

APPENDICES

SYNOPSIS OF BOOTH TARKINGTON'S THE MAGNIFICENT

AMBERSONS

This novel is set around the early 1900 in the beginning of the Industrial Revolution era. Major Amberson is a famous and wealthy family in Midland town. His daughter, Isabel Amberson who marry Wilbur Minafer and have a son named George Ambersons Minafer. They live in a luxurious house named Ambersons Mansion with Wilbur's sister, Fanny Minafer. George is very spoiled by his parents and grandfather; it makes him grow to be spoiled and arrogant. When he grows up, he falls in love with a girl named Lucy. Lucy is a daughter of Eugene Morgan, an inventor of horseless carriage who lives a simple life. After George's father's death, Isabel urges George to join an automobile business with Eugene, but George rejects it; he has no desire and responsibilities to make a living, while Eugene who is broaden minded thinks that automobile brings a great change in people's lives. When industrialization develops in every place, people build an apartment to be rented; this new trend causes Ambersons family go through a decline. After the death of Major Amberson, George realizes all his faults. George becomes poor. He sells all his valuable things. He lives in a small apartment and George becomes a working

labourer in Arkers Chemical Company. While Eugene, who is a hard worker and a speculative person, lives in wealthy as the owner of automobile factory. He uses the Industrial Revolution as the opportunity to make a better living.

BOOTH TARKINGTON'S BIOGRAPHY

Newton Booth Tarkington is an American novelist, playwright, and short story writer. He was born in Indianapolis on July 29, 1869. His father, John Stevenson Tarkington, is a lawyer and his mother is Elizabeth Booth Tarkington. Newton Booth Tarkington was educated at Phillips Exeter Academy, Purdue University and Princeton. After leaving Princeton in 1893, he returned to Indiana to develop his career as a writer. He achieved overnight success with his first novel, The Gentleman from Indiana (1899). Following a decade in Europe, Tarkington returned to Indianapolis and won a new readership with the publication of The Flirt (1913). The Magnificent Ambersons (1918) is Tarkington's best novel and won the Pulitzer Prize. It is a typical story of an American family who failed to keep pace with the technological changes during the Industrial Revolution. He also won the second Pulitzer Prize for Alice Adams (1921). Newton Booth Tarkington died in Indianapolis on May 19, 1946. The Show Piece (1947), which is his unfinished last novel, tells about a young egoist of the George Ambersons Minafer of The Magnificent Amebersons.