

## *A Christmas Carol*

Adapted by Catherine Bush from Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*

\*Especially for Grades 4-12

### **Barter at the Moonlite – Christmas 2020**

(NOTE: standards included for reading *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, seeing a performance of the play, and completing the study guide.)

### **Virginia SOLs**

**English** – 4.5, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.7, 5.9, 6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.7, 6.9, 7.1, 7.4, 7.5, 7.7, 7.9, 8.2, 8.4, 8.5, 8.7, 8.9, 9.1, 9.3, 9.4, 9.6, 9.8, 10.3, 10.4, 10.6, 10.8, 11.3, 11.6, 11.8, 12.1, 12.3, 12.4, 12.6

**Theatre Arts** – 6.1, 6.5, 6.7, 6.8, 6.18, 7.6, 7.18, 7.20, 8.5, 8.12, 8.18, 8.22, TI.10, TI.11, TI.13, TI.17, TII.6, TII.9, TII.12, TII.15, TII.17, TIII.11, TIII.12, TIV.12, TIV.13

### **Tennessee/North Carolina Common Core State Standards**

**English Language Arts – Reading Literacy:** 4.5, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.7, 5.9, 6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.7, 6.9, 7.1, 7.4, 7.7, 7.10, 8.1, 8.4, 8.6, 8.7, 8.10, 9-10.1, 9-10.4, 9-10.6, 9-10.9, 9-10.10, 11-12.1, 11-12.4, 11-12.7, 11-12.10

**English Language Arts – Writing:** 4.5, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.7, 5.9, 6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.7, 6.9, 7.1, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 8.1, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 9-10.1, 9-10.7, 9-10.8, 9-10.9, 11-12.1, 11-12.7, 11-12.8, 11-12.9

### **Tennessee State Standards**

**Theatre** - 4.6.1, 4.6.4, 4.7.1, 4.7.2, 4.8.1, 5.6.1, 5.6.4, 5.7.1, 5.7.2, 5.8.1 **Theatre 6-8** – 6.1, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2 **Theatre 9-12** – 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.2

### **North Carolina Essential Standards**

**Theatre Arts** – 4.A.1, 5.A.1, 5.AE.1, 5.CU.1, 6.C.1, 6.C.2, 6.A.1, 6.AE.1, 7.A.1, 7.AE.1, 7.CU.1, 8.A.1, 8.AE.1, 8.CU.1, 8.CU.2, B.C.1, B.C.2, B.A.1, B.AE.1, B.CU.1, B.CU.2, I.A.1, I.AE.1, I.CU.2, P.C.1, P.A.1, P.AE.1, A.C.2, A.A.1, A.AE.1

## **Setting**

London, England and other places in Scrooges past and present. The time is always Christmas ...



# Characters

***Ebenezer Scrooge*** – a cruel, rich businessman; a miser  
***Bob Cratchit*** – his clerk  
***Fred*** – Scrooge’s nephew, kind and compassionate  
***Solicitors*** – charity workers  
***Beggar Woman*** – homeless woman  
***Jacob Marley*** – Scrooge’s former business partner, a ghost  
***The Ghost of Christmas Past*** – the first spirit  
***Fan*** – Scrooge’s sister  
***Dick Wilkins***– Scrooge’s friend/coworker at Fezziwig’s  
***Mr. Fezziwig*** – Scrooge’s master, a jolly man  
***Mrs. Fezziwig*** – his wife  
***Belle*** – Scrooge’s one true love  
***Charles*** – Belle’s husband  
***Thomas*** – Belle’s son  
***Clara*** – Belle’s daughter  
***The Ghost of Christmas Present*** – the second spirit  
***Elizabeth*** – Fred’s wife  
***Kitty*** – Elizabeth’s sister  
***Topper*** – Fred’s friend  
***Mrs. Cratchit*** – Bob’s wife  
***Martha Cratchit*** – the eldest Cratchit child  
***Peter Cratchit*** – her younger brother  
***Tiny Tim*** – Cratchit’s youngest son, a cripple  
***Will*** – a fishmonger  
***Caroline*** – Will’s wife  
***Ignorance*** – an ignorant spirit-child  
***Want*** – a starving spirit-child  
***The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come*** – the Grim Reaper  
***Joe*** – a shady pawnbroker  
***Mrs. Dilber*** – a laundress  
***Mrs. Tetterby*** – a charwoman



## Note: Doubling of Actors

In this production of *A Christmas Carol* some actors will be playing more than one role. Doubling of actors requires distinction between characters. In this production, characters will be distinguished by costume, voice and other physical character traits.



## Synopsis

It is Christmas Eve, a day Ebenezer Scrooge despises. Scrooge, a cold-hearted miser, considers Christmas a “humbug” and he rejects everything to do with the holiday, including an invitation to Christmas dinner from his jolly nephew, Fred. When charity workers ask for a donation to help the poor, he gives them nothing but a lecture. When he catches his overworked/underpaid/nearly frozen clerk, Bob Cratchit, trying to place more coal on the fire, he threatens to fire him. That night, in his chambers at home, Scrooge is visited by the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley. Marley’s spirit has been wandering the earth as punishment for placing his business needs above the needs of humanity; he has come to warn Scrooge that the same fate awaits him unless he changes his ways. Marley then tells Scrooge that he will be visited by three spirits over the night



Scrooge falls asleep and wakes up to find the Ghost of Christmas Past, a small, elderly figure. The Ghost shows Scrooge scenes from the past that trace Scrooge’s development from a young boy, lonely but with the potential for happiness, to a young man with the first traces of greed that would deny him love in his life. Scrooge shows newfound emotion when revisiting these scenes, often crying from identification with his former neglected self.

Scrooge returns home only to meet the Ghost of Christmas Present, a jolly figure with a life span of one day. He shows Scrooge several current scenes of Christmas joy and charity then shows him the Cratchit household. The Ghost informs Scrooge that unless the future is changed, the Cratchit’s crippled and good-hearted young son, Tiny Tim, will die. He also shows Scrooge the party at Fred’s house. Finally, a ragged boy and girl crawl out from the Ghost’s robes. The Ghost calls them Ignorance and Want and warns Scrooge to beware of Ignorance.

The silent, black-clad Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come replaces the other ghost. He shows Scrooge several scenes of people discussing a man’s death; no one seems at all pained by the man’s demise. He also learns that Tiny Tim has died, but the Cratchits maintain their unity and love. Scrooge finally discovers that *he* is the man who has died and whose death has only pleased people. He expresses the hope that these scenes of the future can be changed, and vows to incorporate the lessons of the past, present and future into his adoption of the Christmas spirit.

Scrooge wakes up in his bedroom and discovers that the whole adventure took only one night... it is Christmas Day. Ecstatic, forever changed, he sends a large turkey to the Cratchits, gives a sizable donation to the charity workers he previously insulted and has a wonderful time at Fred’s party. The next day he gives Cratchit a raise. Scrooge becomes a second father to Tiny Tim, who does not die. And he keeps the spirit of Christmas alive in his heart as well as anyone, the whole year through.

## Biography of the author Charles Dickens



Charles Dickens was born on February 7, 1812, in Portsmouth, England, the son of John and Elizabeth Dickens. John Dickens, a clerk, had a poor head for finances, and in 1824 was imprisoned for debt. His wife and children, with the exception of Charles, joined him in prison. Charles was put to work in the Warren Blacking Factory, an experience that scarred him emotionally for life. When the family finances were righted and his father was released, Dickens was released from his work at the factory and attended school in London. At fifteen, he found employment as an attorney's office boy and in 1829 he became a freelance reporter. In 1833 his first published story appeared and was followed, very shortly thereafter, by a number of other stories and sketches. In 1834, still a newspaper reporter, he adopted the soon to be famous pseudonym "Boz." The first series of *Sketches by Boz* was published in 1836, and that same year Dickens began writing *The Pickwick Papers*, which became an enormous success. Dickens married Catherine Hogarth

on April 2, 1836, and embarked on a fulltime career as a novelist, writing such famous classics as *Oliver Twist* (1838), *Nicholas Nickleby* (1839), *The Old Curiosity Shop* (1841), *Barnaby Rudge* (1841), *House* (1853), *Hard Times* (1854), *Little Dorrit*, (1857), *A Tale of Two Cities* (1859), *Great Expectations* (1861) and *Our Mutual Friend* (1865).

In 1856, Dickens purchased Gad's Hill, an estate he had admired since childhood. In 1857, he and Catherine and their 10 children spent a great deal of time there. At this time Dickens met a young actress, Ellen Ternan, with whom he fell in love and in 1858 he and his wife of 22 years separated so the he could be with Ellen.

During the latter part of his career, Dickens supplemented his income with paid speaking engagements all over England, Scotland, Ireland and the United States. He continued these engagements even after his health began to deteriorate and the doctors advised him to slow down. In 1869, during a public speaking tour, he collapsed, showing symptoms of mild stroke. Further readings were cancelled, but he began work upon what would be his last (and unfinished) novel, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. On June 8, 1870, Dickens collapsed once again – this time at Gad's Hill. He died the next day. He was buried at Poet's Corner, Westminster Abbey on June 14, 1870.



## Biography of the Playwright – Catherine Bush

Catherine Bush has been Barter Theatre’s playwright-in-residence since 2007. Her produced plays include: *The Other Side of the Mountain*, *The Quiltmaker*, *Comin’ Up A Storm*, *Wooden Snowflakes*, *Tradin’ Paint*, *Where Trouble Sleeps*, *Walking Across Egypt*, *I’ll Never Be Hungry Again* (book & lyrics), *The Three Musketeers*, *The Frankenstein Summer*, *unHINGEd*, *The Executioner’s Sons*, *The Controversial Rescue of Fatty the Pig*, *Winter Wheat* (book & lyrics) and *Just a Kiss*, which was a finalist for the 2007 Steinberg Award presented by the American Theatre Critics Association. Plays for Young Audiences: *Cry Wolf!*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Rapunzel*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, *All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth*, *My Imaginary Pirate*, *The Call of the Wild*, *The Princess and the Pea*, *Aesop’s Fables*, *The Red Badge of Courage*, *Frosty*, *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*, *Mother Goose: The Musical*, *’Twas the Night Before Christmas*, *Jingle All the Way*, *Old Turtle and the Broken Truth*, *Antigone*, *Robin Hood*, *Clementine the Musical*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, and *Great Expectations*.  
[www.catherinebushplays.com](http://www.catherinebushplays.com)



### Vocabulary Words

liberality	vigor	comprehensive
resolute	establishment	penance
charitable	anonymous	reclamation
veneration	shilling	repentance
mortgage	melancholy	prodigious
inclement	beguile	consequence
administrator	humbug	incorrigible
executor	apparition	charwoman
mourner	ponderous	foreshadow
undertaker	forbearance	unanimity
workhouse	benevolence	alteration

**Define the vocabulary words** above then write sentences using them. Remember: anyone reading your sentence should be able to understand the word from the context in which it is used.



## A Brief History

Barter Theatre was founded during the Great Depression by Robert Porterfield, an enterprising young actor. He and his fellow actors found themselves out of work and hungry in New York City. Porterfield contrasted that to the abundance of food, but lack of live theatre, around his home region in Southwest Virginia. He returned to Washington County with an extraordinary proposition: bartering produce from the farms and gardens of the area to gain admission to see a play.

Barter Theatre opened its doors on June 10, 1933 proclaiming, “With vegetables you cannot sell, you can buy a good laugh.” The price of admission was 40 cents or the equivalent in produce, the concept of trading “ham for Hamlet” caught on quickly. At the end of the first season, the Barter Company cleared \$4.35 in cash, two barrels of jelly and enjoyed a collective weight gain of over 300 pounds.

Playwrights including Noel Coward, Tennessee Williams and Thornton Wilder accepted Virginia ham as payment for royalties. An exception was George Bernard Shaw, a vegetarian, who bartered the rights to his plays for spinach.

Today, Barter Theatre has a reputation as a theatre where many actors performed before going on to achieve fame and fortune. The most recognized of these alumni include Gregory Peck, Patricia Neal, Ernest Borgnine, Hume Cronyn, Ned Beatty, Gary Collins, Larry Linville and Frances Fisher. The list also included James Burrows, creator of *Cheers*, Barry Corbin, and the late Jim Varney.

Robert Porterfield passed away in 1971. His successor, Rex Partington, had been at Barter in the 1950s as an actor and in the 1970s as stage manager. Rex returned as chief administrator from 1972 until his retirement in 1992. In March 2006, he passed away.

Richard Rose was named the Producing Artistic Director in October 1992. During his tenure, attendance grew from 42,000 to more than 163,000 annual patrons. Significant capital improvements were also made, including renovation of the main stage (now Gilliam Stage) in 1995 and the 2006 addition of The Barter Café at Stage II (now the Smith Theatre). Rose retired in December of 2019 and Katy Brown, who had been at Barter since 1998 as the Director of the Barter Players and as an Associate Artistic Director, was named the fourth Producing Artistic Director – and is the first woman to hold the position.

Barter represents two distinct venues of live theatre: Barter Theatre’s Gilliam Stage, and Barter’s Smith Theatre. Gilliam Stage, with over 500 seats, features traditional theatre in a luxurious setting. Barter’s Smith Theatre offers seating for 167 around a thrust stage in an intimate setting and is perfect for more adventurous productions. Barter Theatre is also home to The Barter Players, a talented ensemble of actors who produce plays for young audiences throughout the year.

History is always in the making at Barter Theatre, building on legends of the past; Barter looks forward to the challenge of growth in the future.

# Questions/Activities

## What a Character!



Young Ebenezer is described as a lonely boy whose only friends were characters in books, like Ali Baba, shown above. If you had to pick a character from a book to be your one and only friend, whom would you pick and why? **Write a story about an adventure the two of you take together.**

## Changing the Future

Ebenezer Scrooge is given the chance to change his future by changing his behavior. How else might Scrooge's future have been altered? What if he had married Belle? What if Fan hadn't died? What if his father had been kinder to him as a child? How much does what happened to us in the past affect who we become in the future?

**Discuss.**



## Cast Your Own A Christmas Carol



In 1992, Jim Henson produced "A Muppet Christmas Carol," casting Muppets in various roles. (Above: Kermit the Frog as Bob Cratchit) What is your favorite television show? Which character from that show would you cast as Ebenezer Scrooge? Bob Cratchit? Fezziwig? The Ghosts of Past, Present and Future?

## Map It!

A Christmas Carol is set in London, England. Locate England on the globe. In what part of England is London located? How far is it from Portsmouth, the town in which Dickens was born?



# Be Descriptive!

Read the descriptions below of these two characters  
from *A Christmas Carol*:  
**Ebenezer Scrooge** and **Ghost of Christmas Present**

“Oh! But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching covetous old sinner! Hard and sharp as flint, from which no steel had never struck out a generous fire; secret, and self-contained, and solitary as an oyster, The cold within him froze his old features, nipped his pointed nose, shriveled his cheek, stiffened his gait; made his eyes red, his thin lips blue; and spoke out shrewdly in his grating voice. A frosty rime was on his head, and on his eyebrows, and his wiry chin. He carried his own low temperature always about with him; he iced his office in the dog-days; and didn't thaw it one degree at Christmas...”



“It was clothed in one simple green robe, or mantle, bordered with white fur. This garment hung so loosely on the figure that its capacious breast was bare, as if disdaining to be warded or concealed by any artifice. Its feet, observable beneath the ample folds of the garment, were also bare; and on its head it wore no other covering than a holly wreath, set here and there with shining icicles. Its dark brown curls were long and free: free as its genial face, its sparkling eye, its open hand, its cheery voice, its unconstrained demeanor, and its joyful air...”



## Students

Find a picture of a person, place or thing from a magazine and write a description of him/her/it in your own words. Be as descriptive as possible.

## Teacher

Number the pictures and place them on one wall of the classroom. Give the students copies of the descriptions and see if they are able to match them to the appropriate picture!

# Be Artistic!

Read the following descriptions from Charles Dickens'  
*A Christmas Carol*

“Meanwhile the fog and darkness thickened so, that people ran about with flaring links, proffering their services to go before horses in carriages, and conduct them on their way... The cold became intense. In the main street, at the corner of the court, some labourers were repairing the gas pipes, and had lighted a great fire in the brazier, round which a party of ragged men and boys were gathered: warming their hands and winking their eyes before the blaze in rapture. The water-plug being left in solitude; its overflowings sullenly congealed, and turned to misanthropic ice. The brightness of the shops where holly sprigs and berries crackled in the lamp-heat of the windows, made pale faces ruddy as they passed...”

**Now working in whichever medium you choose – paint, pencil, pen and ink, charcoal, etc. – illustrate one of the descriptions above.**



“They left the high road, by a well-remembered lane, and soon approached a mansion of dull red brick, with a little weathercock-surmounted cupola, on the roof, and a bell hanging in it. It was a large house, but one of broken fortunes; for the spacious offices were little used, their walls were damp and mossy, their windows broken, and their gates decayed. Fowls clucked and strutted in the stables; and the coach-houses and sheds were over-run with grass. Nor was it more retentive of its ancient state, within; for entering the dreary hall, and glancing through the open doors of many rooms, they found them poorly furnished, cold, and vast. There was an earthy savour in the air, a chilly bareness in the place, which associated itself somehow with too much getting up by candle-light, and not too much to eat...”

# Word Search

Find the following words in the puzzle below:

Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, crutch, cripple, Fred, Belle,  
London, goose, doornail Charles Dickens, Bob Cratchit, Jacob  
Marley, Christmas, ghost, Past, Present, Yet To Come, coal,  
clerk, charity, reclamation, Fezziwig, Ignorance, Want, bed  
curtains, pudding

Q S N I A T R U C D E B Y T T  
W J G I W I Z Z E F G O W S S  
K A A G N I D D U P O G A N R  
B O N C L O N D O N O P E O E  
S E N T O K R E L C R K O W C  
E A L B O B C R A T C H I T L  
M D M L H R M T U I S G D E A  
O I H T E C N A D X R O O L M  
C I T Y S E T S R G E O O P A  
O D S Y S I E U H L Z S R P T  
T C E E N L R O R P E E N I I  
T Z R R R I S H L C N Y A R O  
E P P A F T T G C V E T I C N  
Y C H A R I T Y J Z B U L T Y  
S C I G N O R A N C E C O A L

## True and False

Write **T** if the statement is **True** and **F** if the statement is **False**.

1. \_\_\_\_ “Scrooge” was Charles Dickens’ first pen name.
2. \_\_\_\_ *A Christmas Carol* is set in London, England.
3. \_\_\_\_ Tiny Tim was Fred’s youngest son.
4. \_\_\_\_ The Ghost of Christmas Present wears a green robe trimmed in fur.
5. \_\_\_\_ Jacob Marley was Scrooge’s business partner.
6. \_\_\_\_ When the story opens, Marley has been dead ten years.
7. \_\_\_\_ After Christmas dinner, the Cratchit family had kidney pie for dessert.
8. \_\_\_\_ Of the two, Ignorance is more dangerous than Want.
9. \_\_\_\_ Marley’s chain was made up of spoons and tin cups.
10. \_\_\_\_ In *Christmas Yet to Come*, people rejoiced at Scrooge’s death.
11. \_\_\_\_ Young Ebenezer fell in love with a woman named Fan.
12. \_\_\_\_ Ebenezer apprenticed under a man named Fezziwig.
13. \_\_\_\_ When Scrooge was a young boy, his friends were characters in books.
14. \_\_\_\_ Fred is Fan’s son.
15. \_\_\_\_ In spite of the Three Spirits’ efforts, Scrooge remains unchanged.

## Matching

Draw a line connecting the noun in the 1st column with its corresponding description in the 2nd.

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Belle             | a. “I wear the chain I forged in life” |
| 2. Jacob Marley      | b. Scrooge’s sister                    |
| 3. Bob Cratchit      | c. Scrooge’s clerk                     |
| 4. Tiny Tim          | d. Scrooge’s former master             |
| 5. Dick Wilkins      | e. Scrooge’s true love                 |
| 6. Christmas Present | f. Cratchit’s son                      |
| 7. Fan               | g. Scrooge’s former coworker           |
| 8. Fezziwig          | h. carries a torch                     |

# Dickensian London vs. Modern Appalachia



*A Christmas Carol* is just one of many novels by Charles Dickens set in the tough economic times of early 19th century London. Research the economic conditions of this period and compare them to London's economy today. Then take the same statistics and compare them to the economic conditions that prevail in Appalachia today. Use the following link to research the Appalachian economy:

[http://www.arc.gov/appalachian\\_region/CountyEconomicStat  
usandDistressedAreasinAppalachia.asp](http://www.arc.gov/appalachian_region/CountyEconomicStat<br/>usandDistressedAreasinAppalachia.asp)

**Present your findings to the class and prepare to discuss the results.**



# From the Page to the Stage!

How does a book become a stage play? Here are some of the elements that went into Barter Theatre's production of *A Modern Christmas Carol*...

## 1. Script

It all starts here. A playwright (in this case, Playwright-in-Residence Catherine Bush) turns the prose of literature into dialogue and dramatic action. This is called "adapting".

Sound easy?

### Try it yourself!

Pick a scene from your favorite story and adapt it into a scene for the stage. Try not to use the narrative voice – focus instead on creating "dialogue" between the characters.

## 2. Director/Actors

The director and actors begin the rehearsal process. The director "blocks" the play, which means he tells the actors where to move and stand and sit. The actors work on learning their lines, finding their character's motivation and creating the world of the play. The length of a rehearsal process for a Barter Theatre production ranges from 100 – 120 hours spread out over 4-6 weeks, depending on the play.

### Try it yourself!

Rehearse the scene you adapted with your classmates.

## 3. Set Design

The set designer designs a set that will not only serve the aesthetic needs of the production by creating beautiful visuals that represent the various locations in the story (i.e. Scrooge's office, the streets of London, Cratchit's house) but also function as a safe environment upon which the actors will move (or be moved). A good set design will also allow the action to flow from one scene to another smoothly, with seamless transitions.

### Try it yourself!

Using the scene you adapted, design a set that will both visually serve the story and function effectively for the actors.

## 4. Costumes/Wigs

The costume designer is responsible for creating a different look for each character while maintaining the overall aesthetic of the production.

Each actor's costume must be tailored to fit and be built to take the wear-and-tear of 8 shows a week! Also, in a show where the actor is required to play more than one character, the design must incorporate a method to facilitate "quick changes". The wig designer is responsible for designing, building and styling the wigs that will appear in the show. Like the costumes, wigs are necessary to help distinguish characters.

### Try it yourself!

Design a costume/wig for the character in your scene. Make sure your costume includes a mechanism to make "quick changes possible.

## 5. Props

The Ghost of Christmas Present's torch! Scrooge's bed! Tiny Tim's crutch! These are a few examples of the props designed and built by Barter's props department for this production. A **prop** is defined as an object used on stage by actors for use in the plot or story line of a theatrical production.

### Try it yourself!

Design and build the props you will need for your scene.

## 6. Lights/Sound

Lights not only illuminate the actors and pull focus to various spots on the stage but, together with sound, help create a mood. Lights and sound can also, along with the set, help establish location. The sound of wind, stars glittering in the heavens and *whoosh!* We are travelling with Scrooge and Christmas Present across the world!

### Try it yourself!

Put together a soundtrack for your scene that establishes place and mood. Feel free to use recorded music/sound effects or perform it live!

## 7. Stage Manager/Crew

The Stage Manager attends all the rehearsals and once the show goes into production, is "in charge", calling all the sound and light cues and maintaining the integrity of the piece during its run. The SM is aided in these endeavors by the Crew, the unsung heroes who work backstage moving sets, changing wardrobe, placing props – whatever is necessary for the show to go on!

# **Suggested Further Reading/Links:**

## **Other novels by Charles Dickens**

*Oliver Twist*

*Nicholas Nickleby*

*The Old Curiosity Shop*

*Barnaby Rudge*

*Martin Chuzzlewit*

*David Copperfield*

*Bleak House*

*Hard Times*

*Little Dorrit*

*A Tale of Two Cities*

*Great Expectations*

*Our Mutual Friend*

## **Biographies about Charles Dickens**

*Charles Dickens: A Life* by Claire Tomalin

*Charles Dickens* by Michael Slater

*Becoming Dickens: The Invention of a Novelist* by Robert Douglas-Fairhurst

*Dickens: Public Life and Private Passion* by Peter Ackroyd

**For more information about the life and works of Charles Dickens, check out the link below:**

<http://www.dickens-literature.com/>