

APPENDICES

SYNOPSIS OF ANNA KARENINA

The story begins in Oblonsky's family; Dolly has discovered that her husband has an affair with their children's former Governess. Oblonsky writes to his sister, Anna Karenina, to ask her to come to Moscow and help him to solve the problem. Ironically, her arrival is the beginning of her own problem, instead of helping to fix the marriage problem of Oblonsky and Dolly.

Anna's first meeting with Vronsky at the railway station makes both Anna and Vronsky unable to stop thinking about each other. Consequently, it brings them to have forbidden love. Unconsciously, their love grows and Vronsky wants to be with and even marry her. Being aware of the love affair, Alexis Karenin warns his wife, Anna, when he meets her together with Vronsky in a ball. Anna by now feels guilty and sinful, yet deep in her heart she cannot get rid of her passion for Vronsky.

One day, Anna announces that she is pregnant. Hearing the news, Vronsky asks Anna to leave her husband. However, Anna faces a dilemma, whether she should follow her true love and face social judgment or maintain her husband and her son, Seryozha.

When Anna survives after giving birth to a baby girl, Vronsky tries to shoot himself but fails. Anna and Vronsky later leave Russia and stay in Italy for some time. After Anna and Vronsky return to St. Petersburg, people gossip everywhere. The couple

often argues and in her depression, Anna finally accuses Vronsky of being unfaithful to her. Anna feels lonely in her life. She blames Vronsky because she has sacrificed herself for him, but Vronsky does not appreciate her effort. She has ruined her marriage, her relationship with her son, as well as her social position.

Her life that is full of bitterness gives her no place to turn to. She cannot decide whether to stay with Vronsky or to return to her husband. Being unable to solve the problems, she goes to the railway station. Standing on the platform and watching the train pass, she decides to commit suicide by jumping into the coming train. In this case, she feels she has punished Karenin, Vronsky and herself and escaped from the bitter reality of life.

BIOGRAPHY OF LEO TOLSTOY

Count Leo Nikolayevich Tolstoy was born on 28 August, 1928 at Yasnaya Polyana, his father's estate in Tula Province, about two hundred miles from Moscow. Both his parents belonged to the Russian nobility. His mother died when he was two years old and his father died when he was nine. Tolstoy served in the army in the Caucasus and the Crimea. After leaving the army, he travelled and studied educational theories. While in the service, Tolstoy wrote Childhood, a short, semi-autobiographical novel. This was well received, and he continued to write other stories after he had left the army.

He and Sophie Behrs were married in 1862 and had 13 children. For the next 15 years Tolstoy lived as a farmer and a gentleman and devoted himself to writing. War and Peace was written from 1864 to 1869 and Anna Karenina in 1873-1876. Tolstoy went through a serious spiritual crisis; afterwards, he wrote his autobiography entitled A Confession. Other works from this time are What Then Must We Do? and The Kingdom of God is Within You. His relationship with his wife became strained because of his new beliefs and fame as a pacifist. In 1910, he left home at the age of 82 and died of pneumonia at a local railway station.

Tolstoy's writings have influenced much of the twentieth-century literature, and his ethical and religious works have influenced the beliefs of many spiritual and political leaders. In addition to his famous novels, Tolstoy has written many plays, stories and sketches, autobiographical and educational works, ethical and religious books and essays, and social and political essays.