

### **The Old Curiosity Shop**

Little Nell, only thirteen, died, to everyone's distress, in the churchyard near where she and her grandfather had been sheltered. The detestable and repulsive Quilp, a heartless money lender and landlord, drowned unmourned in the Thames. Little Nell had lived with her grandfather at his antique shop, the Old Curiosity Shop. He hoped, by gambling, to win a fortune to leave to her. Quilp lent him money for his gambling, and, when it was lost, turned him and Little Nell out onto the street. They wandered, begging, through London and beyond until they reached the village, where they were given shelter.

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