ‘Sure! *Your* name now will be—’

‘Richard Carstone.’

‘Carstone,’ he repeated, slowly checking off that name upon his forefinger; and each of the others he went on to mention, upon a separate finger. ‘Yes. There was the name of Barbary, and the name of Clare, and the name of Dedlock, too, I think.’

‘He knows as much of the cause as the real salaried Chancellor!’ said Richard, quite astonished, to Ada and me.<sup>1</sup>

It is *Esther* who should be astonished, for she has never before heard her godmother’s name associated with the Jarndyce suit!

But *Esther*’s lack of reaction is not the only reason to suppose that the listing of ‘Barbary’ is a mistake. If Krook has heard the name in court, (for he cannot read), then *Kenge* would also have heard it, but *Kenge* does *not* know that Miss Barbary is in the suit. He knows that Miss Barbary is *Esther*’s *aunt*, not merely her godmother, (p. 67 and p. 290), but not that she is of the Jarndyce family, for he says that she is *Esther*’s sole relation, (p. 67). When, answering the question ‘Miss Summerson is not related to any party in the cause, I think?’, he whispers to the Lord Chancellor, he must be saying that *Esther* is illegitimate, *not* that she is an illegitimate Jarndyce, (p. 79).

As further proof of the mistake, we have the information that Miss Barbary’s name is a pseudonym: *Kenge* has said ‘her name was an assumed one’, (p. 290), and her sister says ‘she had renounced me and my name’, (p. 466).

### (3) エスターの出生からホードンの死去までの出来事

- ・ Honoria と Hawdon の情事、出産。
- ・ Honoria の姉 (Miss Barbary) と Boythorn の破局。Miss B、Esther を引き取る。
- ・ Miss B、Jarndyce に手紙。自分が死んだら E を頼む、と (E が 12 歳の時)。これを受けて J の指示で Kenge が Miss B を訪問。E を学校に入れてやろうという J の申し出。Miss B は拒絶。
- ・ その 2 年後 (E は 14 歳)、Miss B の死。Kenge 再訪。E はこの時はじめて K の口から Jarndyce 訴訟について耳にする。E は Miss Donny の学校に行くことに。途上、J が馬車に乗りこんでくる。(ここまで Ch. 3)
- ・ J は法廷の命令で Richard と Ada の後見人になり、この機に E をロンドンに呼び寄せる (E は 21 歳)。(Ch. 4)
- ・ E、Krook の店を訪れる。Hawdon (Nemo) の部屋の前を通り過ぎる。(Ch. 5)
- ・ Honoria、Hawdon の書いた法律文書を目にする。驚いた彼女の様子を怪しむ Tulkinghorn。(Ch. 2)
- ・ T は Snagsby を通じて Hawdon が K の下宿人であると知る。訪ねていくと、H の死体を発見。(Ch. 11)

(4-1) Lawrence Frank, *Charles Dickens and the Romantic Self* (1984):

The silence that so often accompanies the telling of her story suggests, not just a coyness bordering on the vacuous, but a failure to understand, a failure not fortuitous, but, in some way, willed. . . . In part, Esther's silence about the name *Barbary* is her attempt to deny the past, to shut out memories of her aunt's denunciations and bitter resentment. (101, 102)

(4-2) Joseph Sawicki, "The Mere Truth Won't Do," *The Journal of Narrative Technique* 17 (1987):

Esther remains silent at the mention of her godmother's name, an omission noted by Frank. . . . It *is* willed, but willed by the narrator who is clearly obliged to maintain silence here; the connection between her and Lady Dedlock must be hidden for a while longer because the reader must learn this only when the character does. What supports this reading . . . is that, in just a few paragraphs, Esther the narrator will mislead us by asserting that she is not connected to the suit: ". . . *and I was no party in the suit.*" (213) [all Sawicki's italics]

(4-3) Hilary M. Schor, *Dickens and the Daughter of the House* (1999):

Although it is a false name, it appears in the legal documents that link Esther and Honoria to the Jarndyce and Jarndyce suit . . . and yet, Barbary is a name that John Jarndyce, who knew both Honoria and her sister years ago, did not recognize. (113)

The confusion cannot be explained away in purely verisimilar terms: I think Dickens both wanted "Barbary" to be Esther's mother, and knew it couldn't be, if John Jarndyce was to be unaware of Esther's familial connections. Or, put another way, it was so important to Dickens to get the name Barbary into the mock-Chancery of Krook's warehouse, and so before Esther's eyes, that he sacrificed "realism"—in part, I would argue, so that we can watch her suppress any knowledge of her "own" name. (222-23)

(5) ふたたびエスターの出生からホードンの死去までの出来事

Honorina X と Captain Hawdon の情事。

Honorina の姉 Miss X と Boythorn の破局。

このころ Jarndyce は Honorina もその姉も知っていた (X 家の姉妹として)。

Miss X は Barbary の名を借り、赤ん坊を引き取り、Esther Summerson として育てる。

Miss X は Miss Barbary の名で J に手紙を書く。自分が死んだら E を頼む、と。

Miss X の死。E は学校に。

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・ Jarndyce は Esther から彼女の母親の話聞き (第 43 章)。ここで初めて Miss Barbary と名乗って自分に手紙を書いた女性が、かつての Honorina X の姉だったと悟る。

・ Jarndyce は Honorina の姉がすでに故人となっていることは知らなかった。

“Did the lady die?” [Asks Esther.]

“No—but she died to him.” (Ch. 9)

“You are of course aware that she is dead?” [Says Lady D.]

“Yes,” he said. “I heard of it some time ago. She lived so retired, that I heard of it by mere accident.” (Cancelled passage in the proof; Ch. 19)

(6) 「うんと年上の男 + うんと年下の女」

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