

STEPPING STONES™  
a chapter book

CLASSIC

# Oliver Twist



by Charles Dickens  
adapted by Les Martin

## Chapter 1

"Please, sir, I want some more," the little boy said. He held out his food bowl. And his life was changed forever.

The boy's name was Oliver Twist. He did not get that name from his father. Nobody knew who his father was.

Nor from his mother. Nobody knew her name either. She had been found on the streets, sick and starving. A kind stranger brought her to a public

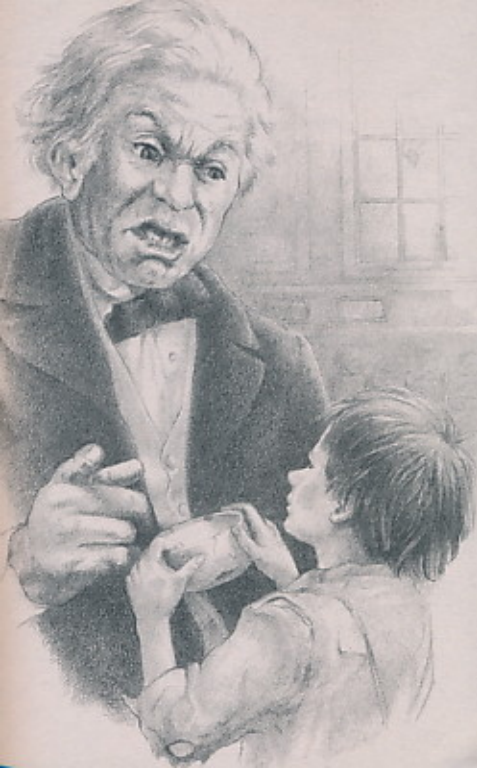
workhouse. She gave birth to the boy. And died there soon after.

Mr. Bumble gave Oliver his name. Mr. Bumble ran the nearby orphans' home where Oliver was sent. Mr. Bumble was happy to take care of Oliver and all the other orphans. He had good reason to be.

The state paid to clothe and feed each child. Mr. Bumble got the money. And the orphans got rags on their backs and slop in their bellies.

No wonder Mr. Bumble was angry at Oliver. The very thought of a child asking for more to eat! Mr. Bumble saw his money being eaten up. Children's appetites were too big. Much too big for creatures so small.

So Oliver did not get any more greasy soup that night. He did not really expect to. He had asked for



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He's a hungry and desperate orphan trying to survive in the slums of London. A gang of thieves takes him in and teaches him to steal. Then Oliver is caught by kind people who give him a new home. But the thieves want him back! Who will save Oliver Twist?

