

3 . . . A TEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL.

Catherine was fond of all boys' plays, and greatly preferred cricket, not merely to dolls, but to the more heroic enjoyments of infancy, nursing a dormouse, feeding a canary-bird, or watering a rose-bush...

She never could learn or understand anything before she was taught...

Her mother wished her to learn music; and Catherine was sure she should like it, for she was fond of tinkling the keys of the old spinnet; so, at eight years old she began. She learnt a year, and could not bear it; and Mrs. Morland, who did not insist on her daughters being accomplished in spite of incapacity or distaste, allowed her to leave off... Her taste for drawing was not superior; though whenever she could obtain the outside of a letter from her mother, or seize upon any other piece of paper, she did what she could in that way, by drawing houses and trees, hens and chickens, all very much like one another.

What a strange character! for she had neither a bad heart nor a bad temper.

J. Austen

الألفاظ والمبارات :

She was fond of all boys' plays	كانت مغرمة بألعاب الصبيان كافة
Nursing a dormouse	تعنى بأمر زغبة
Feeding a canary-bird	تطعم طائر الكناري
Watering a rose-bush	تروي شجيرات الورد
Spinnet	بيانو صغير
She could not bear it	لم تكن لتطيق ذلك
Her taste for drawing	ميلها الى الرسم
What a strange character!	يا له من طبع غريب!