

There was a table set out under a tree in front of the house, and the March Hare and the Hatter¹ were having tea at it: a Dormouse² was sitting between them, fast asleep, and the other two were using it as a cushion, resting their elbows on it, and talking over its head. “Very uncomfortable for the Dormouse,” thought Alice; “only as it’s asleep, I suppose it doesn’t mind.”

The table was a large one, but the three were all crowded together at one corner of it. “No room! No room!” they cried out when they saw Alice coming. “There’s plenty of room!” said Alice indignantly, and she sat down in a large arm-chair at one end of the table.

- 1.From the two expressions “as mad as a march hare” and “as mad as a hatter.”
- 2.A dormouse is a small rodent, known for its long hibernation period. The name might be a contraction of French *dormir* (to sleep) and *mouse*.