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## **APPENDIX**

## 1. Summary of Oscar Wilde's The Picture of Dorian Gray

The Picture of Dorian Gray is a novel that explores the moral and aesthetic corruption of its protagonist, Dorian Gray. The story revolves around Dorian, a young and exceptionally handsome man in late 19th-century London, whose portrait is painted by the artist Basil Hallward. Influenced by the hedonistic views of his friend Lord Henry Wotton, Dorian expresses a wish that he could remain young and beautiful forever, while his portrait ages instead.

As Dorian immerses himself in a life of excess and indulgence, his portrait takes on the burden of his sins and moral degradation, becoming a grotesque representation of his true self. The novel delves into the consequences of a life led without moral constraints, as Dorian's outer appearance remains untouched by the ravages of time and his hidden sins accumulate within the portrait.

The characters in the novel represent conflicting moral perspectives. Basil Hallward embodies artistic idealism, while Lord Henry advocates for the pursuit of pleasure without regard for consequences. Dorian becomes a tragic figure torn between these influences, ultimately succumbing to the darker aspects of his nature.

The narrative unfolds with suspense and intrigue, exploring themes of beauty, morality, and the consequences of unchecked desires. Wilde uses Dorian Gray's portrait as a powerful metaphor for the corruption that can occur when one sacrifices morality for the pursuit of aesthetic pleasure.

In the end, Dorian's moral decay reaches its peak, and he meets a tragic demise, while his portrait returns to its original state, reflecting the toll of a life devoid of ethical considerations. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* remains a timeless exploration of the human condition, prompting readers to reflect on the consequences of unchecked desires and the intersection of morality and aestheticism.

## 2. Biography of Oscar Wilde

Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde was born on October 16, 1854, in Dublin, Ireland, to Sir William Wilde, a renowned eye and ear surgeon, and Jane Wilde, an esteemed poet and writer. As the second of three children, Wilde displayed early academic and artistic promise, attending Portora Royal School in Enniskillen before pursuing studies at Trinity College, Dublin, and Magdalen College, Oxford.

Wilde's reputation flourished in London society, where his wit, charm, and flamboyant style made him a prominent figure. During the early 1880s, he gained acclaim for lectures on aesthetics and art criticism, aligning himself with the Aesthetic Movement that advocated "art for art's sake" and the pursuit of beauty and pleasure.

In 1884, Wilde married Constance Lloyd, and together they had two sons, Cyril and Vyvyan. Despite his family life, Wilde remained active in London's literary and social circles. His plays, including "Lady Windermere's Fan" (1892) and "The Importance of Being Earnest" (1895), solidified his status as a leading playwright, showcasing his clever wit and satirical commentary on Victorian society.

However, Wilde's life took a drastic turn in 1895 when he faced legal repercussions for his homosexual relationships, leading to a conviction for "gross indecency." This act, deemed illegal in England at the time, resulted in a two-year sentence of hard labor. Wilde's health deteriorated during imprisonment, and he was released in 1897.

Following his release, Wilde assumed the name Sebastian Melmoth and lived in exile in France. The last years of his life were marked by financial struggles and declining health, leading to his death from meningitis on November 30, 1900, at the age of 46 in Paris. Initially buried in an unmarked grave, admirers later funded a monument at Père Lachaise Cemetery, now serving as a tribute to his memory.

Oscar Wilde's works, celebrated for their wit, humor, and societal exploration, endure as a testament to his enduring legacy. His life remains emblematic of the challenges faced by individuals who defied the moral standards of their era. Wilde's impact on English literature endures, and his plays and writings continue to captivate readers and audiences worldwide.