

Audition Readings for Little Women

Amy (page 49):

I was skating so beautifully but you didn't want me skating near you. I love your stories, Jo. I tried to write one to make up for what I did, but I couldn't think of anything to say. So, I drew that picture of you with your beautiful hair.

Amy (page 54):

Marmee, please don't make me go to Aunt March's house. It scares me. Everything's so old in it. I drew this picture of you - with apple blossoms in your hair. The Goddess of Spring. It's for Father Is he going to die?

Beth (page 88):

Jo, I have something for you. Marmee says this shell is over a thousand years old. And I believe that once upon a time it had an amazing life. If you put it to your ear, it talks to you. It says, "We grow up too fast." You're a woman of the world now. I'm so proud of you, Jo.

Beth (page 91):

Can I tell you a secret? I never made plans about what I would do when I grew up. And I'm not afraid to die. The hardest part, Jo, is leaving you.

Jo (page 34):

I write blood and guts stories. I make extraordinary plans. I'm going to Europe. I'm going to meet famous writers and revolutionaries. So, what about you? What do you do? Marmee say you're all alone in the world. No Mother or Father. That must be awful for you.

Jo (page 57):

I've tried to live up to my art of the bargain. I went to a ball. I improved my manners. I read books on etiquette - I practiced dancing with Meg - I held my tongue in several situations when I wanted to scream out. I've got a fire in me, Aunt March! To Hell with society!!

Jo (page 76):

Clarrisa thrusts. She parries. She backs up Braxton, pins him against the tree. She leaps up on a craggy rock, her sword swishing and swooshing. Never has she been so determined. She is on fire! Pity she hadn't taken dueling lessons. Out of nowhere - who should appear - the long forgotten Rodrigo!

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Jo (page 85):

Dear Professor Bhaer. So much is happening here. My sister Meg is having a baby. My sister Beth is very frail. But I know I have it in me to make her better. I've decided to take her and my mother to Cape Cod - to Falmouth - for a few days. Given all that is happening here, I don't know when I can return to New York. I miss it. I miss the volatile exchanges we had. I miss our walks in the park to hear the speakers shout how they would change the world. I too would like to change the world.

Jo (page 103):

I was several days before Christmas. The sisters sat about the parlor and grumbled doubt their fate. Meg, the oldest and most romantic, said, "It's not fair some girls have pretty things while we have nothing." "It won't be Christmas without presents," said Amy, with her usual pout. "And we haven't got Father to read to us," said Jo, who yearned to travel and write great books," Only Beth, sitting contented, said, in a tone so sweet even angels would have listened, "But we've got each other."

Jo (page 100):

....I can't write. I can't do anything really. You're right, in the past I could always come up with something. I was always so good at that. Beth would say, "Jo can make the clouds disappear".... I want Beth back! I never should have broken the promise. I never should have gone to New York. If I'd stayed here - everything would have been different.

Meg (page 31):

Jo, don't you dare box her ears! We'll take a few minutes - then we'll go back in as if nothing had happened. Our heads held high!

Meg (song lyrics):

Why must you go? Don't be too brave. Only come home. Swear you'll come home. I'll marry you tomorrow. I'll marry you today. Come home and I will love you for all of my life.

Marmee - Father's Letter (page 16):

My dear wife, The war goes on and on. The end seems nowhere in sight. The days are difficult and long. But I am well. Still it's very lonely away from my dear ones. Especially lonely as Christmas is approaching. Each night in my tent, I think of my precious girls. Give them all my love. And give them a sweet kiss. Tell them to be good girls. Faithful and hard working. And to conquer that which is disagreeable in them. So that when I return, I'll be fonder and prouder than ever of my little women. (pause) Why are we looking so glum? Do we have an Operatic Tragedy to perform or not?

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Marmee (page 100):

The attic used to be such a sanctuary for you. Whenever you were sad or disappointed, you'd run up here, bolt the door, and come back hours later so full of life. I haven't seen that Jo in a long time.

Aunt March (page 19):

You are what happens to a girl when she has no father. Never here when you need him. And now my nephew has the audacity to be an army chaplain when he can't even support his own family! Josephine, listen to me: You are on the verge of womanhood! And just look at you! You go about writing senseless stories, constantly trying to save the world - and you can't save yourself!

Aunt March (page 92):

As we grow grand, Amy, the world around us often diminishes in size. I have know people who have almost disappeared before my very eyes.

Mrs. Kirk (page 68):

Miss March received a telegram. A telegram, Professor! She may have inherited a great deal of money. She could be an heiress. Then again it could be a terrible tragedy. There is no telling, is there? As her good friend, I'd think you'd be concerned for her.

Laurie (page 15):

He loves his trees. I'm Theodore Laurence the third. But everyone calls me Laurie. I've come to live here. In Concord. I play the piccolo. I can sleep standing up. and I won a medal at school for holding my breath nearly three minutes before passing out. I think that was terrifically daring of you chopping down Grandfather's tree. Well, goodbye.

Laurie (page 96):

You. You, Jo. You were meant to soar. Me? I was meant for more mundane things. I've decided to go into Grandfather's business. I know it's the last thing in the world I would have thought for myself. But the truth is, I'm sort of fascinated with the prospects. I shall be wily and shrewd....

Mr. John Brooke (page 31):

Laurie! Laurie! Laurie? Where have you been? I've been looking everywhere for you. Your Grandfather will be furious. He wants you to meet some important people...

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Mr. John Brooke (page 58):

I've enlisted I couldn't stand by any longer. Your own father is in the army hospital in Washington. I have friends who will never return. I leave tonight, Meg Margaret. I'm not a rich man. And I'm not particularly handsome ...

Professor Bhaer (page 4):

Blood and guts stuff. What you think the world wants to hear? If I have noticed nothing else about you, Miss March, I have noticed you are unique. Something you should try not to forget. I think you could do better.

Professor Bhaer (page 109):

They made a party for me. I get sick. I do not like parties. I brought back you manuscript. It was so good of you to send the book to me. A novel? It touched me deeply, Miss March. I saw you on every page. I heard your voice. I felt your spirit. It was magnificent!

Mr. Laurence (page 45):

Oh, yes, Laurie said you're the one who want to play my priceless piano. It's out of the question. The piano belonged to my daughter, Laurie's Mother. It's been locked since she passed away, and that's how it shall stay Are you afraid of me? I cannot help my hard face Continue what you were playing Come now, I haven't all day Are you going to play or not?

Mr. Laurence (page 84):

I'm sorry. But he was in such a bad way. Moping about for weeks. I insisted he do some business for me. Then go to Europe and enjoy himself. And guess who he met up with in Florence? Amy and your Aunt March!

Volcano Press Lyrics (page 77):

Sometimes when you dream, your dreams come true in extraordinary ways.
Suddenly a day can be so amazing. And sometimes when you yearn, you burn the air,
and then you are not the same, the world becomes yours to claim,
when someone else feels the flame you always knew was there!