

The Basement Room
Explanation

(2) "He didn't want to play. to be cared for."

These lines have been taken from Graham Greene's short story, "The Basement Room". In these lines the author gives a psychological picture of the child, Philip. The author nicely projects the normal children's self into light. One of the peculiar tancies of the children is to imitate the elderly people. Nothing would please them better than to parade on the stage like an elderly man. They would imitate all the mannerisms of the elderly people. The parents of Philip had gone out on a holiday, it was quite natural for Philip to step into the shoes of his father and behave like the master of the family. He hated Mrs. Baines because she didn't permit him to feel elderly. He liked Mr. Baines because he talked to him like a man.

Here we get a real feeling of the child. Philip didn't want to play with his Meccano sets. He was no more interested in toy engineering. He would not take out his toy soldier or his train. He sat on the table with his chin pitted against his bows. He had ventured into the world of the elderly people. He wanted to think and experience his life. The next thing that occurred to his mind was to take care of his dependents. He immediately thinks of Mr. Baines whose all well being seems to be his concern.