

Jane Eyre ADELE Side

*Adèle enters.*

MRS FAIRFAX, *speaking loudly to be understood,*  
Good evening, Miss Adela. Come and speak to the lady who is to teach you, and to make you a clever woman some day.

ADÈLE

Elle est là, ma gouvernante?

JANE

Comment ça va, Adèle?

ADÈLE

Ah! Vous parlez français aussi bien que Monsieur Rochester!

JANE (*with a glance to Mrs Fairfax*)

Can you not speak English with me, Adèle?

ADÈLE

Yes, Mademoiselle – how are you named?

JANE

Eyre--Jane Eyre.

ADÈLE

Aire? Bah! Je ne peux pas le dire.

MRS FAIRFAX

Can you understand her when she runs on so fast?

JANE

Yes, indeed. Mais Adèle, il faut parler en anglais maintenant.

MRS FAIRFAX

I wish you would ask her a question or two about her parents: I wonder if she remembers them?

JANE

Adèle, avec qui est-ce que tu as habité en France?

ADÈLE

Maman, mais –

JANE

In English, Adèle. You lived with your mother?

ADÈLE

Oui, mais -- she has gone to the Virgin Mary now, et Monsieur Rochester – ‘E brought me to habite here, Mademoiselle.

JANE

And he is gone now?

ADÈLE

Yes, he has left me all alone. Est-ce que je—maybe I sing for you?

JANE

Not now, Adèle, for it is time you were in bed!

*We transition to the school room the next morning; Jane gives Adèle a book.*

Jane Eyre CHILD JANE side

MRS REED (*entering*)

That will do, Bessie. Leave her be. And what have you to say for yourself, Jane Eyre?

CHILD JANE

I am glad you are no relation of mine: I will never call you aunt again as long as I live. I will never come to see you when I am grown up; and if anyone asks me, I will say that you treated me with miserable cruelty.

MRS REED

How dare you affirm that?

CHILD JANE

How dare I, Mrs. Reed? How dare I? Because it is the *truth*. You think I have no feelings, and that I can do without one bit of love or kindness; but I cannot live so: and you have no pity. I shall remember how you thrust me into the red-room, and locked me up there, to my dying day.