

HELBLING READERS CLASSICS  
RED SERIES  
**FIRST LINES CHALLENGE . 1**

**ORIGINAL FIRST LINES**

<p>'I remember him as if it were yesterday, as he came plodding to the inn door, his sea-chest following behind him in a hand-barrow—a tall, strong, heavy, nut-brown man, his tarry pigtail falling over the shoulder of his soiled blue coat, his hands ragged and scarred, with black, broken nails, and the sabre cut across one cheek, a dirty, livid white.'</p>	<p>'We were seated at breakfast one morning, my wife and I, when the maid brought in a telegram. It was from Sherlock Holmes and ran in this way: "Have you a couple of days to spare? Have just been wired for from the west of England in connection with Boscombe Valley tragedy. Shall be glad if you will come with me. Air and scenery perfect. Leave Paddington by the 11:15."</p>	<p>'The first place that I can well remember was a large pleasant meadow with a pond of clear water in it. Some shady trees leaned over it, and rushes and water-lilies grew at the deep end. Over the hedge on one side we looked into a plowed field, and on the other we looked over a gate at our master's house, which stood by the roadside.'</p>
<p>"Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents," grumbled Jo, lying on the rug. "It's so dreadful to be poor!" sighed Meg, looking down at her old dress. "I don't think it's fair for some girls to have plenty of pretty things, and other girls nothing at all," added little Amy, with an injured sniff.'</p>	<p>'Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, "and what is the use of a book," thought Alice "without pictures or conversations?"'</p>	<p>'It was seven o'clock of a very warm evening in the Seeonee hills when Father Wolf woke up from his day's rest, scratched himself, yawned, and spread out his paws one after the other to get rid of the sleepy feeling in their tips.'</p>

**TITLES**

<p><b>Little Women</b> by Louisa May Alcott</p>	<p><b>Mowgli's Brothers</b> by Rudyard Kipling</p>	<p><b>Treasure Island</b> by R. L. Stevenson</p>
<p><b>Black Beauty</b> by Anna Sewell</p>	<p><b>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</b> by Lewis Carroll</p>	<p><b>The Boscombe Valley Mystery</b> by Arthur Conan Doyle</p>