



Lady Anna: Chapters 13-24

introduced by

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Session Plan

- ▶ Introduction to these chapters
- ▶ Chapter summaries
- ▶ Themes
- ▶ Discussion questions



Introduction

- ▶ The novel is a Single plotline
...but Multiple viewpoints
- ▶ ‘Dis-locations’ and ‘Changes’, a.k.a. Movements
 - ▶ Dis-location of Lady Anna from Marylebone to Yoxham, Yorkshire
 - ▶ Lady Anna exposed to an ‘unknown world’ of upper class
- ▶ Changes in relationships (?) Connections (?) Disconnections (?)
 - ▶ Lady Anna and the Lovels
 - ▶ Lady Anna and Lord Lovel [*She has only met him once.*]
 - ▶ Lady Anna and Daniel Thwaite
 - ▶ Lady Anna and the Countess, a.k.a. her mother
- ▶ Dis-location back to London (Keppel St, Bloomsbury, NOT Marylebone)
- ▶ Dis-location to Bedford Square



Chapter 13: New Friends

- ▶ Issuing the invitation from Yoxham Rectory...
- ▶ The Countess has to obtain money for Lady Anna's clothes and accoutrements from Mr. Goffe.
- ▶ A maid (Sarah) is engaged.
- ▶ Lady Anna is dispatched to Yoxham via York. Lady Anna impresses Aunt Julia during the journey.
- ▶ Lady Anna is cautiously welcomed by the Rector, impresses the ladies of the household, is embraced by young Miss Mary (Minnie) and gets along with the younger (school-aged) boys.



Chapter 14: The Earl Arrives

- ▶ Lady Anna sees the poised and elegant beauty of the genteel life. She anticipates the Earl's arrival with a mixture of dread and longing.
- ▶ Lady Anna is 'torn in two', remembering her promises to Daniel, 'her lover and her master', but she is attracted to Lord Lovel.
- ▶ Lord Lovel meets Lady Anna in the Vicarage Library before he dresses for dinner. Mindful of duty, or interested?
- ▶ Lord Lovel proposes a family trip to Bolton Abbey, which is agreed.
- ▶ The Countess's letters keep the 'family duty' pressure on Lady Anna. Anna responds to her mother, *without mentioning Daniel*, but she asks for another way to be found to divide the money.



Chapter 15: Wharfedale

- ▶ A few days later, the party, *sans the Rector*, undertakes the two-day excursion to Bolton Abbey.
- ▶ They stay at the Devonshire Arms (nowadays a posh hostelry.)
- ▶ After visiting the Abbey, Lord Lovel and Lady Anna cross the Wharfe River on the stepping stones, Lady Anna a bit timidly.
- ▶ The couple reach the Stryd and Lady Anna leaps across into Lord Lovel's arms, but hits her ankle on the ledge. She hobbles back to the carriage.



Chapter 16: 'For Ever'

- ▶ In the morning Lady Anna's sprain has recovered and she wants to walk down to the stepping stones.
- ▶ Lord Lovel arranges to accompany her...alone.
- ▶ Sitting in the meadow, Lord Lovel repeats his marriage proposal.
- ▶ Despite 'her heart being full', and she in a quandary, Lady Anna feels forced to explain about her betrothal to the tailor.
- ▶ The pair return to the inn in silence.



Chapter 17: *The Journey Home*

- ▶ Lady Anna weeps in private; Lord Lovel is repulsed by Lady Anna's admission and sulks, not knowing how to proceed.
- ▶ The Lovel party returns to Yoxham in a somber mood.
- ▶ At Yoxham, Lady Anna informs Mrs. Lovel that she has rejected Lord Lovel's proposal but does not disclose the reason why.
- ▶ Disappointment from the Lovels is masked by guarded civility for the rest of the evening.



Chapter 18: Too Heavy for Secrets

- ▶ Lord Lovel resolves to leave Yoxham and requests an interview with Lady Anna before doing so. He asks for, and receives, permission to inform his barrister of her commitment.
- ▶ At Sir William's Chambers in London, Lord Lovel confides in the 'gentleman barrister' regarding Lady Anna's betrothal to Thwaite.
- ▶ Sir William advises that the marriage between Lord Lovel and Lady Anna would be most expedient for the young man's purposes, on the basis of Lady Anna's legitimacy of which Sir William is convinced.



Chapter 19: Lady Anna returns to London

- ▶ With the disillusioned Lord Lovel now departed, Lady Anna is stranded at Yoxham. Though civil, the company are no longer cordial.
- ▶ Lord Lovel asks his 'family' to keep Lady Anna there, but...
- ▶ Reckoning that the betrothal is likely to 'leak out', Lady Anna writes to her mother, saying that she is coming 'home' and that 'places in the coach have already been reserved.'
- ▶ Mrs. Lovel sends Lady Anna and her maid off with the Rector after privately saying to her husband, '...Take my words; she is a good girl.'



Chapter 20: Lady Anna's Reception

- ▶ The Solicitor-General has enlisted Mr. Flick to speak to Mr. Goffe to tell the Countess, so the Countess knows about the betrothal. ... and for Flick to deal with Thwaite.*
- ▶ So, the Countess leaves Wyndham Street (Marylebone) for Keppel Street (Bloomsbury).
- ▶ Lady Anna arrives at the Saracen's Head (just west of St. Sepulchre in the City) and they go to Keppel Street.
- ▶ Before Lady Anna has even unpacked, she and the Countess fall into a confrontation over Daniel Thwaite, ending with the Countess trying to extract a promise from Anna that she will never see Daniel again.
- ▶ 'I cannot say that, mamma...because I have promised.'



Chapter 21: Daniel and the Lawyer

- ▶ The narrator (Trollope) reviews Daniel's and his father's history with the Countess and Lady Anna.
- ▶ *Mr. Flick, at the Solicitor-General's request, sends for Daniel to offer a 'buy-out'.
- ▶ Daniel attends, and comes off very well in the 'debate' about Lady Anna and her money.
- ▶ Daniel then escapes 'the lawyer/lion's den' before Flick has an opportunity to 'make an offer'.



Chapter 22: 'There is a Gulf Fixed'

- ▶ The Countess begins the Chapter by 'persecuting' her distressed daughter...to no avail.
- ▶ Sergeant Bluestone is dismayed when he learns of the state of affairs and suggests that Anna visit his family at Bedford Square, 'a prisoner with gilded chains'.
- ▶ Anna becomes close friends with Alice Bluestone and the girls exchange confidences.
- ▶ Alice, wise beyond her years, explains patiently that the aristocracy is of a higher order than the working class and quotes the Biblical (Abraham) story, hence the title of the chapter.
- ▶ Serjeant Bluestone informs Lady Anna that Lord Lovel will dine with them the following day.



Chapter 23: Bedford Square

- ▶ The Chapter gives insight into ‘The Earl’s’ thoughts and reconciliation to his cousin and marriage to her.
- ▶ And, separately, Lady Anna’s ambivalence towards Lord Lovel and her thoughts, as she meets the Solicitor-General and his wife and the ‘black-browed barrister.’
- ▶ Lord Lovel arrives and ‘smiles upon Lady Anna.’ They all repair to the ‘dinner.’ But no conversation can really take place between the pair.

- ▶ The following morning Lord Lovel comes to ‘see his cousin’.
- ▶ ...and the rest of the Chapter is the tête-à-tête, where Lord Lovel expresses his wish to marry her, and Lady Anna vehemently claims to love ‘*him*’, the tailor. But she is unsure. Internally, Lady Anna does have serious doubts, but resolves to keep her promise to Daniel.
- ▶ In the end Lord Lovel extracts a commitment that Lady Anna will think about his proposal for a week, and then write to him.



Chapter 24: Dog in the Manger

- ▶ Daniel's doubts about Lady Anna torment him. Should he or shouldn't he persist?
- ▶ The worker bee (Daniel) and drone (Frederic) analogy seems apt. ...it is the drone's job to mate!
- ▶ Mrs. Bluestone and the Countess work together, as ladies do in that era, to act against Daniel, and the Countess summons Daniel to Keppel Street.
- ▶ 'She can choose as she pleases...and let us take her at her word.' 'You can never marry her, Daniel.'
The Impasse.
- ▶ Daniel has self-doubt: 'Was he acting the part of Dog in the Manger, robbing others of happiness?...He loves [Lady Anna]. Was he making her miserable by his love?'



Themes

- ▶ Attitudes: Aristocracy/'Squire-archy' compared to working class.
 - ▶ Social ties and tensions.
 - ▶ Male dominance?
 - ▶ Obsession.
 - ▶ Love, desire.
 - ▶ Honour, dignity, duty
 - ▶ *Obedience?*
-
- ▶ What do these chapters tell us?



...and this is Wigmores Street, as was and is now, albeit now mostly upmarket pharmacies rather than tailor's shops.

Questions for Discussion

- ▶ How and why do these chapters express aristocratic values compared to those of the working class?
- ▶ How does character development move the 'plot'? Or *vice versa*?
- ▶ ...The Countess and her obsession(s)? What is/are it/they?
- ▶ How does the theme of *obedience* make a mark in these chapters?
- ▶ Has Lady Anna developed in these chapters? If so, how or how not?
- ▶ If Lady Anna was brought up in a 'rude' Cumbrian household, how is it that she is demure and refined? [*This question is a particular curiosity of mine.*]
- ▶ 'The Men'
 - ▶ Male dominance?
 - ▶ What have we learned about Lord Lovel?
 - ▶ What have we learned about Daniel's personality traits?
 - ▶ The Lawyers and their behaviours? Legitimate?
- ▶ Is 'relocation' (different venues) relevant? Why, or not?

