

THE SYNOPSIS OF *HAUTOT SENIOR AND HAUTOT JUNIOR*

Hautot Senior was a rich half-peasant and half-gentleman, who is respected, influential, authoritative and though kind of father. Hautot Senior had an only son, Cesar Hautot, who was obedient and was hoped to be a fine peasant just like him.

On the opening day, Hautot Senior and his son, Cesar, M. Bermont, the tax-collector, and M. Mondaru, the notary, were taking a bite and drinking some wine before going out to shoot. All of them enjoyed their talking together, especially Hautot Senior who talked boastfully beforehand of the game which his guests were going to find on his lands.

As they started their hunting partridges together on Puyatier lands, they took their guns and the dogs along with them. They took up their positions at some distance from each other, Hautot Senior posting himself at the right, Cesar Hautot at the left, and the two guests in the middle. It was the anxious and fun moment for them.

However, during their hunting together, an unfortunate thing had happened. M. Bermont, the tax-collector, had mis-shot Hautot Senior instead of a big partridge. As they noticed about that accident, Cesar, M. Bermont, and M. Mondaru hurried forward to help Hautot Senior who had fallen in a fainting condition with a frightful wound, through which flowed down long streamlets of blood. They brought Hautot Senior back to his own house, and awaited the doctor, who had been sent for, as well as a priest.

When the doctor arrived, he examined Hautot Senior's condition immediately, but it seemed that there was no hope for Hautot Senior to live. Having been told about his father's condition, Cesar was so sad and shed tears. The father, who also realized about his having no hope, took time to talk to his son privately. During their talk, Hautot Senior mentioned about the heritage that he had provided for his son as well as a truth confession about his having a mistress, Mam'zelle Donet and he wanted his son to take care of her after his death.

As a son who had been taught as an honest and religious gentleman, Cesar did not agree with his father's having mistress. However, he made himself to see Mam'zelle Donet as he wanted to obey the last wish of his father, though he himself did not want to.

When Cesar arrived at Mam'zelle Donet's house, he directly explained about the incident that had happened to his father as well as the messages that his father had left. Having been told about the news, Mam'zelle Donet was shocked that she burst into tears. Meanwhile, Cesar Hautot was surprised by the presence of a little boy, Emile, who happened to be the son of Mam'zelle Donet. Realizing the fact that his father had had another son with the mistress, had made Cesar glad for he had a half-brother that could ease his loneliness.

Moreover, after his meeting Mam'zelle Donet, Cesar began to think about her very often. He realized that he had fallen in love with the mistress. It seemed that either Cesar or the mistress had been attracted to each other. Therefore, at the end, both Cesar and the mistress had eventually arranged their time to meet every Thursday as what Hautot Senior had scheduled.

THE SYNOPSIS OF *THE NECKLACE*

Mathilde was one of those pretty and charming women, but born in a poor family. She had no dowry, no prospects, no way of getting known, courted, loved, married by a rich and distinguished man. She finally married with a minor clerk, Mr. Loisel.

Mathilde should have been happy with her marriage life, but she was as unhappy as if she had gone through bankruptcy. She suffered because of her cheap belongings, wanting expensive things. Even she refused to make friend with her rich friend, Mrs. Forestier, since she could weep when she started to compare her life with Mrs. Forestier.

One day, her husband, Mr. Loisel went home with an enthusiasm for he got an invitation which was going to be attended by high-class people. He thought that his wife, Mathilde would be glad about it, but he was wrong. Instead of responding gladly as what he had thought, Mathilde cried after being told about the invitation. It was because she was ashamed of having no gown to wear in the ball.

Touched by his wife's crying, Loisel gave his money that he had saved for his own interest so that Mathilde could buy a pretty gown which could satisfy her. However, after having the gown that she wanted, Mathilde was still feeling sad as she had no jewels to wear. Noticed about his wife's feeling, Loisel tried to help by suggesting her to borrow some from Mrs. Forestier, a friend of hers who had long been forgotten.

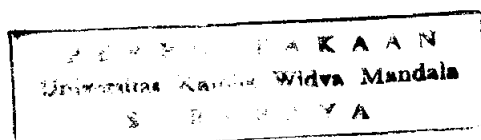
The next day, she went to Mrs. Forestier to borrow some jewels as suggested by her husband. Soon, when she was asked to choose the jewels by Mrs. Forestier, Mathilde decided to borrow a diamond necklace that seemed to be perfect for the ball.

When the day of the party came, Mathilde was so charming with her gown and necklace that made all the men sought to be introduced. Both Mathilde and Loisel were satisfied with the party, for it was a success for them to get all the admiration from those high-class people.

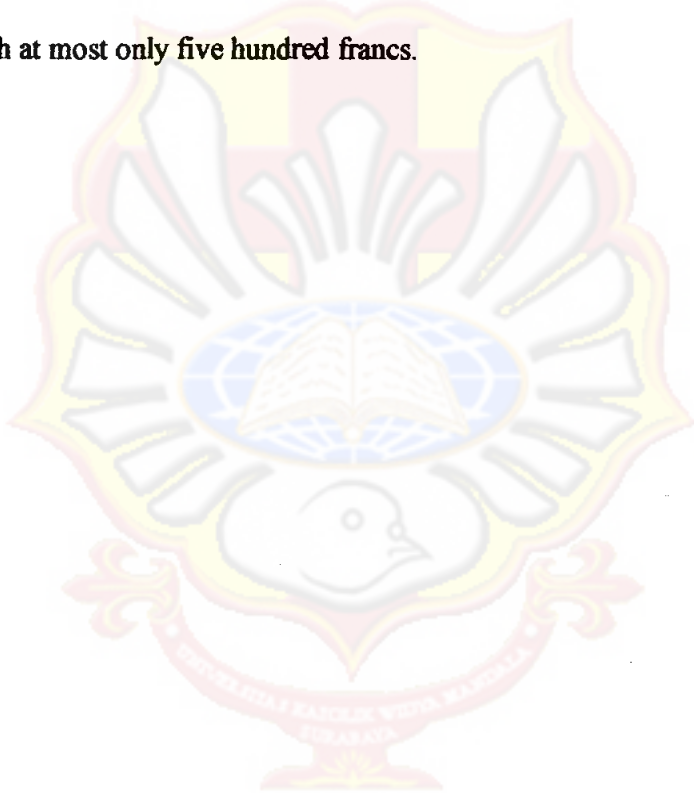
However, when they realized that the diamond necklace that they borrowed had lost on the way they went home, both Mathilde and Loisel were so shocked. They were trying to find the necklace desperately, but they did not find it. Thus, they decided to replace the necklace that they lost with a new one as it was their responsibility to return it to Mrs. Forestier.

Both husband and wife entered the jewelry shops one by one before they finally found a diamond necklace, that looked exactly the same as the one that they had lost. However, the necklace that they saw was worth forty thousand francs that they could not afford. Eventhough it was hard for them to pay the necklace, they finally succeeded in buying it. They returned the necklace to Mrs. Forestier as soon as they got it from the shop, although they still had to pay all the debts that they made in order to buy it.

In their trying to pay their debts, they had been working twice as hard as before. They had to live in a hard life for ten years. Even they had to sacrifice all their belongings and their happy marriage life which they might have enjoyed if they had not borrowed and lost the necklace.



One day, Mathilde met Mrs Forestier, it seemed that Mrs. Forestier could hardly recognize her for she had changed a lot. Then, Mathilde told the reason why she could have changed a lot for the last ten years which was actually because of the necklace that Mrs. Forestier had lent her. Having been told the story, Mrs. Forestier felt sorry to her friend, Mathilde. Mrs. Forestier directly explained that Mathilde should not have necessarily bought the real diamond necklace to replace the one that she lost; however, she should have it pasted instead, because it was a false necklace which was worth at most only five hundred francs.



THE SYNOPSIS OF *THE JEWELS*

M. Lantin was a simple chief clerk in the Ministry of the Interior, who married a girl that seemed to be the perfect type of respectable young woman to whom every wise young man dreams of entrusting his future. M. Lantin was unbelievably happy with her since she could manage the household with such a clever economy that they seemed to live in luxury. Even, there were no attentions, blandishments, no caresses which his wife did not lavish on him that made him loved her still more than he did in the first days.

However, he found only two faults with her: her love for theatre and her great fondness for imitation jewelry. She frequently wore some imitation jewelries though her husband had reminded her not to do so. Also, she often dragged along her husband to go to theatre though he had felt exhausted after his working hard in his office. Therefore, M. Lantin tried to persuade his wife to go theatre with some friends of her who were willing to accompany her home afterwards. Though Mrs. Lantin firstly did not agree with her husband suggestion, she gave in for she loved her husband very much.

One winter night, after going to the Opera, she returned home shivering with cold. The next morning she was coughing. A week later she died of pneumonia.

M. Lantin was so sad that he wept from morning to evening, his soul was haunted by the memory of his wife. He had kept his wife's room intact and every day he would shut himself up in it to think about her.

As life went on, M. Lantin was still in despair. His pay, which, when managed by his wife, had been adequate for all the needs of his household, was now becoming insufficient for him alone. He wondered with helpless amazement how his wife had always managed to provide him with excellent wines and delicate foods which he could no longer obtain with his modest resources. Finding himself without a sou one morning an entire week before the end of the month, he thought of selling something; and all at once the thought came to him that he might dispose of his wife's jewels which he often called "baubles".

After he sought a long time in the pile of jewelry which his wife had left behind, he decided to sell the great necklace that he thought might be worth, at least six or eight francs for it was really very carefully made for artificial jewelry. He tried to find a jeweler's shop which he might feel confident enough to enter.

Finally, M. Lantin saw one and went in, a bit ashamed at displaying his poverty by trying to sell a thing of so little value. However, having been examined by the jeweler, the necklace was worth more than what M. Lantin had expected, since it was indeed a real diamond necklace. Knowing about the fact, he was shocked and stupefied.

On the way back, M. Lantin tried to reason, to understand how his wife could have owned it. Then, he went to another jeweler's shop to convince himself that the necklace was a false one. Unfortunately, it turned out that the necklace was indeed a real priceless one. Even, the jeweler said that it was bought from his shop and was sent to his address. All at once, M. Lantin's head was completely void of clear ideas. He realized that his wife had been cheating on him and had kept it as a secret through the jewelries that she had collected.

As M. Lantin had been very hungry, and did not have a sou, he made up his mind to sell the necklace without bothering about how his wife could have possessed it. In fact, he was a bit glad that his wife could have left him some jewelries that have saved him from hunger. After selling his wife's jewelries, he became rich and resigned from his job.

Six months later he remarried. However, eventhough his second wife was very respectable, but he was not happy living with her. She made him suffer a lot.

