

...Alice carefully released the brush, and did her best to get the hair into order. " Come, you look rather better now! " she said, after altering most of the pins. " But really you should have a lady's-maid! "

" I'm sure I'll take you with pleasure! " the Queen said. "Two pence a week, and jam every other day."

Alice couldn't help laughing, as she said, " I don't want you to hire me, and I don't care for jam."

" It's very good jam," said the Queen.

" Well, I don't want any to-day, at any rate."

" You couldn't have it if you did want it," the Queen said. " The rule is, jam to-morrow and jam yesterday -but never jam to-day."

" It must come sometimes to ' jam to-day " " Alice objected.

" No, it can't," said the Queen. " It's jam every other day: to-day isn't any other day, you know."

" I don't understand you," said Alice. " It's dreadfully confusing! "

" That's the effect of living backwards," the Queen said kindly: " it always makes one a little giddy at first."

" Living backwards! " Alice repeated in great astonishment. " I never heard of such a thing! "

"-but there's one great advantage in it, that one's memory works both ways."

" I'm sure mine only works one way ," Alice remarked. " I can't remember things before they happen."

" It's a poor sort of memory that only works backwards," the Queen remarked.

" What sort of things do you remember best? " Alice ventured to ask.

" Oh, things that happened the week after next, the Queen replied in a careless tone...

Lewis Carroll