

**2020 NJCL**  
**DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION**  
**Advanced Prose--Female Character**

**"Drink Me!"**

...Invēnit ampullam parvam ("Certō nōn hīc erat antea," inquit Alicia), cuius circum cervicēs alligātus est titulus chartāceus. In eō magnīs litterīs bellē scrīptum est: HAURĪ MĒ!

Facile erat dīcere "HAURĪ MĒ!"; sed Alicia, prūdēns puella, raptim obtemperāre nōluit. "Prius potius scrūtābor," inquit, "nōtamne ampulla habeat 'venēnum' necne."

...Cum autem huic ampullae nōta "venēnum" nōn inesset, Alicia, gustāre ausa, potiōnem suāvissimam esse sēnsit. ...Brevī tempore potiōnem exhaustit.

"Ēia! Sēnsū quam īnsolitō afficior!" inquit Alicia. "Videor comprīmī velut telescōpium!"

Atque ita erat. Nunc tantum decem digitōs alta fuit. Hilāris ergō vultū erat quod iam esset satis alta ad hortum amoenissimum per parvam iānuam intrandum.

*Alicia in Terrā Mīrābilī, pp. 6-7*

... She found a little bottle ("It certainly wasn't here earlier," said Alice), around whose neck a paper label was tied. On it was beautifully written in large letters DRINK ME!

It was easy to say "DRINK ME!"; but Alice, a smart girl, didn't want to follow the command hastily. "I will instead determine first," she said, "whether the bottle has a note 'poison' or not."

However, since there was no note "poison" on this bottle, Alice, having dared to taste it, thought the mixture was very pleasing. ...Soon she drained the mixture.

"Wow! With what a strange sensation I am afflicted!" said Alice. "I seem to be compressed like a telescope!"

And so she was. Now she was only ten fingers high. So she was cheerful in her face because she was now short enough to enter the very pleasant garden through the tiny door.