

『リトル・ドリット』における秘密と好奇心
Secrecy and Curiosity in *Little Dorrit*

筒井瑞貴

※*Little Dorrit*=LD、下線部はすべて引用者

1. はじめに

【引用 1】監獄と好奇心

What London pedestrian is there who has not, at some time or other, cast a hurried glance through the wicket at which prisoners are admitted into this gloomy mansion, and surveyed the few objects he could discern, with an indescribable feeling of curiosity? (“Criminal Courts” 195)

【引用 2】ミス・マードストンの箱とデイヴィッド

Having uttered which, with great distinctness, she begged the favor of being shewn to her room, which became to me from that time forth a place of awe and dread, wherein the two black boxes were never seen open or known to be left unlocked, and where (for I peeped in once or twice when she was out) numerous little steel fetters and rivets, with which Miss Murdstone embellished herself when she was dressed, generally hung upon the looking-glass in formidable array. (*David Copperfield* 48)

【引用 3】マーシャルシー監獄と好奇心

It appeared on the whole, to Little Dorrit herself, that this same society in which they lived, greatly resembled a superior sort of Marshalsea. Numbers of people seemed to come abroad, pretty much as people had come into the prison; through debt, through idleness, relationship, curiosity, and general unfitness for getting on at home. (LD 427-28)

【引用 4】施錠された「箱」と好奇心

Perhaps he confided it to my hands for you, perhaps it was locked and my curiosity was piqued, perhaps I suppressed it. (LD 652)

2. アーサー・クレナムの好奇心

【引用 5】マルセイユの太陽

Blinds, shutters, curtains, awnings, were all closed and drawn to keep out the stare. Grant it but a chink or keyhole, and it shot in like a white-hot arrow. (LD 2)

【引用 6】マルセイユの牢獄と視線

In Marseilles that day there was a villainous prison. In one of its chambers, so repulsive a place that

even the obtrusive stare blinked at it, and left it to such refuse of reflected light as it could find for itself, were two men. (LD 2)

【引用 7】アーサーと好奇心

●May I ask you—in no impertinent curiosity, but because I have had so much pleasure in your society, may never in this labyrinth of a world exchange a quiet word with you again, and wish to preserve an accurate remembrance of you and yours—may I ask you, if I have not gathered from your good wife that you have had other children? (LD 15)

●“I beg you to excuse me. I am not impertinently curious, but have a good object. Do you know the name of Dorrit here?” (LD 66)

【引用 8】「秘密」への執着

It always affected his imagination as wrathful, mysterious, and sad; and his imagination was sufficiently impressible to see the whole neighbourhood under some tinge of its dark shadow. As he went along, upon a dreary night, the dim streets by which he went seemed all depositories of oppressive secrets. The deserted counting-houses, with their secrets of books and papers locked up in chests and safes; the banking-houses, with their secrets of strong rooms and wells, the keys of which were in a very few secret pockets and a very few secret breasts; the secrets of all the dispersed grinders in the vast mill, among whom there were doubtless plunderers, forgers, and trust-betrayers of many sorts, whom the light of any day that dawned might reveal; he could have fancied that these things, in hiding, imparted a heaviness to the air. (LD 453)

【引用 9】エイミーへの好奇心と罪悪感

The business hours, allowing for intervals of invalid regimen of oysters and partridges, during which Clennam refreshed himself with a walk, were from ten to six for about a fortnight. Sometimes Little Dorrit was employed at her needle, sometimes not, sometimes appeared as a humble visitor: which must have been her character on the occasion of his arrival. His original curiosity augmented every day, as he watched for her, saw or did not see her, and speculated about her. Influenced by his predominant idea, he even fell into a habit of discussing with himself the possibility of her being in some way associated with it. At last he resolved to watch Little Dorrit and know more of her story. (LD 47)

【引用 10】獄中のアーサー

Speculations, too, bearing the strangest relations towards the prison, but always concerning the prison, ran like nightmares through his mind while he lay awake. Whether coffins were kept ready for people who might die there, where they were kept, how they were kept, where people who died in the prison were buried, how they were taken out, what forms were observed, whether an implacable creditor could arrest the dead? As to escaping, what chances there were of escape? Whether a prisoner could scale the

walls with a cord and grapple, how he would descend upon the other side: whether he could alight on a housetop, steal down a staircase, let himself out at a door, and get lost in the crowd? As to Fire in the prison, if one were to break out while he lay there? (LD 73)

【引用 11】 幼少期のトラウマ

There was the dreary Sunday of his childhood, when he sat with his hands before him, scared out of his senses by a horrible tract which commenced business with the poor child by asking him in its title, why he was going to Perdition?—a piece of curiosity that he really, in a frock and drawers, was not in a condition to satisfy—and which, for the further attraction of his infant mind, had a parenthesis in every other line with some such hiccapping reference as 2 Ep. Thess. c. iii, v. 6 & 7. (LD 24)

【引用 12】 予定説と好奇心

Human curiosity renders the discussion of predestination, already somewhat difficult of itself, very confusing and even dangerous. No restraints can hold it back from wandering in forbidden bypaths and thrusting upward to the heights. If allowed, it will leave no secret to God that it will not search out and unravel. Since we see so many on all sides rushing into this audacity and impudence, among them certain men not otherwise bad, they should in due season be reminded of the measure of their duty in this regard.

First, then, let them remember that when they inquire into predestination they are penetrating the sacred precincts of divine wisdom. If anyone with carefree assurance breaks into this place, he will not succeed in satisfying his curiosity and he will enter a labyrinth from which he can find no exit. (Calvin 922)

3. 秘密と「解剖」

【引用 13】 ヘンリー・ガウアン

● You will understand, then, that when your dear friend complimented me, he really condoled with me; that when he soothed me under my vexations, he laid bare every smarting wound I had; (LD 560)

● He was tame in comparison with Mr Gowan, who knew how to address me on equal terms, and how to anatomise the wretched people around us. (LD 560)

● Why should Gowan, very much the superior of Blandois of Paris, and very well able to pull that prepossessing gentleman to pieces, and find out the stuff he was made of, take up with such a man? (LD 407)

【引用 14】 ミス・ウェイドの好奇心

The observer stood with her hand upon her own bosom, looking at the girl, as one afflicted with a diseased part might curiously watch the dissection and exposition of an analogous case. (LD 22)

【引用 15】「メス」に怯えるウィリアム・ドリット

He had a sense of his dignity, which was of the most exquisite nature. He could detect a design upon it when nobody else had any perception of the fact. His life was made an agony by the number of fine scalpels that he felt to be incessantly engaged in dissecting his dignity. (LD 383)

【引用 16】「医者」の「メス」

Bar's knowledge of that agglomeration of Jurymen which is called humanity was as sharp as a razor, yet a razor is not a generally convenient instrument, and Physician's plain bright scalpel, though far less keen, was adaptable to far wider purposes. Bar knew all about the gullibility and knavery of people; but Physician could have given him a better insight into their tendernesses and affections, in one week of his rounds, than Westminster Hall and all the circuits put together, in threescore years and ten. (LD 587)

【引用 17】「医者」を気取るブランドワ

'It is your pleasure then, madame, that I shall relate a morsel of family history in this little family society,' said Rigaud, with a warning play of his lithe fingers on her arm. 'I am something of a doctor. Let me touch your pulse.' (LD 643)

【引用 18】“The History of A Self-Tormenter”に関するディケンズの覚書

From her own point of view. Dissect it. (LD 709)

【引用 19】クレナム夫人の秘密

Under this ferocious banter, she sat breathing harder, and her mouth was disturbed. Her lips quivered and opened, in spite of her utmost efforts to keep them still. (LD 645-46)

【引用 20】クレナム家の崩壊

In one swift instant, the old house was before them, with the man lying smoking in the window; another thundering sound, and it heaved, surged outward, trembled asunder in fifty places, collapsed, and fell. (LD 662)

4. エイミーと秘密

【引用 21】ダニエル・ドイスの条件

'let Mr. Clennam have the means of putting himself on a perfect equality with me as to knowing whatever I know. If it should come to nothing after all, he will respect my confidence. Unless I was sure of that to begin with, I should have nothing to do with him.' (LD 220)

【引用 22】結末

They went quietly down into the roaring streets, inseparable and blessed; and as they passed along in sunshine and in shade, the noisy and the eager, and the arrogant and the froward and the vain, fretted

and chafed, and made their usual uproar. (LD 688)

【引用 23】「夜警の騎士」の歌詞（各節の二行目と四行目はリフレイン、三行目は一行目の繰り返し）

一同 こんな夜更けに誰が通るの、
マルジョレーヌの騎士さま、
こんな夜更けに誰が通るの、
陽気に河岸を。

騎士 夜警の騎士です、
マルジョレーヌの騎士さま、
夜警の騎士です、
陽気に河岸を。

（以下各節の一行目のみ）

一同 騎士さま、何がお望み。
騎士 娘さんと結婚したい。
一同 娘さんなんかおりません。
騎士 いると聞きました。
一同 それは嘘です。
騎士 わたしに下さい。
一同 十一時にいらっしゃい。
騎士 十一時は過ぎました。
一同 真夜中にいらっしゃい。
騎士 真夜中も過ぎました。
一同 娘たちもう寝ました。
騎士 起きているのがいるでしょう。
一同 娘に何をくれますか。
騎士 金銀宝石。
一同 そんなもの欲しくない。
騎士 わたしの心をあげます。
一同 それなら、さあ、どうぞ。
（小池「後記・注解」 426-27）

【引用 2 4】 Mary Boyle に宛てた手紙(1858 年 9 月 10 日)

Finally, touching that other matter on which you write so tenderly and with a delicacy of regard and interest that I deeply feel. I hope I may report that I am calming down again. I have been exquisitely distressed. It is no comfort to me to know that any man who wants to sell any thing in print, has but to anatomize my finest nerves, and he is sure to do it—It is no comfort to me to know (as of course these dissectors do), that when I spoke in my own person it was not for myself but for the innocent and good, on whom I had unwittingly brought the foulest lies—Sometimes I cannot bear it. (*Letters* 8, 656)

Works Cited

- Bodenheimer, Rosemarie. *Knowing Dickens*. Cornell UP, 2007.
- Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, edited by John T. McNeill, translated by Ford Lewis Battles, vol. 2, Westminster John Knox Press, 1960.
- “Compagnon de la Marjolaine.” *The Dickensian*, vol. 5, no. 2, 1909, pp. 44-45.
- Dickens, Charles. ---. “Criminal Courts.” *Dickens’ Journalism: Sketches by Boz and Other Early Papers 1933-39*, edited by Michael Slater, J. M. Dent, 1994, pp. 194-98.
- . *David Copperfield*, edited by Jerome H. Buckley, W. W. Norton and Company, 1990.
- . *Little Dorrit*, edited by Harvey Peter Sucksmith, Oxford, 2008.
- . *Our Mutual Friend*, edited by Adrian Poole, Penguin, 1997.
- . *The Letters of Charles Dickens: Volume 8: 1856-1858*, edited by Graham Storey and Cathleen Tillotson, Oxford UP, 1995.
- Hennelly, Mark M. “*Little Dorrit*’s ‘Wildernesses of Secrets.’” *Dickens Studies Annual*, vol. 52, no. 2, 2021, pp. 272-98.
- Lucas, John. *The Melancholy Man: A Study of Dickens’s Novels*. Methuen, 1970.
- Oulton, Carolyn W. de la L. *Dickens and the Myth of the Reader*. Routledge, 2017.
- Rosenthal, Jesse. “The Untrusted Medium: Open Networks, Secret Writing, and *Little Dorrit*.” *Victorian Studies*, vol. 59, no. 2, 2017, pp. 288-313.
- Schor, Hilary M. *Dickens and the Daughter of the House*. Kindle ed., Cambridge UP, 1999.
- Showalter, Elaine. “Guilt, Authority, and the Shadows of *Little Dorrit*.” *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, vol. 34, no. 1, 1979, pp. 20-40.
- Thurley, Geoffrey. *The Dickens Myth: Its Genesis and Structure*. Routledge & K. Paul, 1976.
- Tracy, Robert. “*Little Dorrit*: The Readers Within the Text.” *Dickens Quarterly*, vol. 28, no. 2, 2011, pp. 128-43.
- Trilling, Lionel. “*Little Dorrit*.” *The Kenyon Review*, vol. 15, no. 4, 1953, pp. 577-90.
- 小池滋. 「後記・注解」『リトル・ドリット』I, 集英社, 1980, pp. 425-31.
- 新野緑. 『小説の迷宮——ディケンズ後期小説を読む』 研究社, 2002.