***David Copperfield***

### *Chapter 15 – I Make Another Beginning*

***Summary:***

* David becomes good friends with Mr. Dick, and they frequently go kite-flying together.
* He also grows increasingly close to his aunt, who starts to call him by the nickname Trot (short for Trotwood).
* One day, she asks if David would like to go to school at Canterbury, which is near her home.
* David agrees, and Miss Betsey orders Janet to pack up David's clothes and order a coach to come pick them up at ten the next morning.
* David is really excited to be going back to school, though he feels bad because Mr. Dick is so heartbroken to be parted from David.
* The next morning, as they drive away from Miss Betsey's cottage, she asks David if he is happy.
* David answers that he is, and Miss Betsey is pleased.
* They stop on an errand: Miss Betsey needs to meet with her lawyer, Mr. Wickfield.
* When Miss Betsey rings the doorbell at Mr. Wickfield's, it is answered by a red-headed boy of about fifteen who looks much older than his age. His name is Uriah Heep.
* Uriah Heep says that Mr. Wickfield is at home, and they walk through the door.
* Mr. Wickfield greets Miss Betsey.
* Miss Betsey tells Mr. Wickfield that she is here for advice: she introduces David and informs Mr. Wickfield that she wants to enroll David in a school in Canterbury where he will be well-treated.
* Mr. Wickfield asks what Miss Betsey's motives are.
* Miss Betsey is annoyed that Mr. Wickfield is fishing for deep motives when her reasons are so obvious: she wants to make David happy and useful.
* Mr. Wickfield shakes his head and says she must have another motive, but they let it go for a time.
* Mr. Wickfield offers to take Miss Betsey to a good school, and to several houses where David might board while he's studying there.
* David waits in Mr. Wickfield's office until they get back.
* David can see Uriah Heep working in the room next Mr. Wickfield's office.
* Uriah Heep makes him deeply uncomfortable: every now and again, he looks up from his writing and stares at David with his red, watery eyes.
* After a time, Miss Betsey and Mr. Wickfield come back: Miss Betsey loves the school, but none of the boarding-houses seem okay.
* Mr. Wickfield proposes a solution: why doesn't David live at his house, which is quiet and roomy?
* This would be a temporary arrangement so that they can buy some time to find a better place for David to live.
* Miss Betsey feels embarrassed accepting, but Mr. Wickfield tells her not to worry about the favor – he's happy to do it. He would also accept some money if Miss Betsey feels obliged to pay him.
* Miss Betsey agrees that she would be glad to leave David with Mr. Wickfield.
* Mr. Wickfield brings the two of them upstairs to meet his "little housekeeper" (15.65) – his daughter, Agnes.
* Agnes Wickfield is sweet, calm, and quiet-seeming – and just David's age.
* She offers to bring David and Miss Betsey upstairs to see David's room, which is lovely and has a stained-glass window.
* Miss Betsey and David are both pleased with this arrangement.
* Miss Betsey plans to head back to her cottage, but first she tells David (or Trot, as she calls him) to make her and Mr. Dick proud.
* If David avoids being meanness, lying, and cruelty, he'll be fine, Miss Betsey adds.
* David promises to be good, and Miss Betsey departs abruptly.
* David realizes that she leaves quickly because she is sad to be leaving him.
* David eats dinner with Mr. Wickfield, and afterwards, Agnes comes downstairs to play the piano, chat, and talk to David and Mr. Wickfield.
* Occasionally, Mr. Wickfield looks at Agnes very seriously, but he can usually be shaking out of his brooding.
* Mr. Wickfield does love his port wine, though, and drinks it throughout the evening.
* That night, David sees Uriah Heep locking up the office.
* David's feeling so good about the world that he chats with the guy and shakes his hand.
* Uriah Heep's hand is so horribly cold and clammy that David rubs his own hands after touching him to get rid of the chill.

***Synopsis:***

David settles in at Miss Betsey's and established a strong friendship with Mr. Dick. It is decided to send David to school in nearby Canterbury. After arriving in town, they go to the office of Miss Betsey's lawyer, Mr. Wickfield. Mr. Wickfield and Miss Betsy agree on a school for David and decide that David will live at Mr. Wickfield's house while he goes to school. Mr. Wickfield introduces them to his daughter, Agnes, who is the same age as David and takes care of the house for her father. David is quite pleased at the pleasant domestic atmosphere of the house but is disturbed by the presence of the clerk, Uriah Heep, who makes him feel uneasy.

This chapter introduces the Wickfields and their domestic ups and downs. The relationship between Mr. Wickfield and Uriah Heep will continue to develop throughout the novel as the two shift roles of power and independence. This chapter also introduces Agnes Wickfield, one of the dominant figures in David's life. She is presented as completely practical and warmhearted, in the same manner of David's aunt, Miss Betsy. David's relationship with Agnes will continue to develop throughout the novel, and she is established from the beginning as a trustworthy rock of loyalty to her father.

***Critical Analysis:***

Miss Betsey proposes that David, whom she has nicknamed “Trot,” be sent to school at Canterbury. They go to Canterbury and visit Mr. Wickfield, a lawyer and a friend of Miss Betsey’s. At Mr. Wickfield’s, they meet Uriah Heep, an unattractive young redhead dressed entirely in black and skeleton-like in appearance. Uriah takes them to Mr. Wickfield, who recommends a school for David but warns that the dorms are full and that David will have to stay elsewhere. The adults agree that David can go to the school and stay with Mr. Wickfield until they find a more suitable arrangement. David meets Agnes, Mr. Wickfield’s lovely and charming daughter, who dotes on her father and is his one joy since his wife died. The three dine and have tea together. David rises in the middle of the night and encounters Uriah Heep, whose sliminess so strikes David that he feels the need to rub off Uriah’s touch after shaking his hand.

***Critical Study (Ch13-15):***

David Copperfield settles in at the cottage, enjoying the company of Mr. Dick, and gaining the approval of Miss Betsey, who calls him "Trot." He's delighted when she suggests he should go to school in nearby Canterbury. The next day, they set off to Canterbury, where Miss Betsey consults her lawyer and financial manager, Mr. Wickfield, about the best school for David. Mr. Wickfield recommends Doctor Strong's school, and it's decided David will board in his house while attending the school. A widower, Mr. Wickfield looks after his daughter, [Agnes Wickfield](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/David-Copperfield/character-analysis/#Agnes_Wickfield), who is David's age. David is pleased with his room and his new situation. The only discordant note in the house is [Uriah Heep](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/David-Copperfield/character-analysis/#Uriah_Heep), a red-haired, shifty boy of about 15, who comes in every day to do clerical work in Wickfield's office.

[Miss Betsey](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/David-Copperfield/character-analysis/#Miss_Betsey)'s reference to [David Copperfield](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/David-Copperfield/character-analysis/#David_Copperfield)'s "sister," Betsey Trotwood, stems from her visit to Blunderstone on the night of David's birth. Not having any children of her own, she had hoped to become godmother to Clara Copperfield's daughter, naming the baby Betsey Trotwood. Now, she often refers to the imaginary Betsey Trotwood as David's "sister," holding her up as an example to David of someone who always does the right thing. Miss Betsey's obsession with chasing donkeys off her lawn isn't as much of an eccentricity as it might seem, because donkey rides were a popular attraction in Victorian seaside towns such as Dover.

Chapter 14 marks a new start in life for David Copperfield after Miss Betsey takes him in, and with the prospect of going back to school, his future begins to look hopeful. King Charles I, who keeps creeping into Mr. Dick's manuscript, is a topical reference by [Charles Dickens](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/David-Copperfield/author/): the year 1849, when Dickens began writing David Copperfield, was the bicentenary of the beheading of Charles I.

Chapter 15 introduces characters who will be very important in the next phase of David's life. In his notes about the novel, Dickens referred to [Agnes Wickfield](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/David-Copperfield/character-analysis/#Agnes_Wickfield) as "the real heroine" of the story. [Uriah Heep](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/David-Copperfield/character-analysis/#Uriah_Heep), on the other hand (still a teenager at this point), will go on to become a major villain.

The description of Mr. Wickfield as a successful man who nevertheless drinks too much wine, tends to be depressed over the loss of his wife, and is perhaps too obsessively dependent on his daughter, foreshadows a later conflict in the story.

***Significance(Ch 11-15):***

David begins working at Murdstone's and Grinby's warehouse washing and examining wine bottles. Three companions are working with him, two of whom go by the names of Mick Walker and Mealy Potatoes. David is very upset because they are not well-educated, and thus he has no hope of learning or becoming cultured through their influence, and he often cries because of this lack of opportunity for development. David also meets his new host, Mr. Micawber, who is not very wealthy or high in status but takes great pains to seem rich and elegant. His family consists of Mrs. Micawber, Master Micawber (age four), Miss Micawber (age three), and two baby twins. The family is visited by creditors at all hours and clearly is in financial strife. Nevertheless, they are generally cheerful.

David mainly lives on bread and butter. He keeps his own bread on a special shelf in a particular cupboard in the Micawber house. Once in a while, he manages to get a small amount of meat or ale. He often receives strange looks from shop owners, being a small boy buying his meals on his own. Importantly, David is respected at Grinby's because he never complains about his situation to anyone. Even in his letters to [Peggotty](https://www.gradesaver.com/david-copperfield/study-guide/character-list" \l "peggotty) he never complains, earning him the nickname, "the little gent."

The Micawbers often tell David of their financial difficulties, and to help them out, upon Mrs. Micawber's request, he helps them sell some of their possessions. Soon, however, Mr. Micawber is arrested and thrown into jail, to be followed by his family, who move in with him. David himself moves into a little room outside of the institution. Mr. Micawber becomes very popular in the prison club, and many of the inmates love to hear his petition read, for it is written in a very ornate, grand style. When Mr. Micawber is released from jail, he decides to leave London to try to find a job elsewhere. Mrs. Micawber grows frantic at the idea of staying behind, so the whole family is to leave together. Before they leave, Mr. Micawber advises David not to overspend, for he equates overspending with misery and financial prudence with happiness.

David decides that he does not want to stay around without the Micawbers, so he decides to run away to find his Aunt Betsey. He writes to Peggotty asking where she is, and Peggotty tells him promptly and sends half a guinea. In order to preserve his high status at work, he stays on for one extra week to make up for the advanced week's worth of payment he receives, after which he leaves.

The journey has a rocky start: his money and possessions are stolen by a boy he pays to carry his things. He is forced to sell first his waistcoat for money, then his jacket. In both situations, he is taken advantage of by the store owners. He is also physically abused by some travelers. Finally, he makes it to his aunt's town and is led to her house by Janet, his aunt's maid and protégée. His arrival takes Aunt Betsey very much by surprise. She consults with her live-in companion, [Mr. Dick](https://www.gradesaver.com/david-copperfield/study-guide/character-list#mr-dick), and then bathes and feeds him.

[Miss Betsey](https://www.gradesaver.com/david-copperfield/study-guide/character-list#miss-betsey) informs David the next day that she has contacted the Murdstones to see what they would like to do with him. Although his aunt does not say whether or not she will return him to them, David is terrified of having to go back to the Murdstones. Meanwhile, she sends him to check on Mr. Dick, who is writing his Memorials but has to constantly start over due to his digressions about King Charles I. David learns from Miss Betsey that Mr. Dick's brother was about to put him in an insane asylum and that she stepped in at the last minute to stop him.

The Murdstones send a letter saying that they will visit Miss Betsey, and the next day they arrive, riding all over the grass, which Miss Betsey absolutely does not allow. During their discussion, the Murdstones constantly call David the worst boy and disrespect his mother. Miss Betsey takes great offense to this, for she believes that Clara was a sweet, loving girl. She asks David if he wants to go back with them--he absolutely does not--and she agrees with Mr. Dick's advice to keep him around. She sends the Murdstones away. She renames David as Trot, short for Trotwood, and he starts his new life with her.

David and Mr. Dick become good friends, flying Mr. Dick's kite together, until one day Miss Betsey suggests that David start school in Canterbury. They go to the school and meet Mr. Wickfield, a lawyer and friend. They also meet [Uriah Heep](https://www.gradesaver.com/david-copperfield/study-guide/character-list#uriah-heep), a strange, somewhat oily character, and Agnes, Mr. Wickfield's daughter, who is about David's age and very beautiful. They decide to let David stay at Mr. Wickfield's house and attend a school in Canterbury until a better situation is arranged. Miss Betsey leaves David, giving him the advice to never be mean in anything he does, to never be cruel, and to always be true.

Analysis

The subject of social class and standing comes up once again as David begins his work in the warehouse. He is extremely unhappy with his situation because he is no longer surrounded by highly educated and cultured people like his teachers or even like [Steerforth](https://www.gradesaver.com/david-copperfield/study-guide/character-list" \l "steerforth). We also see this longing for higher social status through Mr. Micawber, who David says goes to great lengths to appear high class, although he and his family are constantly in financial trouble and do not hide it from David.

This warehouse portion of David's life is based on the time when Dickens himself worked in a warehouse called Warren's Blacking Factory. To Dickens, this was one of the most humiliating and miserable experiences of his life, and he always resented his parents for taking him out of school and making him work. In fact, [Mr. and Mrs. Micawber](https://www.gradesaver.com/david-copperfield/study-guide/character-list#mr-and-mrs-micawber) may be caricatures of Dickens' own parents, for they both display traits that his parents are believed to have had.

Nevertheless, the Micawbers decide to move to London, beginning the series of frequent moves that they will undertake throughout the novel. David is buffeted from one place to another by circumstances. He follows along with them at first, but soon he realizes that he needs to escape once again. Taking matters into his own hands for the first time to visit his aunt, David shows his greater independence. He remains naïve, though, losing his possessions through theft and bad deals. There are few people worthy of trust in David’s world, which continues to be full of hardship and adversity.

The first ray of hope in this period came when Peggotty supported his escape to Betsey. This hope is vindicated when he is received by his aunt so hospitably. This gives readers further insight into her character and softens her, countering the harsh exit described in the first chapter. We get to know her even better after her encounter with the Murdstones, finding her to be a strong female figure, not at all intimidated by the forbidding appearance of Mrs. Murdstone and her brother. She seems trustworthy as a good protector of David. By the end of this period, Miss Betsey has proven to be a loving and independent woman. Her female empowerment is far in advance of what David has, and it should be seen as an attempt to help him that Betsey sends him off to school once again. This time, he is being sent as a good, developing young man rather than as a troublemaking biter.

Readers also meet Mr. Dick in this section. The fact that Miss Betsey asks for his opinion on whether or not David should stay reveals just how much she values his thoughts, despite his brother’s attempt to institutionalize him. We can certainly see the difference between the vile, conniving [Mr. Murdstone](https://www.gradesaver.com/david-copperfield/study-guide/character-list#mr-murdstone) and the sweet, simple Mr. Dick, who is a strong and friendly supporter of David’s development, as revealed by his answer to Miss Betsey's question: "Mr. Dick considered, hesitated, brightened, and rejoined, 'Have him measured for a suit of clothes directly.'"

In Chapter 15 we are introduced to some very important characters: Uriah Heep and [Agnes Wickfield](https://www.gradesaver.com/david-copperfield/study-guide/character-list#agnes-wickfield). Plenty of foreshadowing is used to hint that Uriah will play an evil role to come, with references to his "red hair" (a traditional symbol of fiery evil) and his "slimy" appearance. He hides behind a facade of humility. Agnes, on the other hand, is beautiful, quiet, and already acquainted with household chores. She is seemingly the epitome of the perfect Victorian woman.

***Summary and analysis Part by Part:***

***Summary Part 1:***

[David](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/david-copperfield) and [Mr. Dick](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/mr-dick) begin flying a kite together every evening, after the latter finishes working on the Memorial for the day. Mr. Dick never makes much progress in his work on account of his ongoing preoccupation with Charles I, but he seems to find flying the kite soothing, and David is touched by his demeanor.

***Analysis Part 1:***

Flying his kite functions as a release valve for Mr. Dick after the frustration of working on his memoir; in sending the day's work into the air, he's able to place it behind him (at least temporarily). This in some ways parallels David's own writing process, because while David does take pleasure in crafting his memoir, he also resolves to set it aside once and for all when it's finished.

***Summary Part 2:***

Meanwhile, [David](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/david-copperfield) is also becoming closer to [Miss Betsey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/miss-betsey-trotwood), who now calls him "Trot." One evening, she asks whether David would like to go to school in Canterbury and, if so, whether he would like to start the next day. David eagerly accepts, although he feels guilty that going to school will require leaving [Mr. Dick](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/mr-dick), who is distressed to see him go. Miss Betsey promises, however, that David will be able to visit the cottage weekly.

***Analysis Part 2:***

David's eagerness to return to school speaks to his overall desire for self-improvement and advancement. Losing the opportunities education provides was one of the things he found most painful about working in the counting-house, so he is understandably happy to regain the chance now.

***Summary Part 3:***

[Miss Betsey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/miss-betsey-trotwood) and [David](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/david-copperfield) leave the next day, and David learns on the way that they will be going to see someone named [Mr. Wickfield](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/mr-wickfield) first. They eventually stop in front of a pretty white house, and David notices a red-haired person with a "cadaverous face" at one of the windows. This man, [Uriah Heep](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/uriah-heep), opens the door and directs them inside to Mr. Wickfield. As David enters the house, he thinks he sees Uriah Heep "breathing into [Miss Betsey's] pony's nostrils, and immediately covering them with his hand, as if he were putting some spell upon him."

Ambition, Social Mobility, and Morality Theme Icon

***Analysis Part 3:***

Dickens establishes Uriah's villainy from the moment he's introduced. In a novel where goodness often (though not always) corresponds to appearance, Uriah's deathlike looks mark him as suspicious even before the strange episode with the pony. As the novel progresses, however, it becomes increasingly difficult to separate the revulsion David feels toward Uriah's behavior from revulsion toward his lower-class origins.

***Summary Part 4:***

Once inside, [David](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/david-copperfield) notices two portraits on the wall: one of a middle-aged man going over paperwork, and the other of a woman with a "very placid and sweet expression." Just then, a man resembling the first portrait enters the room and beckons [Miss Betsey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/miss-betsey-trotwood) and David into his office, saying that they will need to forgive him for being busy on account of his "motive." This man is [Mr. Wickfield](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/mr-wickfield), who also happens to be Miss Betsey's lawyer. As the adults talk about why Miss Betsey has come, David observes Mr. Wickfield, noticing that he is handsome and well-dressed, but has a "richness in his complexion" that suggests he drinks heavily.

***Analysis Part 4:***

The "motive" Mr. Wickfield refers to here is his daughter Agnes, who has been the center of his life since his wife died. It quickly becomes clear, however, that Mr. Wickfield's total preoccupation with his daughter is unhealthy, in part because it is an extension of his grief for his wife (whom Agnes strongly resembles). In fact, Mr. Wickfield drinks partly to escape these painful memories.

***Summary part 5:***

[Miss Betsey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/miss-betsey-trotwood) introduces [Mr. Wickfield](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/mr-wickfield) to [David](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/david-copperfield) and asks for advice on which school to send him to. Mr. Wickfield responds that the best school in the area currently has no space to board additional students, so he proposes taking Miss Betsey to see both the school as well as a few houses where David might be able to stay. David, however, remains behind, and finds that from his location in Mr. Wickfield's office, he can see into the room where [Uriah](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/uriah-heep) is working. This disturbs him, because Uriah periodically stares at David with eyes "like two red suns."

***Analysis Part 5:***

Just as David was immediately struck by Uriah (though in a negative way), Uriah seems to take a keen interest in David. To some extent, this instantaneous dislike (at least on David's part) foreshadows the two men's eventual rivalry. In another sense, however, the immediate connection between the two characters signals how much they have in common, including a close relationship to their mothers and a desire to marry Agnes. In many ways, Uriah is simply a working-class version of David, and his villainy is a sign of the novel's discomfort with working-class ambition.

***Summary Part 6:***

Mr. Wichfield and [Miss Betsey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/miss-betsey-trotwood) return without having found a suitable place for [David](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/david-copperfield) to stay. Mr. Wickfield therefore offers to board David himself and, when Miss Betsey accepts, says he will introduce both her and David to his "little housekeeper." The three go upstairs, passing many charming nooks and crannies along the way, and meet Mr. Wickfield's daughter, [Agnes](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/agnes-wickfield). Agnes greatly resembles the portrait of the woman David had noticed earlier, and is equipped with a basket full of keys. David is immediately impressed by her appearance and demeanor, and forever associates Agnes with a childhood memory of a [stained glass window](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/symbols/stained-glass-window)'s "tranquil brightness."

***Analysis Part 6:***

Agnes is more or less the ideal Victorian woman, even when she's still a young girl. The fact that Wickfield introduces her as his housekeeper is significant, because housekeeping in the nineteenth century was not just a matter of tidiness: Agnes's skill as a homemaker is just as much about imbuing her surroundings with her own gentleness, hopefulness, and tranquility as it is about managing servants or keeping accounts. Of course, the fact that she's so competent at such a young age is partly the result of her father's alcoholism and depression; in some ways, she has had to take on the role of a parent while still a child herself.

***Summary Part 7:***

As [Miss Betsey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/miss-betsey-trotwood) prepares to leave, [Mr. Wickfield](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/mr-wickfield) and [Agnes](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/agnes-wickfield) exit the room to give her and [David](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/david-copperfield) some privacy. David thanks his aunt again for her kindness, and she tells him to repay her simply by avoiding being "mean," "false," or "cruel." She then leaves quickly, which David worries is a sign of displeasure until he sees her climbing "dejectedly" into the chaise.

***Analysis Part 7:***

Unlike Mr. Murdstone, who wanted David to become self-sufficient simply so that the Murdstones wouldn't have to support him, Miss Betsey's main concern in setting David up at school is the formation of his moral character.

***Summary Part 8:***

Later that day, [David](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/david-copperfield) dines with [Mr. Wickfield](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/mr-wickfield) and [Agnes](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/agnes-wickfield). Afterwards, Agnes sets out glasses and port for her father and goes to play the piano while David and Mr. Wickfield talk. David notices that while Mr. Wickfield is generally cheerful, he sometimes grows sad while looking at Agnes. Agnes, meanwhile, is quick to notice these changes in her father's mood and always does something to distract him from his gloom. Eventually Agnes retires to bed, and David does the same.

***Analysis Part 8:***

Although Mr. Wickfield loves Agnes deeply, she's also a source of great distress to him: her resemblance to her mother brings back unhappy memories, and also causes Wickfield to worry that he will lose Agnes as well. As for Agnes herself, she has had to take on a maternal demeanor with her own father on account of his frequent incapacitation. Although this motherliness is part of what makes Agnes a model Victorian woman, the book also implies that she shouldn't have been forced to take on that kind of responsibility at such a young age

***Summary Part 9:***

At some point earlier in the evening, [David](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/david-copperfield) had walked out in front of the house so he could see all the houses and buildings he passed when first traveling to [Miss Betsey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/miss-betsey-trotwood)'s. When he returned to the house, he ran into [Uriah Heep](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/david-copperfield/characters/uriah-heep) and shook his hand, only to find that it was revoltingly cold and damp. The sensation, as well as Uriah's face, continue to haunt David's thoughts as he goes to bed.

***Analysis Part 9:***

In revisiting the places he passed on the way to Miss Betsey's, David seems to take pleasure in the juxtaposition of past and present—specifically, the fact that he couldn't have known that he would end up living in one of the very houses he passed. The implication is that his past pain has actually made his present happiness more enjoyable. The only thing marring that happiness at the moment is Uriah, whom Dickens once again associates with death and decay in this passage.