

An introduction into prose

Anna of the Five Towns

In our previous lecture , we talked about Anna and her visit to the island with Henry Mynor . There , he asks her for marriage. When she returns from the island , her father is waiting for her at the door but he does not welcome her . He asks her " How much did you pay for the boy ?" . Agnes welcomes her sister and asks her if Henry engages her . She says to Anna that all girls at school know that he loves her . Anna tells her that Henry is coming this evening after dinner to engage her from her father . But the night comes . Her heart is beating . She is waiting for Henry but no one comes . There is something prevents him from coming . On the next day , Henry comes to apologize for Anna because he could not come . He says that Willie comes home but does not find his father . He starts to look for him .He asks Henry for help . After that , they find his father killed . He commits suicide because Anna's father threatens him if you do

not pay the rent , I will put you in the prison . He has no money to pay . On the second day , Willie comes to visit Anna in her house after burying his father . Also , he apologizes for Anna because he has no money to pay the rent . Anna is very sad for Willie's situation .She has no money to help him . After that , Anna notices where her father puts the papers and documents which are related to Titus Price . She hurries to steal them . She burns the papers . She wants to help Willie . On the next day , the father looks for the papers . He starts to shout. Anna says to her father that she takes the papers and burns them . He says to Anna that if you tell Henry , I will cut your tongue . Again Willie visits Anna . She is very happy and tells him what she does . Till now , Anna does not admit that she loves Willie but that is clear in her behavior towards him . Now Anna starts to prepare herself for her wedding . She asks her father for money but he refuses and says that he is not responsible for that . Two days later , Henry visits Anna and tells her about a big problem . He discovers that Titus Price stole fifty pounds from the school . Anna gets sad for this . She

asks Henry not to tell Willie about the stolen money .
Maybe Henry notices that she loves Willie . Willie wants
to travel to Australia and Anna wants him to be happy .
But Willie commits suicide and this is the end of the
story . We see that the end is tragic .

Comments:

P:160 important

**" ' I can't tell you how I admire you. I'm not going to
praise you to your face, but I simply never met anyone like
you. From the very first moment I saw you, it was the same.
It's something in your face, Anna – Anna , will you be my
wife?"**

**This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is
written by Arnold Bennett . It is a conversation between
Anna and Mynor in the island . We know that Henry
Mynor invited Anna to go to the island . There , he asked**

her for marriage . The time was suitable to talk to her .
They were alone in the island . The main idea is love and
marriage .

P:163 Important

" ' Well, Father,' she said, smiling yet, 'there was the box. I
couldn't carry the box.'

' I reckon thou couldst ha' hired a lad to carry it for sixpence.'

She did not replay. The cabman had gone to his vehicle.

' Art'na going to pay th' cabby?'

' I've paid him, Father.'

'How much?'

She paused. 'Eighteen-pence, Father.' It was a lie; she had paid
two shillings."

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bonnett . It is a conversation between Anna and her father . Anna returns from the island .She comes on the court and she hires a boy to carry the boxes. Her father is waiting for her . He does not welcome her . He directly asks her how much did you pay for the boy ? . He is so mean and cares only about money . The main idea is money .

P164-165

" 'You're engaged, then? Oh, Anna, does it feel nice? It must. I knew you would be!'

' How did you know, Agnes?'

' I mean I knew he would ask you, some time. All the girls at school knew too.'

' I hope you didn't talk about it ,' said the elder sister.

' Oh, no! But they did; they were always talking about it.'

' You never told me that.'

' I- I didn't talk to. Anna, shall I have to call him Henry now?'

' Yes, of course. When we're married he will be your brother-in-law.'

'Shall you be married soon, Anna?'

' Not for a very long time.'

' When you are- shall I keep house alone? I can, you know- I shall never dare to call him Henry. But he's awfully nice; isn't he, Anna? Yes, when you are married, I shall keep house here, but I shall come to see you every day. Father will have to let me do that. Does Father know you're engaged?'

'Not yet. And you mustn't say anything. Henry is coming for supper. And then Father will be told.'

This passage is taken from Anna of The Five Towns by Arnold Bennett . It is a conversation between Agnes and Anna . The

occasion is that Anna returns from the island . Agnes notices that Anna is very happy . She asks her if Henry engaged her . Anna answers that Henry engaged her . Anna asks her how does she know that . Agnes says that all girls know that he loves Anna and he will engage her . Agnes worries that she will live with her father alone. But Anna promises her that she will visit her every day . Agnes also asks Anna if her father knows about her engagement or not . Anna says that Henry is coming this evening to engage her .

. The main idea is love and marriage .

P :167

" ' Mr Mynors has asked me to marry him; he asked me last night. We settled he should come up to-night to see you – I can't think why he hasn't. it must be something very unexpected and important, or he'd have come.' She trembled, her heart beat violently; but the words were out, and she thanked God.

'Asked ye to marry him, did he?' The miser gazed at her quizzically out of his small blue eyes.

'Yes, Father.'

'And what didst say?'

'I said I would.'

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bennett . It is a conversation between Anna and her father . After Anna returns from the island , she tells her father that Henry asks her for marriage . He is coming this evening to engage her from her father . The main idea is love and marriage .

P:169 Very important

" ' Have you heard about Mr Price ? ' Mynor began .

'No. what about him ? Has anything happened ?'

' A very sad thing has happened . Yes –' He stopped , from emotion . 'our superintendent has committed suicide !'

' killed himself ?' Anna gasped .

' He hangrd himself yesterday afternoon at Edward Street , in the slip-house , after the works were closed . Willie had gone home , but he came back , when his father didn't turn up for dinner , and found him . Mr Price was quite dead . He ran in to my place to fetch me just as I was getting my tea . That was why I never came last night . '

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bennett. The speaker is Henry and the listener is Anna . After Henry didn't come to visit Anna , he came on the next day . He apologized for her because he couldn't come last night . He told her that Titus Price disappeared and Willie came to ask for help . After that , they found Titus Price killed . He had committed suicide. The main idea is tragedy .

P:173

" 'I think I ought to tell you,' she said very calmly, when he had finished the recital, ' that I – I'm dreadfully upset over it. I can't help thinking that I – that Father and I, I mean – are somehow partly responsible for this.'

' For Price's death? How?'

' We have been so hard on him for his rent lately, you know.

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bonnett . The speaker is Anna and the listener is Henry . Anna feels so sad for the death of Willie's father . She tells Henry that Titus Price committed suicide because he had no money to pay the rent . Anna says that her father is responsible for his death . We know that Anna's father threatened him to put him in the prison if he didn't pay the rent . The main idea is tragedy .

P:179 Important

" The visitor was Willie Price; he wore the new black suit which had figured in the coroner's court. She invited him to the parlour and they both sat down, tongue- tied. Now that she had learnt from his evidence given at the inquest that Ephraim had not been pressing for rent during her absence in the Isle of Man, she felt less like a criminal before Willie than she would have felt without that assurance. But at the best she was nervous, self-conscious, and shamed. She supposed that he had called to make some arrangement with reference to the tenure of the works, or, more probably, to announce a bankruptcy and stoppage.

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bonnett . The speaker is the author and the listeners are the readers . Willie visited Anna in her house after burying his father . Both were silent . They

could not speak anything .Anna felt so sad and guilty in front of Willie . She felt as a criminal . . The main idea is tragedy .

P:187

" Willie was lolling in his father's chair, gloomy, meditative, apparently idle. He was coatless, and wore a dirty apron; a battered hat was at the back of his head, and his great hands which lay on the desk in front of him, were soiled. He sprang up, flushing red, and she shut the door; they were alone together."

I'm all in my dirt ,' he murmured apologetically . simple and silly creature , to imagine that she cared for his dirt !

'It's all right ,' They were glorious words for her , her face shone .

' What do you mean ?' he asked gruffly .

'Why , ' she smiled , full of happiness , ' I got that paper and burnt it !'

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bonnett . The speaker is the author and the listeners are the readers . Willie visited Anna for the second time . Also , they were unable to speak but Anna talked and said that she had had stolen the papers and documents . Anna asked Willie not to worry because she got rid of them .The main idea is love .

P:189 Important

" he jumped up and strode to the door, evidently with the intention of examining the forged document for himself.

' It isn't there – it isn't there !' Anna called to him wildly.

' What isna' there?'

' The paper. I may as well tell you, Father. I got up early this morning and burnt it'.

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bonnett . It is a conversation between Anna and her father about the papers . The father was looking for the papers to put Willie in the prison but Anna had stolen the papers . Anna started to rebel against her father . At the beginning of the novel , Anna was shy and under the control of her father . The main idea is paternal authority .

P:190 Important

He paused , and then added , with furious scorn : ' shalt speak o' this to Henry Mynors?

'I will tell him if you like , ' she said proudly .

' Look thee here ! ' he hissed , 'if thou breathes a word o' this to Henry Mynors ,or any other man , I'll cut thy tongue out .

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bonnett . It is a conversation between Anna and her father . When the father was looking for the papers and Anna told him that she took them . He told her not to tell Henry or he will cut her tongue . The main idea is paternal authority .

P:211

" ' I must buy things for the wedding – clothes and things, Father.'

' Ay! clothes! clothes ! what clothes dost want? A few pounds will cover them.'

' There'll be all the linen for the house.'

' Linen for - It's none thy place for buy that.'

' Yes, Father, it is.'

' I say it isna', ' he shouted.

' But I've asked Mrs Sutton, and she says it is.'

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bonnett . It is a conversation between Anna and her father . Anna asks her father to give her money to prepare herself for her wedding but her father refuses . He says that this is the responsibility of Henry not Anna's . The main idea is paternal authority and money .

P:214 Important

" Titus Price had been the treasurer of the building fund which the bazaar was to assist. Mynors had assumed the position of the dead man, and that day, in going through the accounts, he had discovered that a sum of fifty pounds was missing."

'It's a dreadful thing for Willie , if it gets about ,' he said ; ' a tale of that sort would follow him to Australia . '

' oh , Henry , it is !' she exclaimed ; sorrow-stricken;' but we mustn't let it get about . Let us pay the money ourselves . You must enter it in the books and say nothing . '

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bonnett . It is a conversation between Anna and Henry . Henry tells Anna about something about Titus Price . He tells her that Titus Price stole fifty pounds from school . Anna gets sad and she asks Henry not to tell Willie and they will pay money themselves because he wants to travel to Australia . She wants him to travel and he is happy . The main idea is love .

P:221

Her thoughts often dwelt lovingly on Willie Price , whom she deemed to be pursuing in Australia an honourable and successful career , quickened at the outset by her hundred

pounds . This vision of him was her stay . But neither she nor anyone in the Five Towns elsewhere ever heard of Willie Price again .

This passage is taken from Anna of the Five Towns which is written by Arnold Bennett . The speaker is the author and the listeners are the readers . Willie disappeared and travelled to Australia but he commits suicide . Now , we came to the end of the story . It is noticeable that the end of the story is tragic . It ends in a tragic way .

THE END