

ting a bit of that breeze. (*Coughs.*) Close that door.

CHAR. (*closes door.*) Now, Aunt, hadn't you better take a little of this mixture?

MISS F. No, not now. Sit down here, Charlotte, I have something to say to you. 'Tis about Fanny and June. How have they behaved toward you since you came?

CHAR. (*sitting on ottoman.*) Why, really Aunt, I have seen so little of them since your illness, that—

MISS F. Yes, yes, but you were, at meals together, you saw them every day! Were they polite? Were they kind?

CHAR. Well—we don't seem as much in sympathy as I would like, but no doubt it is my fault.

MISS F. (*nodding.*) Fanny has acted spitefully, I'll warrant. Yes, I have heard. There are others to tell me things, too. I know that Fanny has an unbearable temper.

CHAR. But she will grow out of that, Aunt. She is young, and really has a good heart.

MISS F. She will have to grow out of it. And June? I suppose she is a pretty fair copy of her sister.

CHAR. Why, I am very fond of June. I fancy we would be very good friends, only I cannot come between her and her sister.

MISS F. Those children have been here four years, and yet, in all that time, they have not done as much to win my favor as you have in two months.

CHAR. But perhaps, Aunt Eleanor, you don't know me as well as them. It's easy to be amiable when one is a visitor.

MISS F. You have not been here in that capacity. A visitor does not watch at midnight by the pillow of a cross invalid. A visitor does not go into the kitchen to prepare with her own hands little dainties for her hostess.

CHAR. Indeed, dear Aunt, it gave me great pleasure to be able to do some little acts of kindness.

MISS F. Yes, and it will give me great pleasure to reward them. Tell me, now, how are you situated financially? Your father left you but a small fortune.

CHAR. Yes, and I have spent the whole of it upon my education. I now intend to earn my living by teaching.

MISS F. Yes, by teaching those about you, lessons of love and unselfishness. You will not feel obliged to gain