Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine

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**Annotation and Vocabulary**

Jack London

“Martin Eden”

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**Annotation**

Jack London was an average low-class American who had fulfilled “the American Dream” and became a successful writer. At the zenith of his career, he writes “Martin Eden” his autobiography. He did not end up well, he has got an overdose at the age of 40.

London describes Ruth as, “… a pale, ethereal creature, with wide, spiritual blue eyes and a wealth of golden hair”. Mart thought she is gorgeous. He did not see a woman like Ms. Morse, his poor knowledge told him that there are women like Ruth in the books. But here she is alive and she tries to support their conversation. Suddenly, comes Artur and invites them to dinner. Arthur is one of the two younger Ruth’s brothers, who has just been saved by Martin Eden, and to thank Eden, he invited him to dinner.

Mr. Eden was not used to such things as this house, food that he enjoyed for the first time, paintings, and books which he saw before dinner. He was even called “Mr. Eden” and it shocked him. He was just a young sailor, cowboy, in the past but here in this house, he is being called “Mr. Eden” like he is one of the elites. He was getting nervous but Ruth’s presence was calming him down. After dinner, he had some time with Ruth. She showed him her piano skills and they were talking about books that Mart read and has just seen in Morse’s living room. Ruth granted him some of her books. Martin was very happy because it meant that he has a purpose to see his love again. When he was leaving, he was very far from being sober although he did not drink that evening at all.

Mart sees the gap between him and the Morse family and he wants this gap to disappear. He wants to be as good as they are and he has made his life’s purpose to make Ruth his wife. Edan had lots of women from different countries but he has never been in love with them. Ruth was the first one. Martin immediately stops drinking, buys an abonnement for the library, starts taking care of his appearance, learns how to behave in high society.

A week has passed. Martin could not help himself he wanted to see Ruth. He has already read her books and improved a lot. Mart comes to visit Ruth. Ms. Morse saw him like a wild dog but there was something in him that caught her attention. She was nicely impressed after she had seen how better Marin has become. She did not understand her feelings and decided that she wants to be his teacher. That is how the next couple of months have passed. Martin was reading all the books which have caught his attention and he was visiting Ruth she was instructing him and they were talking about all the thing they ever could.

Slowly but surely Martin was running out of money. The next eight months he will spend on a ship sailing across the ocean. During his journey, he has read more books and improved his grammar. He was comparing his speech with the captain one’s and he was confident that he is way better. Martin has got the idea of becoming a writer. His mind was shining he could not help himself. He wanted to see Ruth.

If you want to know how the story ends you should read the book yourself. This book teaches you how to live or at least it should have. I will not recommend it to anyone because of London’s ideology. Although London’s last masterpiece was written in realism, his understanding of love is wrong. It is not even close to being real. London did not have the life he was hoping for and somewhere in the middle of his age, he has lost the true understanding of love and he will not be able to restore it even when he dies. He binds his deepest sorrow with love and it is unacceptable.

**Vocabulary**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | latch-key | ключ від дверей (зн. в книжці) |
| 2 | smacked | заляпане |
| 3 | manifestly | явно |
| 4 | He'll see me through all right | Він бачить мене наскрізь |
| 5 | unwittingly | мимоволі |
| 6 | to heave | підняти |
| 7 | the heave and lunge of sea | функція хвиль |
| 8 | gait | хода |
| 9 | hazard | небезпека |
| 10 | ladle | ківш |
| 11 | pot | горщик |
| 12 | drearily | тоскливо |
| 13 | gaze | вдивлятися |
| 14 | torn | розірваний |
| 15 | gleam | блиск |
| 16 | preliminary | попередній |
| 17 | arrangement | домовленість |
| 18 | nauseated | нудота |
| 19 | congealed | застиглий |
| 20 | swift | стрімкий |
| 21 | tidal | припливні |
| 22 | indignation | обурення |
| 23 | condemned | засуджений |
| 24 | bourgeois | буржуазний |
| 25 | rousing | захоплюючі |
| 26 | posses | володіння |
| 27 | lengthwise | уздовж |
| 28 | crosswise | хрест-навхрест |
| 29 | languidly | мляво |
| 30 | sightless | беззорий |
| 31 | definiteness | визначеність |
| 32 | surge | сплеск |
| 33 | outrigger canoe | виносний каное |
| 34 | stern | суворий |
| 35 | scarlet | ясно-червоний |
| 36 | paddle | весло |
| 37 | turquoise | бірюзовий |
| 38 | onlooker | спостерігач |
| 39 | steep | крутий |
| 40 | jet | струменя |
| 41 | rumble | гул |
| 42 | placid | спокійний |
| 43 | vain | даремно |
| 44 | stir | розмішати |
| 45 | aimlessly | безцільно |
| 46 | arouse | збудити |
| 47 | pile | купа |
| 48 | stuffy | душно |
| 49 | chartless | без діаграм |
| 50 | rudderless | без керма |
| 51 | hollow | порожнистий |
| 52 | loaf | буханка |
| 53 | inclination | нахил |
| 54 | idle | простоює |
| 55 | recoiled | відступив |
| 56 | fled | втік |
| 57 | swarm | рій |
| 58 | furtively | нишком |
| 59 | maltreated | знущання |
| 60 | facetious | вигадливий |
| 61 | circulation | обіг |
| 62 | gibed | обдарований |
| 63 | sneered | насміхався |
| 64 | laundry | прання білизни |
| 65 | kinship | спорідненість |
| 66 | wizened | висушений |
| 67 | badinage | балачки |
| 68 | stoutly | міцно |
| 69 | heresy | єресь |
| 70 | cripple | каліка |
| 71 | arduous | важкий |
| 72 | futile | марний |
| 73 | solace | заспокоєння |
| 74 | pestiferous | шкідливий |
| 75 | frail | тендітний |
| 76 | dawn | світанок |
| 77 | ceased | припинився |
| 78 | tide | приплив |
| 79 | pawnshop | ломбард |
| 80 | cease | припинити |
| 81 | woodshed | дроварня |
| 82 | instinct of preservation | інстинкт збереження |
| 83 | flutter | тріпотіння |
| 84 | superb | чудово |
| 85 | barring | заборона |
| 86 | verge | межі |
| 87 | zest | родзинка |
| 88 | appalled | приголомшений |
| 89 | transacted | укладений |
| 90 | endured | витримав |
| 91 | abruptly | різко |
| 92 | beaut | красуня |
| 93 | incomprehensible | незрозумілий |
| 94 | wharf | причал |
| 95 | temptation | спокуса |
| 96 | groan | стогін |
| 97 | muttering | бурмотіння |
| 98 | cramp | судоми |
| 99 | ceaselessly | невпинно |
| 100 | lethargy | млявість |
| 101 | glare | відблиски |
| 102 | subservient | підлеглий |
| 103 | whim | примха |
| 104 | realm | царство |
| 105 | harking back | зволікаючи |
| 106 | utterance | висловлювання |
| 107 | wearied | втомлений |
| 108 | contemplate | споглядати |
| 109 | lusty | хтивий |
| 110 | soaked | замочений |
| 111 | humid | вологий |
| 112 | surcease | перервати |
| 113 | stanza | строфа |
| 114 | stirred | ворушився |
| 115 | impetus | поштовх |
| 116 | disdainfully | зневажливо |
| 117 | reeling | намотування |
| 118 | oscillated | коливається |
| 119 | feebly | немічно |
| 120 | he ceased to know | забуття |