

Hester Prynne's Journal

Cheng Guo - 10/9/2017



Picture source:

<http://www.fanpop.com/clubs/the-alphabet/images/22186936/title/letter-photo>

1. About my pregnancy

Dear Diary,

It is unfortunate, it is really unfortunate. Some gossip seems to know about my pregnancy, and my husband has been missing for at least two years. People will suspect that I am having an affair with someone, with my beloved Arthur. I heard at least 3 gossips about discussing my affairs. I do not know how I am going to face them even if nothing happened. Why are they cyberbullying me? Can't they just talk with me face to face? I hate this feeling of being talked behind. It is distracting. I am too afraid to go back to the

streets again, I have to hide in my husband's house so that no one will be here to harass us, me, and my unborn baby. My beloved Arthur has left. I know if he stays any longer, misery will happen to that talented young man. I should stay alone, to keep safe. This loneliness is torture, but if I went on to the streets, more cursing voices will drop on me. I would rather stay here and be safe. Please, help me God, I do not want to be sent to jail. What will happen to me or my child if I were incarcerated?

2. About my punishment

Dear Diary,

I was taken to jail. I do not know how my life is going to be in the future. Everything seemed like dark shadows surrounded me, locked me in a small iron casket. The gossip online was talking about my punishment. Oh, dear God, three hours, I do not even know whether I could survive it. Those gossips have already shouted that the church goes easy on me. But, seriously? I have to wear this "A" on my bosom for my entire life! The jail cell is small and filled with darkness. I cannot see any bright here. Knowing the gossip was bullying me online made me more depressed. I did not even know if I could survive the days here. Oh, Pearl, oh, do not be scared, mama is here. She is crying again. I have to take my little Pearl with me to jail. I could not leave her alone, no one will show their mercy to look after her. Pearl, dear God that pitiful child. What will she think when she sees my scarlet letter? How am I going to explain her origin? I cannot leave her alone in the prison cell. Its darkness will scare my little Pearl. I am going to take her with me when I go to the scaffold.

3. Before I went to the scaffold

Dear Diary,

It feels like jumping off a high cliff, you will fall down and down and do not know where it ends. I have been staying in this small cell for almost a week. The scarlet letter on my bosom still hurts. I woke up in nightmares every night. Everyone is cheering online about tomorrow's scaffold. They were cheering about how embarrassed I will be. How weird people is! Every day staying in the cell has driven me crazy. I could not find any peace on the internet. Only when Pearl fell asleep, I could finally relax. The people outside just could not understand me. My condition was not very well. I do not know whether I will survive on the scaffold. Staying alive has been pretty hard for me. My only wish now is to survive another day, so that I could look after my little Pearl.

4. After I went to the scaffold

Dear Diary,

My life has dropped into a low ebb. I do not know how it will go. After coming back from the scaffold, I checked my Facebook. I have already gotten used to the shaming from those gossip, but today their discourse became much more straight from the shoulder. One of them called me a “superstar”, seems like she enjoyed seeing me standing there with Pearl crying in my arms. There is still some gossip laughing at my scarlet letter, making fun of it. I feel like I have already been milked dry by those people. Coming back to jail, I found myself tired and dehydrated, but Pearl still needs me for nursing. No one seems to understand my suffering. People are just bullying online. They just could not get enough of bullying me in the face in daylight. By the way, I also saw Arthur. Everyone in town regards him as a reverend figure. It makes me safe, seems like our secret will never break out. Last, in response to the gossip online bullying why I do not say my lover’s name, I will never speak his name to you, no matter what happens to me!

5. After meeting with Roger Chillingworth

Dear Diary,

My so-called husband’s face is like a dark cloud in the sky. His eyes, his staring, it was so familiar and so strange. There is completely no discussion on Facebook about Roger’s interview, seems like Roger has successfully disguised himself as a normal physician. Who knows Roger has already been consumed by the fire of revenge? I saw through his eyes, that he has given up his medical ethics. Although I was forced to marry him, I know what a man Roger is. But today, the man who came to visit me is not Roger, it is a monster, a kind, benign monster. I am afraid my beloved Arthur will be harmed by him. Arthur seems so weak, maybe it is because we have so many secrets to hide, Pearl, our love..... I could not name them one by one. I am also wondering, what will people say when they know that Roger is the husband I betrayed? Maybe they will be bullying him just like what they did to me? People are jokes. Our society is just another big joke. I heard that the church is going to release me from prison a few days later. I do know how I am going to face the gossips who shamed me online.

6. Somebody sees me in town again

Dear Diary,

If I were a rabbit, today must be the day when I met a pack of wolves. Yes, I was spotted by someone in town, on the way to Governor Bellingham's house. People were throwing mud at me, and my little Pearl. How could they? Hurting such an innocent child. I noticed some gossip questioned my appearance in town. They said that I am unbearable. It suddenly comes to me that today I finally felt what a pariah is like. When I was in prison, I was not facing the people in town, so it is easy for me to manage my stuff. The people in the outside world are the true monsters. They did so many terrible things to Pearl and me. It is sincerely hard for me to make it through another day. I am begging, but it does not work. I just hope there could be a place in the world where I could get away with this shaming completely, a place where I could find calm and peacefulness, a place where I could live in happiness with my little Pearl. Oh, my dear God, please help me, get me away from this flame and torture, I am begging you.....

7. The church is going to take Pearl away

Dear Diary,

My life has never been so dark and grim. I could not recall when the rumor about the church is going to take Pearl away started spreading among people. Those gossips, please, just shut up for a moment, will you? Since when I do not have the right to raise my little Pearl? I have every right to raise her! I simply do not understand their reaction. Throwing mud at us is already terrible enough, why would they try to separate us now? I cannot remember how I was able to make my way to the Governor's house. Maybe because I made a glove for him, I was not too embarrassed. His house was luxurious, some places cannot afford it by any of my peers ever. As I arrived at Governor Bellingham's apartment, I saw the master of the house, Mr. Wilson, my dear Arthur, and my so-called husband. They want to send Pearl to, what they called, a pious home. Most gossip online supported their idea. But, you must know me, my Lord in the sky, since when did I ever being not pious? That love is but a small mistake. Why would I deserve such a severe punishment? The gossips just continue their shaming online, I do not know if I could survive another day.