THE FULL STORY IN QUICK MODERN ENGLISH FOR A FAST-PACED READ!

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

The Graphic Novel
Sweeney Todd

THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

QUICK TEXT VERSION

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CHAPTER 1
The Strange Customer at Sweeney Todd’s

IN LONDON’S FLEET STREET...

...WHEN ST. DUNSTAN’S CHURCH WAS STILL IN ITS GLORY...

...THERE STOOD A SMALL BARBER SHOP, RUN BY...
Barbers were not stylish back then...

...and Sweeney Todd was old-fashioned.

He had a weird laugh, and he would find strange things funny.

His laugh was so weird that people would look around to find out where the noise was coming from.

But for all his faults, he had a good business and did well for himself.

This was Sweeney Todd in 1785.
Here you will learn my trade—so let me make one thing clear. I will cut your throat if you tell anyone what goes on in this shop, do you understand?

Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

Hmm...

Very well then—and remember you are not allowed to go into the back rooms.
If a customer gives you a penny, it is yours – but I will take care of it for you.

Now, run out and see what time it is by St. Dunstan's.

There was a small crowd by the church, waiting to see the figures strike.

One man there seemed very interested.

What do you think of that, Hector?
Before I visit Johanna to break the sad news to her that poor Mark Ingestrie is dead and gone -- -- and give her the valuable string of pearls -- -- I will have a shave.

-- and give her the valuable string of pearls -- -- I will have a shave.

Easy, boy!

You're the first person he's taken a dislike to.

I don't like dogs. Will you make him stay outside, sir?

I suppose he doesn't like your looks.

What was that noise? Tobias, go and buy me some biscuits.

What's the matter, Hector?

It was only me, laughing.
I suppose you want a shave, sir? There ain’t another barber in all of London that polishes ’em off like I do.

As long as you promise not to laugh like that again.

All right

Do you know Mr. Oakley, the spectacle-maker?

Been to sea, sir?

Yes. I’ve just returned from India.

Do you know Mr. Oakley, the spectacle-maker?

Yes, I’ve just returned from India.

As long as you promise not to laugh like that again.

Sit still and read the paper, sir. I will be back in a moment.

Yes. I’ve just returned from India.

As long as you promise not to laugh like that again.

I have an important message for her, and also a valuable gift.

Indeed! Now where is my sharpener? Oh yes, I just remembered, it is in the back room.

Yes I do, he has a daughter, Johanna. Why, sir?

I have an important message for her, and also a valuable gift.

As long as you promise not to laugh like that again.

Sit still and read the paper, sir. I will be back in a moment.
The customer was no longer in the chair. All that remained of him was his hat.