

Little Women

LOUISA MAY ALCOTT

WINSTON ACADEMY is a registered trademark of Modern Press.

Database right Modern Press (maker)

The moral rights of the author have been asserted

First published in 2016

No unauthorized photocopying

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the prior permission in writing of Modern Press, or as expressly permitted by law, or under terms agreed with the appropriate reprographics rights organization. You must not circulate this book in any other binding or cover and you must impose this same condition on any acquirer.

ISBN 978-605-9242-52-3

Printed and bound in Turkey by Yazın, Istanbul

CONTENTS

Chapter 1	<i>Sisters</i>	5
Chapter 2	<i>A Merry Christmas</i>	11
Chapter 3	<i>The Laurence Boy</i>	15
Chapter 4	<i>Jobs</i>	19
Chapter 5	<i>Friendly Neighbours</i>	21
Chapter 6	<i>Mr Laurence's Gift to Beth</i>	28
Chapter 7	<i>Meg Hears Some Girl Gossip</i>	32
Chapter 8	<i>Marmee Teaches a Lesson</i>	37
Chapter 9	<i>Secrets</i>	41
Chapter 10	<i>A Telegram</i>	45
Chapter 11	<i>Mother Returns</i>	48
Chapter 12	<i>Jo Tells Mother a Secret</i>	51
Chapter 13	<i>A Christmas Surprise</i>	53
Activities		62
Glossary		68
Answer Key		75

Chapter 1

Sisters

“Christmas won’t be the same without any presents,” said Jo angrily.

“I hate being poor!” said Meg, looking down at her old dress.

“It’s not fair for some girls to have nice things but other girls to have nothing at all!” added Amy with a small cry.

“We have father and mother, and each other,” said Beth, quietly from the corner.

The four sisters sat around the fire and felt happy when they thought about this but then Jo said, “We don’t have Father, and he won’t be here for many years.” She did not say “maybe never” but all of the sisters were thinking this because Father was very far away in the war.

They sat quietly by the fire until Meg said, “Mother says we shouldn’t spend money on gifts when Father and other men are fighting in a war.”

“Yes, I do not think Mother can give us a gift but we all have a dollar to spend and I don’t think four dollars will help the army. I want to buy a book with my dollar!” said Jo, always excited to think about books.

Chapter 4

Jobs

After the new year started, the girls went back to their jobs. When they were all younger, the March family had a lot of money but their father had lost a lot of it helping a friend of his. When Jo and Meg were old enough to understand this, they decided to get jobs and start helping the family with their problems.

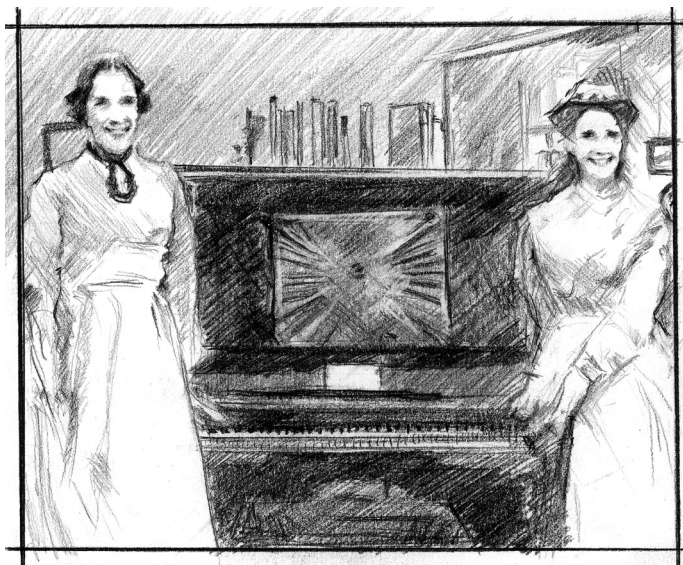
Meg got a job working for the King family. Everyday she went to their house and babysat the children. Their house was very beautiful and sometimes Meg got jealous of all the pretty dresses they had.

Jo went to Aunt March's house every day. When the money problems came, Aunt March offered to take one of the children into her house to make the problem easier. Mrs March refused but she allowed Jo to go to her house everyday to do chores, buy things, and read books to her. Jo hated reading books to her because they were so boring but when Aunt March fell asleep, Jo read all the books she wanted to from her very big library.

Beth was too shy and too quiet to go to school so she stayed home and looked after the house with Hannah. She worked very hard to keep the house clean and she always behaved like a lady and did what Hannah told her to do.

Jo opened the letter and started to read it.

“Dear Miss March,” Jo read, “I have many pairs of slippers but I like yours more than all the other ones,” continued Jo. “Your gift was so nice so I want to give you a gift as well. I hope you enjoy playing it. Thank you very much, your good friend, James Laurence.”



“What a wonderful gift,” said Amy.

“Oh Beth, please sit down and play it, won’t you?” said Meg.

So Beth sat down and began to play the little piano. She played it beautifully and all of the girls smiled as she touched the black and white keys.

Chapter 9

Secrets

In October of that year, Jo sat on the sofa every day writing her novel. When she finished her story, she put it in a package, went outside, and took a bus into the town. She found the building that she was looking for. She was very nervous but she eventually went inside.

Ten minutes later, Jo ran out of the building into the street. She saw Laurie there. She was surprised to see him but she did not want to talk to him.



Chapter 13

A Christmas Surprise

As Christmas got closer and closer, the house started to feel very strange. Everyone was very happy, Beth was in good health, and the weather was very nice. On the day before Christmas, Jo and Laurie made a snowman in front of the house to show Beth. Beth walked to the window to see it.

"It's wonderful! It makes me so happy!" Beth said. "I only wish Father could see it too."

"Me too Beth. I am happy, but I want to see Father," Jo said as she helped her sister back to her bed in the other room.

"I wish Father were here as well. He would make me happier than I am now," Amy said, looking at the books she got for Christmas that year.

"Oh, how I miss Father," cried Meg. She was wearing her new silk dress that Mr Laurence gave her.

As the girls were sitting around talking, Laurie opened the door halfway with a big smile on his face.

"I have another Christmas surprise for the March family," he said as he put only his head through the door.



“Don’t go, Meg. Are you afraid of me?” Mr Brooke asked.

“Of course not, Mr Brooke. I could not be afraid of you after you were so nice to Father,” Meg said sweetly. “I just wish I could repay your kindness.”

“You can, Meg.”

Mr Brooke grabbed Meg’s hand and looked at her eyes.

“Oh please, don’t Mr Brooke. I’d rather not.” Meg said, trying to take her hand back.

“I won’t give you trouble, Meg. I only want to know if you have any feelings for me. I love you so much.” Mr Brooke said, lovingly.

This was the moment where Meg was supposed to say the words she practiced with her sister but she forgot every word. “I don’t know,” she said. “I’m too young.”

LITTLE WOMEN

Activities

Chapters 1 – 3

The March girls

Order the girls from oldest (1) to youngest (4).

☐ Amy

☐ Jo

☐ Meg

☐ Beth

Match the girl with the description

1. Beautiful eyes, blonde hair and she was never impolite.	A. Beth
2. Very shy with a quiet voice. She had bright red hair and a big smile	B. Meg
3. Very tall and slim. She had long legs and was boyish.	C. Amy
4. Very pretty with large eyes and long brown hair.	D. Jo

Chapters 1 – 3

Before You Read

1. Find these words in your dictionary and match them with the definitions below.

Carriage

Servant

War

Confused

Manners

Chores

After you read

11. Discuss these questions.

- A** Why is Jo upset about Mr Brooke?
- B** Who does Jo want Meg to marry? Why?
- C** How does Meg realize she loves Mr Brooke?
- D** Why is Aunt March upset at Meg?

12. Writing

- A** Write about your favourite character in the book. Why is he/she your favourite?
- B** When Mr March returns from the war he thinks his daughters are different. How do you think the March girls are different now? Who is the most different? Why?
- C** At the end of the story, Meg and her Aunt have an argument. Why was Aunt March angry? Do you think you would be angry if you were her? Why or why not?
- D** How do you think the characters will develop in the future? What jobs will they have? Will they get married?

Glossary

Accept	to say yes to something * My friends <i>accepted</i> my idea for the class project.
Add	to put something more / extra * You need to <i>add</i> more sugar, or the cake will taste bad.
Awful	really bad * The movie I went to with my friends was <i>awful</i> . We all hated it.
Chore	things to do around the house / house work * I always help my mother with the <i>chores</i> because she has a job and she's usually tired.
Clumsy	often having small accidents like dropping things or hitting furniture * When I was a child I was very <i>clumsy</i> . I broke a lot of my mom's favourite teacups.
Complain	to talk about things that make you angry or sad * My best friend always <i>complains</i> about his father's behaviour.
Congratulate	to be happy for and celebrate someone's success or good luck * My coworkers <i>congratulated</i> me when my daughter was born.

Slippers	things we wear on our feet in the home or on the beach * My father's <i>slippers</i> make a lot of noise in the house. We should buy him a new pair.
Spend	pass time; give money for something * Last year, I <i>spent</i> my summer at home because it didn't have enough money to travel.
Strange	not usual, different, weird * The best part about traveling abroad is eating all the new and <i>strange</i> foods.
Treat	behaviour towards someone else * After a certain age parents should stop <i>treating</i> their teenagers like children.
Tutor	a teacher, usually a private one * I need to get a <i>tutor</i> for my math and science classes, I am terrible at those subjects.