

# *TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES*



# *PHASE THE THIRD: The Rally*

## *Chapter 14:*

The following August, Tess decides the time has come to stop pitying herself, and she helps her village with the harvest.

- Her baby boy, conceived with Alec, falls ill, and Tess becomes worried that he will die without a proper christening.
- She decides to christen him herself and names him Sorrow. When he dies the following morning, Tess asks the parson if her christening was sufficient to earn her baby a Christian burial.
- Moved, the parson replies that though he cannot bury the child himself, Tess may do so. That night Tess lays Sorrow to rest in a corner of the churchyard with the suicides and drunks, and makes a little cross for his grave.

## *Chapter 15:*

- Tess realizes she can never be happy in Marlott and longs to begin a new life in a place where her past is unknown.
- The next year, the chance arises for Tess to become a milkmaid at the Talbothays Dairy.
- She seizes the opportunity, in part drawn by the fact that the dairy lies near the ancestral estate of the d'Urbervilles and spurred on by "the invincible instinct towards self-delight."

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Page 6 of 23

## *Chapter 16:*

- She encounters the man from Alec d'Urberville's village who accused her of promiscuity in front of Angel and is forced to run and hide from him. She feels as if Alec is hunting her.
- Continuing on her way, Tess stumbles upon a flock of pheasants, some of which have died and others that are in agony and pain. She suspects that hunters have shot them and will return to collect them. She feels an affinity for the birds in pain, and she instinctively breaks their necks to kill them and put them out of their misery.

#### Chapter 42:

- Tess takes to making herself ugly to protect herself from lustful men, and she cuts off her eyebrows and dresses in old, unattractive clothing.
- When Tess reaches the farm near the village of Flintcomb-Ash, Marian is curious about Angel, but Tess asks her not to inquire about him.
- The proprietress of the farm agrees to give Tess a job, and Tess sends her new address to her parents—though she does not acknowledge her marital or financial difficulties.

#### Chapter 43:

- Tess and Marian work digging up rutabagas in rocky ground. After a while, Izz Huett joins them.
- They are sent to work in the barn in the winter, and Tess meets the man who owns the farm—it is the same man from Alec d'Urberville's village.
- He accuses her of being a poor worker, and she offers to work harder to compensate.
- Marian tells Tess that Angel has hired Izz to travel with him to Brazil, and Tess at first feels as though she should write to him. Before long, however, she is overcome by doubt as to whether she really should.

#### Chapter 44:

- Tess decides to visit Angel's family to discover what has happened to him and begins the long walk to the vicarage.
- She takes off her boots and hides them, planning to put them on again for the walk home.
- She overhears Angel's brothers discussing Angel's unfortunate marriage, and when they find her boots, they assume they belong to a peasant.
- Tess is ashamed and unhappy and decides not to meet Angel's family after all.
- She begins the walk home, but she stops before a barn in which a passionate sermon is being delivered. She looks inside, and sees none other than Alec d'Urberville.