Oliver Twist

Oliver Twist is a novel from 1837–1838, written by Charles Dickens. It was published in Danish in 1845 and centers on the boy Oliver Twist. The novel recounts Oliver's hardships in London and served as Charles Dickens's critique of the Poor Law of 1834.



What the story is about:

- **The workhouse and his upbringing**: Oliver is born in a workhouse and spends his childhood in hunger and hard labor. He becomes famous for daring to ask for more food ("Please, sir, I want some more").

- **Escape to London**: After a stint as an apprentice to an undertaker, Oliver flees to London.

- **The Underworld and the Gang of Thieves**: In London, he meets a boy his own age, the "Artful Dodger" (Jack Dawkins), who leads him to the criminal Fagin—a receiver of stolen goods who runs a gang of young pickpockets.

- **Oliver is involuntarily drawn into London's criminal underworld.**

- **Rescue and Revelation**: Following a botched robbery, Oliver is wounded but taken in by a kind and wealthy man, Mr. Brownlow. This leads to a confrontation involving Fagin, the brutal criminal Bill Sikes, and the mysterious Monks, while attempts are made to uncover the truth about Oliver's real—and more respectable—origins.

- **Background and purpose**
  The novel was published in 1838 and served as Charles Dickens' sharp critique of the English Poor Law of 1834, as well as the way society treated street children and the vulnerable.