

## The Chapters

Below is a list of the chapter headings of the novel:

1. Christmas Eve
2. A London Particular
3. The Journey North
4. The Funeral of Mrs Drablow
5. Across the Causeway
6. The Sound of a Pony and Trap
7. Mr Jerome is Afraid
8. Spider
9. In the Nursery
10. Whistle and I'll Come to You
11. A Packet of Letters
12. The Woman in Black

1. Before reading the novel, have a look through the list of chapter headings and see if you can identify elements of a ghost story within the titles; for example, ghost stories were traditionally told and set around Christmas time (think of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* for example).
2. Without looking at what the story is about, what do you think might happen in each chapter? Think about the clues each chapter heading gives.
3. Once you have started reading the novel, compare your ideas with what does happen; how closely linked are your ideas and the story?
4. If you did manage to make accurate connections between the chapter titles and the story what does this tell us about the art of ghost story writing?
5. Do you think the chapter headings are necessary or not? Give reasons for your opinion. Be prepared to share them with the class.