



The Mill on the Floss : Book 1 and 2



Book # 01

Introduction to setting : Outside Dorlcote Mill

- The novel begins with the description of river Floss and town of St. Ogg's.
- Imagination of a narrator that how a wagon passing over the bridge and a little girl standing near the Mill with the dog.
- That little girl is Maggie Tulliver, daughter of Mr. Tulliver owner of Mill and the dog is Yap.



Book # 01

- Introduction of Tulliver's family , planning for Tom's future (son of Mr. Tulliver) and Mr. Riley to be consulted.
- Mr. Riley a worldly wise man of some education.
- Mrs. Tulliver worried about Tom's eating and clothing if he went to school far from home.
- A typical domestic life of ordinary common people is portrayed.



Book # 01

- ▶ Mr. Riley's advice:

He advised that Tom should be sent to a tutor instead of school for this he recommended Mr. Stelling M.A from the Oxford.

- ▶ Cost will be one hundred pounds a year.

- ▶ Mr. Riley assured them that Mr. Stelling would be able to teach any thing just like a good workman could make door as well as window.

- ▶ Maggie's intelligence:

*An over-'cute woman's no better than a long-tailed sheep—she'll fetch none the bigger price for that. **Mr. Tulliver, Book 1, Chapter 2***



Book # 01

- ▶ Tom have to come back from school .
- ▶ Maggie's emotional outburst telling how much she loves her brother.
- ▶ Maggie's carelessness:
She forgot to feed Tom's rabbits and due to her carelessness rabbits died.
- ▶ Tulliver's financial conditions:

We live from hand to mouth ... little else than snatch a morsel to satisfy the hungry brood, rarely thinking of seed-corn or the next year's crop . **Narrator, Book 1, Chapter 3**



Book # 01

- ▶ Tom and Maggie's quarrel and reconciliation.
O Tom, please forgive me—I can't bear it—I will be good—always remember things—do love me—please, dear Tom! **Maggie Tulliver, Book 1, Chapter 5**
- ▶ Beautiful evocation of child memories.
- ▶ Brotherly love and emotional attachment.
- ▶ Aunts and Uncles are coming.
- ▶ Preparation of party .
- ▶ Arguments between Tom and Maggie about jam puff as Maggie took bigger piece .
- ▶ Bob , Tom and Yap going to river bank and Bob cheated there.



Book # 01

- Conflict of interest between Dodson sisters and Tulliver family.
- Claiming to have their money back which they gave to Tulliver family.
- Mixture of humour and pathos as on one side sisters of Mrs. Tulliver and on other side sister or Mr. Tulliver.
- Mrs. Moss sister of Mr. Tulliver. Poor but very kind and generous lady. Where as Dodson's wealthy but narrow minded people.
- As Mr. Tulliver was brother of Mrs. Moss so his generous abilities were also flourished .



Book # 01

- Mrs. Tulliver, Tom , Maggie and Lucy towards Mrs. Tulliver's sister.
- Comparison between Maggie and Lucy . As Lucy was considered neat and clean while Maggie untidy and bad tempered in her clothings.
- Tom and Lucy teasing Maggie.
- Sudden outburst of emotions.
- Maggie's behaviour was worst than expected.
- Mrs Tulliver's repeated prophecies about Maggie being drowned.



Book # 01

- Maggie tries to run away: gipsies
- Experience with gipsies.
- Child psychology.
- Material love of Mr and Mrs Glegg .
- Firm determination to pay off loan .
- Mr Tulliver had further complicated his life and that of his family



Book # 02

- Tom's schooling at Mr. Stelling's ; Maggie's Visit to the school .
- Mr. Stelling puts Tom down as “ *a thoroughly stupid lad*” .
- Tom was only student of Mr. Stelling and he was uninterested and not good in studies.
- Maggie visited Tom and got interest in his studies.
- Christmas Holidays.
- Mr. Tulliver's quarrel with a new neighbour, Mr. Pivart .



Book # 02

- New school mate.
- The new mate of Tom was Phillip . Phillip was disabled as a result of childhood accident.
- This fellow was very good in studies but Tom was not good in studies.
- Gradually the friendship improved.
- Both were helping each other.



Book # 02

- ▶ Stelling's ideas on education; Mr. Poulter and the Sword
- ▶ Pupils to increase the income. i.e material gain or teaching as earning profession .

*In these fits of susceptibility every glance seemed to him charged either with offensive pity or ill-repressed disgust. **Narrator, Book 2, Chapter 4***

- ▶ Role of Mr. Poulter a village school master and retired soldier.
- ▶ Harsh words between Tom and Phillip .
- ▶ Bribery
- ▶ Tom hid the sword under his bed to show it to Maggie.



Book # 02

- Maggie's second visit.
- Phillip and Maggie become good friends.
- Tom dressed up as a brigand, and was ready to show her his swordsmanship. To impress her further, he draws the sword from its sheath and moves it about. The sword fell and wounded him .

*I think it was that her eyes were full of unsatisfied intelligence, and unsatisfied, beseeching affection. **Narrator, Book 2, Chapter 5***

- Maggie and Phillip attachment increased.
- Mr Tulliver loses the law suit.



Book # 02

- ▶ Tom left Mr. Sterling's and accompanied Maggie home.
- ▶ Mr. Tulliver no longer be able to afford Tom's educational expenditures .
- ▶ Recalling aunts words that such education would not get him any work.
- ▶ The *golden gates of their childhood*" were forever closed behind them now.

*They had entered the thorny wilderness, and the golden gates of their childhood had forever closed behind them. **Narrator, Book 2, Chapter 7***