



0. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde - Story Preface

1. STORY of the DOOR
2. SEARCH for MR. HYDE
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*The fellow had a key; and
what's more, he has it still.
I saw him use it, not a week ago.*

Richard Enfield to Gabriel Utterson
From *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*
By Robert Louis Stevenson

Welcome to Victorian England where wealthy people, including single “gentlemen,” have lots of servants and London is becoming a city without equal. As headquarters of the British Empire, the town which Romans knew as Londinium has undergone a remarkable transformation.

This story, however, is less about its setting and more about the transformation of a resident called Dr. Jekyll—a respectable man who has certain tendencies which could cause his undoing.

Hereafter is an abridged version of the famous novella which Robert Louis Stevenson wrote in less than a week (after first destroying his original manuscript in a fit of anger).

Stevenson tells his story in the third person, without a narrator, but Gabriel Utterson—the lawyer who appears in the book’s first paragraph—is the narrator of this abridgement. He helps to keep the shortened version—which mostly uses Stevenson’s words—to flow smoothly.

The tale I am about to tell is one of terror and horror such as you may never have heard; a tale to make your flesh creep and your blood run cold.

It is a tale of great foolishness and mad ambition, of terrible deeds, and of a creature from the very depths of Hades, who ...

But I am ahead of myself. I must begin at the beginning.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Dr.-Jekyll-and-Mr.-Hyde)

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See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Dr.-Jekyll-and-Mr.-Hyde)

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Edward Hyde Has a Key to the Door

Who is the man with the key? How did he get access to the long-neglected door? These are some of the issues at the beginning of *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, a famous novella by Robert Louis Stevenson. It is a story which examines whether both good and evil can exist within a human being.

This drawing, which illustrates a scene near the beginning of the book, is by Charles Raymond Macauley (1871 - 1934) who created images for a 1904 edition published, in New York, by Scott-Thaw.

Click on the image for a better view.

Illustration by Charles Raymond Macauley for the 1904 edition of "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," by Robert Louis Stevenson. Published by Scott-Thaw in New York.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Edward-Hyde-Has-a-Key-to-the-Door>

London in the Late 19th Century

By the end of the 19th century, London was not just a bustling, world-class city. It was also the center of Britain's Empire.

People living in London (and elsewhere in the U.K.) had access to goods from around the world ... if they could afford them, that is. Not everyone could afford them, however, since London was also a city of contrasts.

Extremely wealthy and extremely poor people all called London home, although they lived in different areas of Greater London. This image depicts an excerpt from "New Plan of London," a map produced by John Bartholomew around 1895, which shows some of the areas in Central London important to the Jekyll-and-Hyde story:

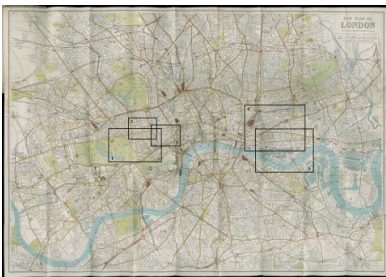
- (1) Mayfair (a fashionable area of London where wealthy people lived during the late-nineteenth century);
- (2) Cavendish Square (near Dr. Lanyon's home);
- (3) Soho (east of Mayfair, but still in central London, where Edward Hyde lives);
- (4) Whitechapel (an area of miserable slums where Jack the Ripper once claimed his victims);
- (5) East End docks (where goods from Britain's empire were offloaded in London).

Click on the image for a very detailed view.

Map created in 1895, described above, included in "Plan & Guide London with Index to Streets," published by W. H. Smith & Son. Online via The Newberry Library in Chicago.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/London-in-the-Late-19th-Century>



Londinium - A Roman Town on the Thames

The country we know today as England was once part of the Roman Empire. Rome called its province *Britannia* and ruled the land—with varying degrees of effectiveness—for nearly four centuries (between 43-410 AD).

A Roman ruler—Julius Caesar—had earlier tried to conquer Britain, but he was distracted by events in Gaul (today's France). It was the Emperor Claudius who sent an army to Britain to subdue the native people and establish this faraway province as a jewel in Claudius' crown.

First-century people living throughout today's United Kingdom were never totally subdued, however, and it took decades for Rome to exert its control over Wales. Historians believe that the first bridge across the Thames River was built during Roman rule of a town, known in Latin, as *Londinium* (today's London). The Museum of London has a model of how the town, and its bridge, may have looked between 85-90 AD.

Archaeologists believe the bridge, depicted in the model, was likely near the location of today's London Bridge. Included, in the model, are replicas of river boats (as seen in the foreground of this picture) and a sea-going ship (seen at its top-right). Click on the image for a better view.

Image of model, located at the Museum of London, by Steven G. Johnson, online via Wikimedia Commons. License: [CC BY-SA 3.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/)

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