THE DEMON IN THE HOUSE, 1934

Moyer Bell 1996

(Hazel Bell, 2017)

CHAPTER I

p. 3  “[Tony’s] three elder brothers were usually abroad or at sea.”
– Indeed, Dick, Gerald and John Morland make no direct appearances throughout the Barsetshire sequence. Perhaps they represent Thirkell’s three real-life sons, and Tony is a compensatory dream child.

p.6  Rosebush is a small village in Maenclochog community, north Pembrokeshire, Wales.

p.10  Now Mistress Gilpin, when she saw / Her husband posting down / Into the country far away, / She pulled out half-a-crown.
– from “The diverting history of John Gilpin” by William Cowper, 1785

p.12  “Daisy Bell (Bicycle Built for Two)” is a popular song written in 1892 by Harry Dacre.

p.28  Dear master, I can go no further. Oh, I die for food. / Here lie I down and measure out my grave. – lines spoken by Adam in As You Like It Act II scene 6. Adam is an old servant – a small part.

p.29  Though I look old, yet I am strong and lusty, / For in my youth I never did apply / Hot and rebellious liquors in my blood / Nor did not with unbashful forehead woo / The means of weakness and debility.
– lines spoken by Adam in As You Like It Act II scene 3.

CHAPTER II

pp.50, 51  Surely the serpent will bite without enchantment; and a babbler is no better.
– Ecclesiastes 10.11

p.55  Isis Egyptian goddess
Mithra ancient Aryan god of light
Cybele Great Mother of the [Greek and Roman] Gods
Apollo Greek god
Baal Syrian sun-god
Ur ancient city of Sumer, S. Mesopotamia
Etruria made the seventh region of Italy by Augustus

p.56
When we two parted
In silence and tears,
Half broken-hearted
To sever for years,
Pale grew thy cheek and cold,
Colder thy kiss;
– from “When we Two parted” by Lord Byron

p.57 Edgar Wallace, English writer of crime thrillers, 1875-1932

CHAPTER III

p.66 “The Dauphin in the Temple”
The son of Louis XVI, Louis Charles, 1785-95, was known as the lost dauphin, imprisoned in the Temple from 1792 until his death. A picture by this title was engraved by Meyer Heine after De La Charlerie from Histoire de la Revolution Francaise by Louis Blanc.

p.74 Prince [Giglio] ... Without preparation, delivered a speech ... all in blank verse.... It lasted for three days and three nights, during which not a single person who heard him was tired.
– from The Rose and the Ring by William Makepeace Thackeray (1811-63)

p.75 "not Amurath an Amurath succeeds, / But Harry Harry".

the tender matron, as beautiful in her Autumn, and as pure as virgins in their spring, with blushes of love and "eyes of meek surrender"
– from The History of Henry Esmond by W. M. Thackeray

p.77 King Charles II 1610-85

p.78 Cheltenham, also known as Cheltenham Spa, is a regency spa town and borough located on the edge of the Cotswolds in Gloucestershire.

The first railway to Cheltenham was the broad-gauge Cheltenham and Great Western Union Railway which opened between Cheltenham and Gloucester in 1840. In the same year, the Birmingham and Gloucester Railway (B&GR) opened its line between Cheltenham and Bromsgrove, whence trains ran on mixed-gauge tracks to Gloucester. Both railways had their own stations. The B&GR station, which was then on the edge of the town was named Lansdown after a housing development in that area. Opened by the B&GR in June 1840 as Lansdown, it was renamed Cheltenham Spa (Lansdown) in 1925 by the London, Midland and Scottish Railway, and renamed again as Cheltenham Spa by British Railways at some point after 1 January 1948.
Thalassa! was the cry of joy when the roaming 10,000 Greeks saw the Black Sea. Thalatta the original form of Thalassa. Digamma and iota – better left to a Greek scholar to explain.

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Sweeney Todd, “the demon barbar of Fleet Street”, is a fictional character who first appeared as the villain of the Victorian penny dreadful The String of Pearls (1846–47).

George Morland (1763-1804) was an English painter of animals and rustic scenes.

Peveril of the Peak (1823) is the longest novel by Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832). It includes “a subtle and conscienceless knave” by the name of Chiffinch.

William Chiffinch (1602-91) was Keeper of the King’s Private Closet to Charles II.

Oliver Cromwell 1599-1658

Ovid Publius Ovidius Naso, Latin poet, 43 bc - AD 18

Livy Titus Livius, Roman historian, 59 BC - AD 17

Battle of Worcester 1651

There are various superstitions in this “snipe-like flight” of Laura’s.

Friday the 13th of any month is supposed to be an unlucky day.

Change the name, but not the letter / Change for worse and not for better! – the ryme refers to women who marry men whose surname starts with the same letter as their maiden names. Do we know Laura’s maiden name to have begun with M? Angela Thirkell’s of course was Mackail, which she changed upon her first marriage to McInnes.

The idea that peacock feathers are bad luck is traced to a superstition that began in the Mediterranean, where the eye-like markings on the end of peacock feathers are called the “evil eye.”

"cela n'empêche pas" – Dr Ford means, “that won’t stop you!”

Arthur semi-legendary warrior king of early Britain
The **Minotaur** was a mythical monster, part man, part bull, kept in a labyrinth at Knossos.

**Maenads** were the female followers of Dionysus and the most significant members of the Thiasus, the god's retinue. Their name literally translates as "raving ones."

googling on Burma and “two throats”, I am offered only pornographic sites.

In professional wrestling, **Front chancery**, also known as "Neck Wrench", is a move in which the wrestler faces his opponent who is bent over.

“He's too big to travel **bodkin** between you and me.”
– from ‘Vanity Fair’ by W. M. Thackeray

“**The Solitary-Hearted**” – a poem by Hartley Coleridge, 1796–1849

**Archimedes** Greek mathematician born c. 287 BC. By displacing water in his bath he discovered the principle of specific gravity (relative density).

**Xenophon** Greek historian, 540-500 BC

**Janissaries** were elite infantry units that formed the Ottoman Sultan's household troops and bodyguards.

“Daddy said s was for solidus” – unsurprisingly, the Vicar is correct.

In the grammar of Ancient **Greek** the **aorist** is a class of **verb** forms that generally portray a situation as simple or undefined, that is, as having perfective aspect.

**Thomas Sheraton**, English furniture designer 1751-1806

CHAPTER IV

**Tom Brown’s School Days** novel about a public school by Thomas Hughes, published 1857, which featured a great deal of bullying

**The Crofton Boys** novel about a prep school by Harriet Martineau, published 1844, which includes bullying

The **Inquisition** was a tribunal of the Roman Catholic Church formed to suppress heresy in 1233. It used juducial torture.

**Newgate Prison** was a prison in London, at the corner of Newgate Street and Old Bailey.
p.165 **Brilliantine** is a hair-grooming product intended to soften men's hair and give it a glossy, well-groomed appearance. It was created at the turn of the 20th century by French perfumer Edouard Pinaud.

p.166 **Adolf Hitler** 1889-1945. This novel was published in 1934, a year after the burning of the Reichstag.

Dr Samuel **Johnson** 1709-84

p.167 **Kaiser** William II, German Emperor, 1888-1918

p.170 *What are little boys made of? / Snips and snails, and puppy dogs tails / That's what little boys are made of !" / What are little girls made of? / "Sugar and spice and all things nice / That's what little girls are made of!*

– Traditional rhyme

p.173 "Thou damned and **luxurious mountain goat** / Offer'st me brass?" – Pistol in *King Henry V* Act IV scene 4, Shakespeare

In the *Aeneid* (by Virgil, 70-19 BC) **Achates** ("good, faithful Achates", **fidus Achates** as he was called) was a close friend of Aeneas who accompanied Aeneas throughout his adventures.