

and said, when at last he let me take it, 'There you are, you young rascal, you don't deserve it but I suppose we can't let you starve.' People came and went all the evening, important people with serious faces. They talked and talked. And then Master talked, and they shook their heads and looked more solemn. I found them very tiresome and I badly wanted them to go. Master talked again, and in the end I saw them begin to get less serious, and one smiled and said, 'It's settled then, Sir, that you will go.'