



A Tragedy without a Killer Is a Real Tragedy — Analysis of Anna Karenina's Tragedy

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Abstract: Leo Tolstoy created a beautiful, generous and distinctive woman image in Anna Karenina, but she finally chose to commit suicide. What on earth caused such a tragedy? What kind of experience and lesson does this tragedy bring us? This article will analyze Anna's tragedy from two aspects: the cause of the tragedy and the revelation brought by the tragedy.

Keywords: Anna, tragedy, reason, revelation

1. The cause of Anna's tragedy

1.1 The influence of social background

(1) The bondage of the old system.

Russian society in the 19th century was in a period of transition between the old and the new. The old feudal system was gradually disintegrating while the new capitalist system had not yet been established. Under such a social background, the aristocracy still retained many remnants of feudalism, such as the concept of marriage and family. Anna, as an aristocratic woman, was inevitably bound by these old concepts. Her marriage was arranged by her parents, and she married Karenin not out of her real will. When she was still a young girl, she was introduced to marry Karenin by her aunt.

After their marriage, Karenin and Anna can be said to respect each other, but in Anna's eyes, he is just a working machine, she commented that he "chasing fame and wealth, promotion and wealth, is his life." [1] In such a marriage, she may not love Karenin at all, in his body also can not taste the taste of love, she can not find real happiness, which later she fell in love with Vronsky at first sight paved the way.

The old system also prevented Anna and Vronsky from really entering into the palace of marriage, and their marriage was not protected by law, so Anna could only be Vronsky's mistress to a certain extent. At that time, divorce in Russia had to be approved by the husband Karenin, which was obviously contrary to the freedom of marriage in today's society. At that time Anna could not get her son, and even the daughter she had with Vronsky was named Karenin's. Marriage seemed to be a shackle for the upper class society at that time, everyone was content with the status quo, only Anna tried to break through this shackle, in their eyes, Anna was a "caged bird" who was unwilling to accept the reality and could not escape the shackles of reality.

(2) The pressure of social public opinion.

In the Russian society at that time, the concept of marriage was very conservative, and extramarital love was naturally considered immoral. As soon as Anna and Vronsky's affair came to light, it immediately attracted wide public attention. As a result, all kinds of rumors, accusations and attacks poured into Anna, which also made her really bear huge mental pressure. [2] In such a strong public opinion environment, Anna could not find the support and understanding of the majority of people, and fell into an isolated situation.

Although most aristocratic marriages in the upper society at that time were in a state of nominal existence, most couples chose to maintain a false superficial marriage relationship. However, Anna chose to tell the truth directly to her husband, which to some extent was a provocation to the nobility's morality, so Anna was resisted by the nobility collectively, and therefore lost her social circle, and even suffered great humiliation when she tried to return to the social circle in the Grand theater. [3]

This kind of public opinion for Anna and Vronsky is still not equal, for the immoral Anna, the aristocratic upper class scorn, all kinds of social circles have boycotted. But what about Vronsky? Public opinion seems to have no influence on him, and he still has his own social circle. This inequality in public opinion also indirectly leads to the imbalance in Anna's heart, which leads to her tragedy.

1.2 The character's defects

(1) Anna's own personality is complicated.

Anna herself is a character full of contradictions. She not only has the impulse to pursue freedom and love, but also is deeply bound by old moral concepts. She longed to spend her life with Vronsky, but she could not get rid of her sense of responsibility for her family and children. This contradiction in her personality makes her unable to make a decisive decision in the face of difficulties, which eventually leads to the tragedy. At the same time, Anna is neither humble nor arrogant in the pursuit of love, so that she regards love as the whole of her life, so that she is so desperate when she wants to lose her love later.[4]

Although Anna bravely yearned for free love and told Karenin the truth directly, her heart was always full of guilt. This kind of guilt is expressed in her guilt for her son and husband, and her guilt runs through her whole life, until she finally commits suicide by throwing herself on the rail, she still says "forgive me everything." Therefore, to some extent, this kind of guilt has always haunted Anna and accelerated Anna's tragedy.

Anna abandoned everything in order to be with Vronsky, so she regarded Vronsky as his only reliance, but Vronsky is not so reliable, Vronsky has been used to the upper class aristocratic life, so he can not completely abandon his social circle, can not abandon everything for love like Anna. So, slowly, their feelings began to appear estranged, Anna also began to doubt, suspicion of their feelings, this doubt is derived from her side only Vronsky, he can not lose Vronsky.

(2) Vronsky's selfishness and indifference.

Vronsky played an important role in Anna's tragedy, and played a role in promoting the situation. In the eyes of the outside world, Vronsky is just a playboy. But did he really love Anna? He loved Anna and was willing to give up his chance of promotion. But he does not regard love as the whole of his life as Anna does. He also has his own social circle, in which he can be respected and loved by others. Therefore, love is not so important to Vronsky.

After Vronsky got Anna, he gradually revealed his selfish and indifferent side. His affection for Anna is not pure love, but mixed with the pursuit of power and fame. When Anna needed him most, he did not give her enough support and care, but chose to escape. In the last period of Anna's more sensitive period, Vronsky did not pay attention to Anna's jealousy, but felt impatient, which further deepened Anna's suspicion, and let Anna fall into the vortex of suspicion again and again, which aggravated Anna's tragedy.

2. The enlightenment that Anna's tragedy brings to people

Anna's love tragedy tells us that love seems to be like a double-edged sword, it can bring us both sweetness and pain. We have to face up to the sweetness that love brings us, but at the same time, we have to keep enough unique reason and sober mind in the sweetness, and can't abandon everything for love like Anna and do the so-called "love brain", otherwise it may be "bite back" by the sweet love.

Anna's tragedy also makes us realize that marriage is not the end of love, but a new starting point. After marriage, both husband and wife are faced with many tests, and frictions and conflicts that never occurred before may appear. In the face of these tests, the husband and wife should be more likely to communicate effectively, just like Levin and Kitty in another main line of the work, so as to effectively resolve these conflicts and contradictions. Instead of indifference like Vronsky and suspicion like Anna, this will only make the rift between the husband and wife become bigger and bigger. A happy marriage needs the joint efforts of both parties to maintain and manage. The people in the marriage should respect, trust and support each other, so as to keep the marriage happy and happy.

Anna's tragedy also reminds women that they must be independent. In Anna's tragedy, Anna can only rely on Karenin in the early stage of her life, and after leaving Karenin, she can only rely on Vronsky. This kind of high dependence on men also causes Anna's tragedy. Therefore, as a woman, she must be independent and strive to realize her own social value.[5]

3. Conclusion

First read Anna, think Anna is extremely boring, read Anna again, only to find that she is extremely pathetic. Anna's tragic fate is not only personal, but also social and times. "All happy families are similar, and every unhappy family has its own misfortune." Anna's fate revealed the hypocrisy of morality and cold humanity of the Russian society at that time, as well as the helplessness and struggle of individuals under the strong social pressure. Anna's tragic fate also shows that in the face of the hypocrisy of social morality and cold humanity, the struggle of individuals is so insignificant, which is undoubtedly the greatest tragedy of that era.

The cold social background, the contradictions of her own character, and the impetus of her lover Vronsky, Anna stepped into the tragedy of love step by step. This tragedy also brings us profound experience and lessons. Therefore, we

must establish a correct view of love in real life, so as to avoid Anna's tragedy in love.

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