

She was dreaming that she was standing on a bridge enjoying the mesmerizing view of the Dorlcote Mill, when she was sitting on a chair. Then, she talked about the conversation between Mr. and Mrs. Tulliver of Dorlcote. Mr. Tulliver wanted to change Tom's school and resolved to discuss the matter with Riley. He was fretting about his daughter's, Maggie's, hair not being curled up. Mr. Riley recommended him to an Oxford clergy man named Stelling. Maggie did a mischievous thing as her father left her when he went to Academy to fetch Tom. Then, she talked to Luke near the mill and learnt that she and Harry had forgotten to feed Tom's rabbits and now, they were all dead.

Mrs. Tulliver was anxious as the wagon was a few hours late. Then, she heard the wheel rolling. Tom bought a fish line for Maggie, and she loved it with all her heart. But when Tom learnt that they forgot to feed his rabbits, he told Maggie that he did not love her. Maggie went into the attic to pine for the cruel words of Tom. Hours later, Tom's steps were heard on the stairs, and Maggie rushed to him. The next morning, they went fishing with their new fishing rods. Bob cheated, so they had a fight, and the rat-catching was cancelled. Their aunts – Mrs. Glegg, Sister Pullet and their respective husbands came to visit The Tulliver.

Maggie made Tom cut her hair. She was mocked at the dinner by the whole family, but her father took her side when she sobbed on his shoulder. Then, Mr. Tulliver announced his decision to send to a parson, which made the other members angry, and they quarreled. Then, Mrs. Glegg got out of the dinner angrily. To pay Mrs. Glegg five hundred pounds and cover Tom's expenses, Mr. Tulliver went to his sister Mrs. Moss in Basset to get back the three hundred pounds his husband had borrowed from him without any interest. He was hard on Mr. Moss and his sister which made him reflect on his own daughter and son. He went back to Mrs. Moss and consoled her and told her not to worry too much about money.

At home, Maggie accidentally knocked down Tom's card pagodas, which upset Tom badly. Mrs. Tulliver and her children went to Mrs. Pullet (Sophy). There, Mrs. Pullet showed them a remarkable bonnet and Mrs. Tulliver asked her to find a way to calm Mrs. Deans and not to call in her 500 pounds. Tom's brotherly punishment roused a pang of jealousy in Maggie's heart and she pushed Lucy into a pond of mud and ran away to the gypsies. Gypsies were kind to them, but it was not as rosy as she had expected. The gypsy took her back home on a donkey, but they met his father at a cross-road. Maggie hugged his father, who gave the gypsy five shillings.

Mr. and Mrs. Glegg quarreled but finally, Mrs. Glegg forgave and pitied Mr. and Mrs. Tulliver. Rev Stelling was ambitious, and Tom had a hard time learning Latin grammar and Euclid. Maggie and his father paid a visit before they all came back home for Christmas.

Mr. Tulliver was going to hire Gore against Wakem for a lawsuit. And the son of Wakem was sent to Mr. Stelling. Tom and Philip Wakem were great friends but one day Tom said Philip's father was a rouge. On Maggie's second visit, Tom hurt himself on the foot when he was showing his military swordsmanship to Maggie. Maggie was to study at Miss Firniss's boarding school. Mr. Tulliver lost the lawsuit against Pivart, losing all his property including his mill. Mr. Tulliver fell into fits when he read a letter on his horse. Their aunts and uncles were hard on them. Mrs. Tulliver's furniture was to be sold to her sisters. Tom wanted his uncle, Mr. Dean, to ask for a job but his uncle did not promise him anything. Just before they sold their home, Bob Jackin came to see Tom, and offered his hard earned to him. Darlcote Mill was to be sold at the Golden Lion, and Guest and Co. was going to bid for it. Against her own children and kins, Mrs. Tulliver went to beg Wakem not to buy the Mill but made matters worse by giving the enemy a stratagem to humiliate her husband.

Guest and Co. did not buy the land and the mill. Wakem took possession of the land and the mill and made a proposal to hire Mr. Tulliver as a manager at the mill, giving him a way from being a pauper. Mr. Tulliver accepted the deal. He asked Tom to write that he will serve as an honest man under Wakem but he will forgive him for what he did to him and his family in the Bible and sign. They suffered in a valley of humiliation. Visits of relatives and neighbors to the mill were getting rarer and rarer. One day, Bob came to the mill and gave some books to Maggie. Then, Philip with his father came to the mill. Philip implored Maggie to be friends as he was in love with her.

Bob and Tom made a profitable proposal to Mr. Glegg. Mrs. Glegg consented to lend the money. Maggie and Philip fell in love over a year of secret meetings in the red deep. But it was found out by aunt Pullet and Tom forced her to vow on Bible not to see Philip again. Maggie swore it for her father's sake. Tom's trade was successful and enough to pay off their debt. His whole family, including his father, was elated. Next day, Mr. Tulliver confronted Wakem and died at the same night. Two years later, Tom and Maggie paid a visit to their cousin Lucy. Lucy introduced her admirer, Stephen Guest, to Maggie. Stephen was interested in Maggie.

At one night, Maggie told her secret with Philip to Lucy. Maggie asked to absolve her vow from Tom. One evening, Steven came alone to Maggie, and they walked for a while before he went back home. Then, Philip came back from his visit and met Maggie at Lucy's. By Lucy's clever contrivance and Philip's brave disavowal to his father, Wakem consented him to marry Miss Tulliver and to sell the mill. Maggie went to a dance party, and Stephen, under mad impulsiveness kissed her. Maggie went to Basset to her aunt Mrs. Moss. Stephen came to visit her, and she said she would marry only Philip. A party was held at her aunt Pullet's for Tom's success. Philip noticed that there was something going on between Maggie and Stephan and decided not to go boating with Maggie.

Stephen came and took advantage of her thoughtlessness and asked her to marry him on a boat. She reproached him but her kind heart led her to stay with him on a Dutch boat to Mudport. When they arrived there, she told him that she could not marry him and left him at an inn. She came back to Tom five days later when he bought back the mill. However, she was shunned from his house with reproaches. Only her mother accompanied her to a shelter under Bob's roof. She sought solace at a church under Dr. Kenn, but soon the public alleged her that she was seducing the pastor Kenn. She was heavily and unjustly criticized by the whole of St. Ogg. A heavy rain had been pouring for three days when she got a letter from Stephen to come to him. She was resolute to part with him again. Then, the flood came into her room, and she grabbed onto a boat, which was carried by the tide. She turned to the mill to rescue Tom. He was alone and glad to see Maggie on a boat. Unfortunately, a huge piece of fragment hurried their boat down to the floor of the river and they died in the last embrace.

This summary was written by Thura Htoo (14.8.2022)