



When Meggy woke up, it was not yet evening. Roger's cheese was long gone and she was hungry again. She knew of no food in the house but for the dry and dirty lump of bread she had heaved at the boy. A rumble for her belly finally sent Meggy reaching for her walking sticks. Might she do it? Maybe she could go to the cookshop by the river to spend the pennies Roger had left for her?

"Stay here, Louise. If that man comes down, keep out of sight. I will return with supper. Maybe I'll find something we can share – fresh berries or pear tart or sweet apple cake with nuts." Her mouth watered at the thought.

Meggy took a sack, tucked the coins in her bodice and peeked out of the door. The warmth of the day surprised her after the chill of the house and streaks of sunshine found their way even into Crooked Lane. She would have sooner waited for dark, when she would be seen less easily, but she was hungry now.

She looked up and down the lane. The old-cloaks man was arranging the boots, hose and doublets in his stall attached to his shop. He would know where to buy a sausage pie or baked apple. But he was a stranger. Dare she speak to him? She cleared her throat and called, "I give you good day, sir".

He turned and looked at Meggy and spat. "Hellfire and damnation, I say to cursed cripples who defile the streets with their evil!" He spat again.

She turned away and her eyes grew hot. She then wobbled slowly up the lane, passing the shop marked with the shoe. There was no sign of the cobbler.

Crooked Lane was well named. Horrid steep it was and it curved and curved again. By the time she reached the bottom, Meggy's legs burned and her knees trembled. Oh woeful day! I will never find a food shop but will expire here on the street and be mourned by no one. Yet the scent of sizzling sausages from somewhere summoned her on.

At its end, the lane met a wide street that Meggy recalled from yesterday. Fish Street Hill it was, cobbled instead of muddy but still wet and slick. She zigged and zagged to avoid the slops puddling in the street and at times raining down from the upper stories of the houses on both sides.

Every corner swarmed with people: peddlers and rat catchers, toy merchants and dung collectors, silken-cloaked ladies and children in ragged breeches, all going about their lives, laughing, shouting, arguing, jeering and jostling. Carts and carriages thundered by, their wheels splashing her skirts.

	TASK					
<p>TUESDAY <i>Vocabulary development and Familiarisation</i></p>	<p>Skim the text. Can you quickly find the following words?</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>heaved</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>arranging</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>defile</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>summoned</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>swarmed</i></td> </tr> </table> <p>Write down each word followed by its definition and at least one synonym.</p> <p>Can you write sentences that include these words?</p>	<i>heaved</i>	<i>arranging</i>	<i>defile</i>	<i>summoned</i>	<i>swarmed</i>
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<p>WEDNESDAY <i>Word Attack</i></p>	<p>Answer the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meggy put the coins in her 'bodice'. What do you think a 'bodice' is? 2. What is a 'cobbler'? 3. When Meggy walked down Crooked Lane, she feels sorry for herself. What does she say will happen to her? 4. In what way does Meggy move as she makes her way along Fish Hill Street? 5. Fish Street Hill is described as 'cobbled instead of muddy but wet and slick'. In this context, what does 'slick' mean? 					
<p>FRIDAY <i>Focused Comprehension Skills</i></p>	<p>Answer the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does Meggy contrast the street with the house? 2. a. Why would Meggy prefer to wait for the night to fetch some food? b. Was she right to think that? 3. Despite her difficulty walking, what keeps her going in her search for food? 4. In the passage describing Fish Street Hill, what effect is created by writing the lists of people and what they are doing? 					