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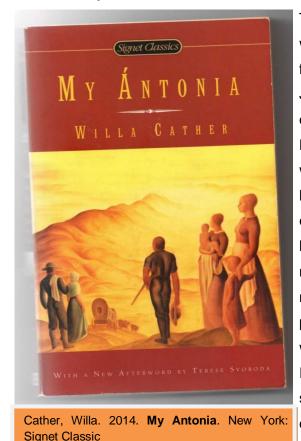
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### APPENDICES

1. Synopsis of the Selected Novels *My Antonia* (1918), *My Mortal* Enemy (1926), O'Pioneers!(1913), and A Lost Lady (1923)

### 1.1 My Antonia



This novel tells the life journey of a woman named Antonia and her best friend since they were children named James Quayle Burden or James Burden or called Jim. They grew up together in Nebraska. Jim reminisced about them when they were children, playing in the hot sun and buried in heaps of corn, enjoying the summer when the wheat harvest came, playing in the snow in the middle of winter, and running through the meadows of our town. After decades had passed, on a trip across the lowa region, we saw a person who looked like a person I once knew. Jim then reminded me, someone named Antonia. At that time I once knew a little girl named Antonia, she came and went just like that.

I first heard the name Antonia while traveling across the vast fields of northern America, at the age of ten. At the same age, I lost both my parents and I had to leave Virginia, where I had always lived. I was accompanied by Jake Marpole, my father's confidant, heading west in the Nebraska area, where my grandparents lived. This journey is very long because it passes through the Chicago area and is really tiring, sometimes walking, taking trains, riding through villages of Indians who do not know English. For days Jake and I traveled and crossed several rivers, including the Missouri River until the train stopped in the Black Hawk area. Night fell when the small town began to darken and we slept in a simple house, tomorrow we continued our journey towards the hills through a trail of about 20 miles to arrive at my grandparents' house. I have lived at my grandmother's house since my parents died. Grandmother and Mrs. Shimerda seem to be familiar so I can get to know her and play with her children. Mrs. Shimerda is a 19-year-old boy named Ambrosch, then his younger sister is a beautiful girl named **Antonia**, and the youngest is a girl named Yulka (Julka). We became close, even though our languages were different (I spoke English and they spoke Austrian) so sometimes I needed to teach them to speak English. At dusk, my grandmother took me home from Shimerda's house. This is the first visit which will continue next. I enjoyed the days riding around on horseback until dusk with Antonia looking around the small town. Antonia came to see me often to learn English. *"Almost every day she came running across the prairie to have her reading lesson with me. Mrs. Simerda grumbled, but realized it was important that on member of the family should learn English"* (Cather, 2014:27).

Antonia is a nice girl and often helps my grandmother Mrs. Burden cooks in the kitchen and clean the house. Mrs. Simerda is indeed good at managing and educating her family, although sometimes the economic situation is not sufficient. I understand more and more the lives of neighbors who are Bohemian families, including two girls who always come happily playing with rabbits, birds, and picking potatoes in the fields. They are Antonia and Yulka. One day Antonia's father, Mr. Simerda died mysteriously because there was a suspicion that he was poisoned by a man named Krajiek. According to my grandfather and I, Mr. Shimerda died due to a very deep mental stress of homesickness, memories of her hard struggle to arrive at this life, as well as the cold weather affecting her immune system.

I knew it was homesickness that had killed Mr. Shimerda, and I wondered whether his released spirit would not eventually finds its way back to his country. I thought of how far it was to Chicago, and then to Virginia, to Baltimore – and then the great wintry ocean. No, he would not at once set out upon that long journey. Surely, his exhausted spirit, so tired of cold and crowding and struggle with the ever-falling snow, was resting now in this quiet house (Cather, 2014:61).

One April afternoon, I rode a horse to visit the Shimerda family. I was greeted by Yulka who jogged around and Mrs. Shimerda was in the kitchen baking cakes, while Ambrosch and Antonia were in the fields sowing seeds for the crops. By dusk, they had returned from the fields. I saw that now at the age of fifteen, Antonia was no longer a child, she was an adult, hardworking, and tall

figure. Since the death of Mr. Shimerda, her family now works hard in the fields and takes care of the livestock. We reminisce about Mr. Shimerda and Antonia when they told me to go to high school as his father used to study in several places. In the following days, Antonia often visited the house to help my grandmother in the kitchen, but according to her she preferred to do activities outside the house so that grandmother treated Antonia as a man. Antonia pours out her heart that she loves living in our house because my grandmother is such a nice person and sometimes also sad because she still hopes that her father will still be able to watch this summer. Antonia's presence working at home made us happy like one family.

I am now thirteen years old and have lived with Grandpa for almost three years. He decided to move from Hasting to the city of Black Hawk. Grandpa and grandma felt old and could no longer work hard in the fields. Our house was rented out to a lovely woman named Widow Steavens and her brother. We then bought Preacher's whitewashed house which is at the north end of Black Hawk town. I hope one day Antonia and Yulka come to town and I show you some interesting things in town. Whenever Ambrosch came to town, he never told him about his mother and siblings. On Saturday, Antonia came to our house in town and went straight into the kitchen to meet her grandmother who immediately kissed her forehead. Antonia was then escorted to Mrs. Harling, where she was hired as a hired girl. Since Antonia was there, I often went to Mrs. Harling visited while playing with her children. I am very happy because now I can meet Antonia day and night again. Sometimes I get jealous when Antonia is close to another young man. *"How good it was to have Antonia near us again; to see her every day and almost every night!"* (Cather, 2014 :111).

At the Harlings' house, there is also a six-year-old girl named Nina who becomes Antonia's playmate. With so many householders like Mr. Harling, Mrs. Harling, Frances Harling, Charley, Jullia, Sally, Nina, and Antonia, so the house was always busy with their respective activities. Mrs. Harling, Frances Harling, Nina, and Antonia played the piano, while Sally played the band drums and trumpet. I was also among them after school until late at night watching them play and learn to play the piano. The event that made the Harlings and I very happy was when the sun started to appear which meant that the torturous winter had passed. Antonia and Mrs. Harling set to work loosening the soil in the Apple and Chery orchard which will bear fruit in June. Every morning before I get out of bed, I always hear Antonia sing happily while weeding the plants that are starting to bloom in Harling's garden. *"Every morning, before I was up, I could hear Tony singing in the garden rows. After the apple and cherry trees broke into bloom, we ran about under them..."* (Cather, 2014:136).

One afternoon at Black Hawk, we saw a woman who looked like an Italian who apparently was named Mrs. Vanni. She actually works in Kansas City, but this summer he will be in farm towns teaching dance. When her business went bankrupt, she is now always moving from one place to another. Since the presence of the dance association which was fostered by Mrs. Vannis has changed Antonia's character. This girl in social life no longer appears as a hired girl or hired girls in the Harling family. She was familiar with the frenetic public world, especially when she often went out with Lena and Tiny and their friends. Antonia's soul and physical appearance changed from a home or domestic woman to a free woman outside the home or public. Antonia's life now is a dancer especially Mr. Vannis thinks Antonia is the best talented dancer. *"IT WAS AT the Vannis' tent that Antonia was discovered. Hitherto she had been looked upon more as a ward of the Harlings than as one of the "hired girls"… The Vannis often said that Antonia was the best dancer of them all"* (Cather, 2014:144).

Mrs. Harling and Frances continue to advise Antonia that out there with the dancer profession, there are many men who can destroy the life of a young woman like you. Antonia's stubbornness made her no longer able to be advised so that Mrs. Harling took decisive action. Antonia chose to leave the Harling family home and take the path of freedom she liked. Antonia moved to work for Wick Cutter, whose first name was Wycliffe, a loan shark of Swedish descent who had extorted and deceived a poor Russian farmer named Peter. Apart from moneylenders, he is also a gambler and always has problems with women and often quarrels with his wife. Antonia since living in the Cutter's house, she no longer cares, her work is picnics, parties, and spends her time dancing, sewing and hanging out with her friends. She also dressed up like a classy girl wearing gloves, high shoes, wearing a hat, and almost every afternoon she gathered with Tiny, Lena, and Anna to go out in style along the road to the valley. My grandmother forbade me to associate with female dancers which she considered as a life that deviated from traditional moral values. Since then, I have been concentrating more on studying until I finish school and in July I will immediately continue my studies in Lincoln City. Antonia still had time to meet me and tell me about her family background. She said as her memories that his father and mother married before without the blessing of grandmother so that after marriage the two went to find a new place to live. Since then, they were no longer allowed to come to Grandma's house until we, the children, were never with Grandma until she died. Antonia never got the attention, guidance, and affection of her grandparents. This is different from my situation where my parents were in harmony with my grandparents until I was educated and raised by my grandparents after my parents died. *"Antonia had … After my father married her, my grandmother never let my mother come into her house again. When I went to my grandmother's funeral was the only time I was ever in my grandmother's house funeral"* (Cather, 2014 :165).

At university I was fortunate to meet Gaston Cleric. He had just finished his education and is now at Lincoln leading the Latin Language Department. He was very instrumental in guiding me during the exam. He spent the summer in Lincoln after a few weeks in Colorado then returned to New England. At times when I am in my dorm room, I reminisce about the past with Jake and Otto Fuchs and Peter. They used to be with us in the farm village or the new country. However, the daydream was quickly shattered when I was with my new friends at Lincoln in a hopeful new environment while dreaming of a brighter future.

On the evening of March 1, when I was already a sophomore (second year), I was alone in my room while warming myself enjoying the breeze in the window. I prepare books and read lessons for tomorrow. Before reading much, I was suddenly startled by someone knocking on the door, namely a woman standing in the darkness of the hallway. It turned out to be Lena Lingard, Antonia's best friend when she was still in Black Hawk Town. Lena Lingard tells herself that she now owns a boutique shop in Lincoln City on Raleigh Block, O Street. She had started her business last spring and was able to save a few dollars to build his mother's house in the village this summer. She wanted to make his mother happy in his old age. I asked Lena Lingard about Antonia's condition and whether she is still with Larry Donovan. Lena said that Antonia

was now working at the hotel as a housekeeper for Mrs. Gardeners. Antonia's relationship with Larry is still intertwined. I hope to be back soon to meet Antonia. Lena's arrival just now brought me to the past memories with Antonia and others.

On another occasion, I met Lena and asked her attitude towards men. I was surprised because apparently Lena had no desire to have a husband. She thought that men only deserved to be friends, not husbands. Women will eventually be cooped up at home all the time doing routine as a wife, *"Lena laughed, "Well, it's mainly because I don't want a husband. Men are all right for friends..."* (Cather, 2014:200). Finally, when it was time to say goodbye before leaving Lincoln, Lena and I said our goodbyes. I closed the story of my life in Lincoln abruptly. Before leaving for Boston with the Cleric there, I visited my grandparents and spent a few weeks with them. At that time I was nineteen years old.

Two years after leaving Lincoln, I had completed my education at Harvard. Before continuing my education at Law School, I returned home for summer vacation. On the night I arrived at my grandparents' house, I was also greeted by Mrs. Harling, Frances, and Sally. Frances Harling is married to the man who now runs the Harling family business. I am still curious about how Antonia's condition is now because my grandmother wrote to me when I was at Harvard that Antonia eloped with Larry Donovan and when she came back she had a baby without Larry accompanied her. I then asked Frances and she said that actually Antonia was never married to Larry Donovan, but that she suddenly returned to the farmland with the baby and gave it to her mother. Since then Antonia was never seen again in the city and just stayed at home because people always talked about her unfortunate fate. I tried to erase the image of Antonia that had disappointed me. *"Poor Antonia! Every one would be saying that now, I thought bitterly... I tried to shut Antonia out my mind. I was bitterly disappointed in her"* (Cather, 2014:205).

Of the three girls who were friends first, namely Antonia Shimerda, Lena Lingard, and Tiny Soderball, only Antonia had bad luck. Formerly known as a troublemaker, Lena Lingard is now successfully running a tailor and boutique business in Lincoln. Tiny Soderball who had been berated for working for Mrs. Gardener at the hotel, now has a lot of money by managing a gold trading

business in San Francisco. After leaving her job at the hotel, Tiny spent almost ten years in the largest gold mining area in Canada, Klondike, she then went to try her luck in the city of San Francisco by opening a gold business and it was successful. I met her in Salt Lake City in 1908 and talked about a Swede named Johnson and her best friend, Lena Lingard. Tiny said that in fact she had persuaded Lena to open a business in San Francisco, but she refused and chose to go to Lincoln.

I'm still curious about Antonia's fate. According to Mrs. Harling that Widow Steavens helped Antonia's wedding and took care of the birth of her baby and knows more about Antonia than anyone else. One day into August, I got a ride horse and went up to the highlands in the farm village to meet Widow Steavens. She is a tall, brown-skinned, stocky Indian woman. Steavens promised to tell me about Antonia after six o'clock dinner. At that time, my clock showed three in the afternoon. After dinner, we climbed the wooden stairs to the second floor in the break room, a lovely place to watch the full moon in summer with the windows open. Steavens begins to tell the story of Antonia. Steavens further explained that since then Antonia has been busy taking care of the fields, working like a man, planting and harvesting wheat. When winter began to arrive, on December 1<sup>st</sup>, at dusk, I suddenly saw Antonia racing her cart in the middle of a snowball. She arrived at her house at night and went straight into the back room of her house and gave birth to a baby unaccompanied. Mrs. Steavens ended her story by saying that she now had no idea how Antonia had been after the incident.

In the afternoon of the next day, I went to Shimerda's house and saw in front of her house. Yulka was holding a baby and said that Antonia was drying in the fields. I then rushed to meet Antonia and she was very surprised to see me. We met like a poetic story, both were silent but our hearts were both sad and sad. We made a pilgrimage to Mr. Shimerda's grave. Antonia looked at me until she finally burst into tears. I see that now Antonia's condition and appearance is completely different, she used to be cheerful with frenetic clothes, dissolved in city life, but now she is very simple and dresses like normal village women and works hard in the fields. I then rushed home through a familiar street reminiscing about our past while imagining a young man and a girl walking side by side and then lying on the grass smiling.

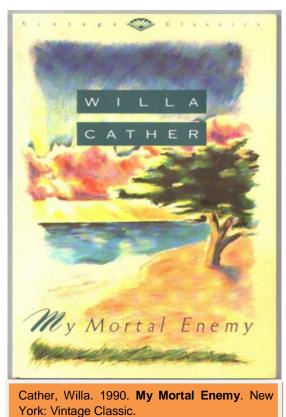
I once promised to return to see Antonia and for twenty years I kept that promise. Over the years, I only received news from a young Bohemian who was also Anton Jelinek's cousin. Last time Tiny Soderball in Salt Lake told me that Antonia had become Cuzak's wife. Her situation is worrying that she has to work hard because her husband is also not an economically capable person. I traced the road eastward in the Hasting area of Nebraska in the middle of the day to the farmland in search of Antonia's house. I saw a house in the yard where many ducks and geese roamed and some girls chased them away. When Antonia showed up, she did not recognize me because she thought I wanted to meet her husband, *"My husband's not at home, sir. Can I do anything?"* (Cather, 2014:227). She was then surprised and invited me into his house after I introduced myself to him, namely Jim Burden. It turned out that Antonia now has many children and introduced them to me one by one, including Anton, Yulka, Nina, Leo, Anna, Charley, Jan, and Lucie. His eldest son was named Rudolph while accompanying his father to the city.

I became close and chatted with Antonia's children and accepted her offer to stay at her house. At exactly eleven o'clock at night, I got ready to sleep with Antonia's sons in the room. I lay watching the moon slowly sinking thinking about the lives of Antonia and her children, Anna, Leo and the others. Life sometimes changes unpredictable. I think Cuzak is a good and virtuous person. He has succeeded in forming Antonia for a particular mission, namely goodness and truth. He taught Antonia that there is only one true belief, there are no two truths in one belief. In the end, Antonia was also able to please her husband and be happy with her sons, "At first I near go crazy with lonesomeness," he said frankly, "but my woman is got such a warm heart. She always make it as good for me as she could. Now it ain't so bad; I can begin to have some fun with my boys, already!" (Cather, 2014:248).

After dinner, I bid farewell to the next to the city of Hasting taking the train to Black Hawk. Antonia and her kids circled my bag before I left. They looked at me with friendly faces. Ambrosch and Leo opened the gate. Arriving at the foot of the hill, I looked back and I still saw them still standing by the windmill watching me go. I saw Antonia waving her handkerchief. That is how the streets I pass always keep memories with Antonia. Now I understand that only going down the same path will allow us to be together. Our life paths are different so it

is impossible to be together, even though the longing is still there, "Now I understood that the same road was to bring us together again. Whatever we had missed, we possessed together the precious, the incommunicable past" (Cather, 2014:251).

# 1.2 My Mortal Enemy



This novel tells about the family life and idealistic principles of romance of a woman with a social background in a rich and respected family named Myra Driscoll or Myra Henshawe. I first met Myra Henshawe when I was fifteen, although I had heard her name many times before. The scene that happened to her was when she eloped with a man named Henshawe. I heard my mother and Aunt Lydia call her Myra Driscoll when they visited New York. Myra is a smart, sociable, glamorous, and varied woman, unlike us who are monotonous, "She had been the brilliant and attractive figure among the friends or their girlhood, and her life had been as exciting and varied as ours monotonous" (Cather, 1990:3).

Myra was actually the same as us, born and raised as a teenager in a small town called Parthia, south of Illinois, but after being married only once visited her hometown. When she visited in the autum, she was already forty-five years old and I had just graduated from high school. She stayed two nights at the Parthian Hotel in order to accompany her husband, Mr. Henshawe while on a business visit to the West. Her husband was an official at the Eastern railroad company office based in New York. My mother is Aunt Lydia's older sister with all three sons. It causes Aunt Lydia loves me as her niece. My mother and Aunt Lydia hosted Myra for dinner and she came an hour early to give her some free time to talk.

Myra comes from a rich and well-known family background in society. Myra was very spoiled by her uncle with expensive gems and facilities. In the summer, her uncle took Myra to Ireland to visit her ancestral lands while being painted by a famous painter. Myra was once liked by an old man, a friend of her rich uncle and had served as president of banking, but Myra never took her seriously until one day, she met a young man named Henshawe. Oswald Henshawe comes from an ordinary, but devout family. Oswald's mother was a good German woman who was then married to a devout Protestant man named Henshawe. Oswald's father was a simple man who worked as a school principal and also taught at the Parthian High School high school. Driscoll hated this family for its idealism and simplicity. Even though his life was lacking, Oswald was also sent to Harvard to study and it was here that he met Myra and the two fell in love with each other. Old Driscoll disagreed with their love and forbade Oswald comes to the house. Finally, Myra and Oswald met secretly at Grandpa's house and were protected by Aunt Lydia. Driscoll who knew this then tortured Oswald so that he fled the city of Parthia and lived in New York and never returned for two years. News of him was only sent by letter through Aunt Lydia to Myra, *"He stayed there two years without coming home, sending his letters to Myra through my aunt"* (Cather, 1990:3).

Driscoll threatens Marry to withdraw his money if she marries Henshawe's son, but if Mary refuses, she will inherit two-thirds of Driscoll's estate and the rest will be donated to the church. Driscoll would rather have a dog than pay for a poor young man like Oswald Henshawe. According to him, God also hates the poor, "... A poor man stinks, and God hates him" (Cather, 1990:3). A few months later, Myra left her house and went to the town where Oswald's parents lived. There, Myra and Oswald's was wedding and attended by Oswald's parents along with Myra's friends. They were legally married on the civil registry. Two days after getting married, the bride and groom left for Chicago by express train in the morning. Myra eventually converted from Catholicism to Protestantism, "There, in the presence of his parents and of Myra's friends, they were married by the civil authority, and they went away on the Chicago express, which came through at two in the morning" (Cather, 1990:13).

Back in the story of the arrival of the Henshawe family in Parthia, Oswald and Myra stayed for three days. Before leaving back for New York, she invited Aunt Lydia, as well as me for this Christmas holiday. We were offered to stay there at a hotel on the main street, the Fifth Avenue Hotel. According to Myra, her apartment is one wall with the hotel. The Henshawe apartment is on the second floor of a brown stone building on the north side of Madison Square. This apartment looks nice. Oswald stood in front of the fire drinking whiskey waiting for us to arrive. Myra had her maid, an Irish woman, prepare dinner and then change into her clothes. After that, we had dinner and celebrated Christmas at the same time. After dinner, the waiter informed him that Ewan Gray had come. Henshawe then went to greet the young man on the veranda and we also followed him.

The next morning, Oswald Henshawe took Aunt Lydia and I go to worship at Grace Church. It was a very sunny morning so we decided to take a walk. On the way, Oswald said something to Aunt Lydia that you should give me a Christmas gift. Oswald explained that Mary had not given him a Christmas present. Oswald told me that a young woman from the west of the city sent him a gift that was stored on his office desk. Oswald actually wanted to return the gift, but he did not want to upset her feelings. Aunt Lydia was shocked and asked Oswald to remove the gift from his office because Myra had a strong sense of smell that she could smell it. Oswald asked Aunt Lydia to take the gift and then hand it to him at dinner tomorrow so Myra thought it came from Aunt Lydia and she would not have to be jealous. After we returned to the hotel, Aunt Lydia lay down and continued to think about the phenomenon of the husband and wife relationship, Oswald and Myra. She saw Oswald doing everything so well for Myra, but why was there another woman in their life. It is caused by Oswald is too kind and friendly to every woman and this attitude can make women sometimes unable to think rationally.

During the week between Christmas and New Years, I spent a lot of time with Mrs. Henshawe. She said that we have to meet a lot of people so that my English becomes fluent. I divided into two groups of Mrs. Henshawe's friends, namely the first group is those who live and work as public figures but are not rich, such as actors, actresses, musicians, writers, and artists, while the second group is rich people which she termed moneyed as a place to harvest money, namely businessmen like her husband, Oswald. Myra admired these moneyed people. On a Sunday I watched Myra hold a meeting with business colleagues who were mostly German persons. The meeting took place in a large room while sitting around a large table. Mrs. Myra looked dignified and the other women were afraid of her and they did not dare to resist Myra's every wish or action. Aunt Lydia often said that Myra was a spendthrift person who wasted money, but I judged that she was not a spendthrift, but she liked to care for helping others. I also observed that Mrs. Henshawe liked or admired people, so she would often say that person's name in a voice full of enthusiasm, but if in her eyes it was an ordinary person, then Myra would say that person's name in a low, expressionless voice. The Henshawe family always throws a party every New Year's Eve. At this year's party, they had many guests that I remember, including an old man named Jefferson de Angelais, a beautiful young woman named Helena Modjeska, and a young girl Miss Esther Sinclair. At the party, guests talked about people in Metropolitan New York City, such as Sarah Bernhard, the opera actor Hamlet, who is said to have been improving in recent weeks, and Jean de Reszke, who had arrived last night after a long illness in London.

On Monday morning, I and Aunt Lydia prepared to go home by taking the boat ferry across to Jersey station. Before the train arrived, we took the time to have breakfast there. Just before leaving we heard a woman's laughter from behind and it turned out to be Myra who had just gotten out of the car. Myra Henshawe approached and behind her was a laborer lifting her suitcase. She was planning to go to Pittsburgh, a lot of her friends were there. She is now no longer compatible with Oswald so she wants to leave him and if Oswald still wants her to follow her later, "... I'm only going as far as Pittsburgh. I've some old friends there. Oswald and I have disagreement, and I've left him to think it over. If he needs me, he can quite well come after me" (Cather, 1990:33).

Ten years since my visit to New York, I have witnessed rapid progress in the city that stretches along the America's West-coast city. The area is now very dense with high-rise buildings such as hotels and inns, however my situation is very poor. Something bad happened to our family so I went to this western region in the middle of this year. I work in an educational institution that also handles research for things that have not been proven in this place. I live in an apartment-hotel. On the ground floor of the hotel where I live there is a restaurant. I was there that night for dinner. When going down the stairs, I met a man who was carrying a small tray, he pulled over to give me a way. I looked at the man who had white hair and suddenly remembered the figure of Oswald Henshawe. I then said her name and he paused for a moment looking at me, then spontaneously said you must be Nellie Birdseye! Our meeting went on happily. He said that poor Mary was seriously ill and that her room was on the thirty-second floor, which she had brought for her supper. He hoped that one day I would see Mary because they had no one here.

I know that Henshawe has some bad evil days after spending his time touring various cities on the Pacific coast. At that point Myra stopped writing to Aunt Lydia after wishing her Christmas and happy birthday. We learned several years later after a visit to New York that Oswald, who had become the head of the railroad company, had a personal secretary to receive guests and letters. While they were overseas, Oswald was dismissed as president of the company by the new management. The company's reorganization resulted in Oswald's resignation and only given a small position, his wife was telling him to refuse the position. After that, he went to San Francisco to be the manager of a housing commission, but this business failed and what happened after that, I do not know anymore, *"He went to San Francisco as manager of a commission house; the business failed, and what had happened to them since I did not know"* (Cather, 1990:51-52).

After dinner, I went up the stairs and found Oswald with his wife, Mary. I saw that Oswald's face was older than his sixty years of age. I found Mary sitting in a wheelchair while looking out the window. She smiled at me and praised that I was able to find the two of them like a pair of old foxes again in the ground. They said, *"And we so safely hidden-in earth, like a pair of old foxed!"* (Cather, 1990:52). She now looked like the character of a wise woman, expecting nothing more. I compared the state of her apartment room when she was still in New York which was all luxurious and spacious with her life now in a very simple and narrow room, what an ironic condition. Myra still had a hard time with Oswald, even though her husband still cared about her and loved her. One time, I found Myra again scolding Oswald because no one pushed her in a wheelchair up into the room so she had to be outside. Oswald invites Nellie down and apologizes for the unpleasant incident.

Oswald now works as a lowly employee for a meager salary. He comes to work at nine every day except Sunday. At five o'clock in the morning he got up and went to his wife's room to prepare bath water, make the bed, organize the house, prepare breakfast, and make coffee. After having breakfast together, he washed the dishes then showered and dressed then went to work. His appearance was still as neat as when he was the leader and Oswald looked like someone who lived in a luxury hotel. The company gave him a two-hour policy during the day for Oswald to return home to visit his ailing wife and bring her lunch, after which he immediately returned to the office.

On Monday after school, I passed in front of Mrs. Henshawe and heard him so he called me in. He invited me to accompany him for tea in the afternoon. Mrs. Henshawe said that last night he dreamed of seeing herself young and full of happiness and when she woke up it was all a dream and she woke up crying. Mrs. Henshawe is disappointed with his present life which is full of suffering and his past happiness is just a dream for her now. In the afternoon after returning from school, I found a note from Mrs. Henshawe was placed under my bedroom door. The contents of the note are asking me to represent Mrs. Henshawe attended the anniversary of Madame Modjeska's death on the fifteenth of April. Before leaving for the memorial, I met Mrs. Henshawe and had praised my dress which she said was more like a wedding dress, she then gave me twenty dollars gold coins.

In the days that followed, I saw Mrs. Henshawe and no longer the things that are considered to make her happy. One day, I went there and saw her sitting in her wheelchair writing a letter to her old friend, an Irish artist named Mrs. Casey. I also remember this woman because back memory when I was in New York and the New Year's celebration was being held at Mrs. Henshawe, she was one of the guests who came. The son of Myra's best friend was named Billy, who finally committed suicide in Chicago because of a love case and at that time I also had the opportunity to read the news in the newspaper. Myra told me that her friend's son, Billy, had been entrusted to her when her mother went on tour. Myra could not forget she was just south of Illinois and Oswald in New York, and then it appeared on the news that Billy had killed himself by shooting himself at the age of twenty-three. Early in the morning, Myra came home by taking the express train.

I had time to ask why Myra is often rude to Oswald nowadays. After a moment of silence, Mary explained that Oswald was a person who was easily moved, especially when he reminisced when they were young with passion and love for each other, while Myra always reminisced about her past when she lived in luxury. It causes Oswald to always love Myra until now, while Myra always blames herself and Oswald because now they are poor and suffering. Myra continued that humans can sometimes love and be enemies. Oswald loved her, but Myra hated him now. She had lost everything, including the power to love. I expressed my view after hearing Myra's story by saying that this was something very embarrassing. She also agreed that this was very embarrassing while her lips smiled like a snake. Myra resumed writing for her best friend, Mrs. Casey and reported that her current state was only able to move up to the door. She apologized to Mrs. Casey and expressed his affection for her best friend, *"She mockingly bowed her tyrant's head. "It's owing to me infirmities, dear Mrs. Casey, that I'll not be able to go as far as me door wid ye"* (Cather, 1990:73).

In early June the health of Mrs. Henshawe was getting worse. Doctors said the malignant disease had begun to spread to her vital organs which might be difficult to survive in the next month. Myra's behavior was also strange because she hated the two nurses who served her. I am now the one who often goes there with her because school is temporarily on summer vacation. I was with Oswald who looked after her at night. Myra had slept soundly for several hours and would sometimes wake up in the middle of the night like she was reading an ancient poem. Myra spoke little now and complained less, but she often looked at Oswald as if he were a complete stranger to her. Mary is also sometimes delirious, for example when pointing to her husband while saying he will cover me for the rest of my life, hasten to bury me in the way of the king. When Oswald lifted her up on the bed, Myra thanked her husband while saying, I have had enough of you and I really love you, *"It's bitter enough that I should have to take service from you-you whom I have loved so well," I heard her say to him"* (Cather, 1990:76).

One day, Mrs. Henshawe wants to be given a blessing or a sacrament. After that, his mind calmed down and his body relaxed more. He told Henshawe to go to the office and the nurse would look after her. Mrs. Henshawe asked for a nurse from the nuns and Reverend Fay promised to send tomorrow. When I returned to my room and planned an hour later, I returned to Mrs. Henshawe, suddenly I heard Mr. Henshawe knocked on the door. He panicked to announce that his wife had left, "She's gone, Nellie, she's gone!" I think Mrs. Henshawe had died, but apparently he had run away somewhere. Oswald found a piece of paper on the table that read, "Dear Oswald, my time has come. Don't follow me. I want to be alone. Nellie knows where my stash is, "On the desk lay a sheet of note paper scribbled in lead pencil: Dear Oswald: my hour has come. Don't follow me. I wish to be alone. Nellie knows where there is money for masses" (Cather, 1990:79-80).

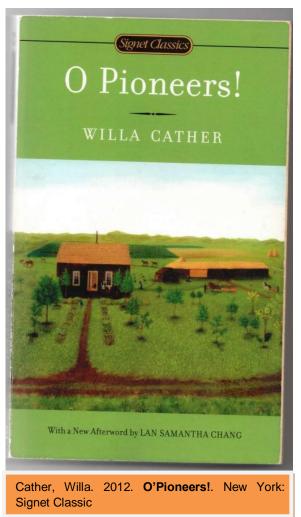
A Negro driver took us to where he dropped off the woman he had brought with her two nights ago. We found the woman on the beach sitting under an ebony tree overlooking the sea wearing a thick coat. It was true that she was Mrs. Henshawe who we have been looking for all along. After we got there to check on her, her head drooped forward and it turned out that she was dead. Mary Henshawe died peacefully and quietly. I now understand the words she once said that she wanted to watch the sunset because her position when her died was facing the sea where the sun was setting. It was not long before Pastor Hay also came and took his position beside Mary Driscoll Henshawe's body and we carried it with us, *"She must have died peacefully and painlessy. There was every reason to believe she had lived to see the dawn"* (Cather, 1990:82).

One morning, Henshawe called me to his room where he had already packed his things because he was planning to go to Alaska. He says that there he will work in a company office, now nothing can stop him from going where he wants to go. He would go with his wife's ill-fated box of ashes and intend to throw her in the water. Mr. Henshawe continued telling me that Nellie, I hope you do not remember Myra anymore when she was in this city with her really gray life, but remembered when you were with her in Madison Square, New York. At that time we were all happy, living in luxury. She was in poor condition when she was sick, but she remained obedient in his worship and maintained good relations with her friends. It must also be admitted that she is sometimes absolute with suspicion and jealousy that is so high, but at the same time has high spirits with fantastic fantasies. That is Myra Driscoll, along with her great jealousy, she is also a woman who is compassionate and full of emotion. She was indeed a different woman than most of the women I had known. For the past few years, I have taken care of the mother of a daughter, whose daughter is now going somewhere, the child is already a teenager and a bit wild. I hope someday, you Nellie can meet her.

After several years since the passing of Oswald Henshawe, I received the sad news that he had died in Alaska. Every time I take clothes from Mrs. Henshawe and wearing it, then my heart is very touched like the night is so cold. It was as if I was returning to this love story and then immersed in the beauty, imagination, generosity and passion of young people. In my ears also often ring the breath of a dying woman whose soul begs for forgiveness while saying, "Why do I have to die here, alone with my enemy of death!"

Sometimes, when I have watched the bright beginning of a love story, when I have seen a common feeling exalted into beauty by imagination, generosity, and the flaming courage of youth, I have heard again that strange complaint breathed by a dying woman into the stillness of night, like a confession of the soul: "Why mus I die like this, alone with **my mortal enemy**!" (Cather, 1990:84-85).

# 1.3 O'Pioneers!



This novel tells the story of cultivators in the Nebraska area, America who are immigrants from the Bohemian region of Europe, namely Austria, Sweden, Norway, and others. One of these cultivators is John Bergson and his wife named Mrs. Bergson and his four children, namely Alexandra, Oscar, Lou, and Emil. This family home is near Norway Creek. The river became the identity of the cultivators and farmers in the new area. The village called Divide is inhabited by a number of small houses owned by farmers. For the past eleven years John Bergson has cleared and managed the land with some of his dreams in the still wild land. This land was painstakingly tamed into agricultural land, "In eleven long years John Bergson had made but little impression upon the wild land he had came to tame" (Cather, 2012:19).

John Bergson's discussion partner about land management is his daughter who is also his first child, Alexandra. She had helped him in the fields since his child was twelve years old. John Bergson saw that his daughter's character and intelligence resembled her father's. John Bergson's father used to be a wealthy man who owned a shipping company, but his economic circumstances changed after he remarried a second time to a young girl from Stockholm, Sweden. This woman blackmailed John Bergson's father until he finally went bankrupt and died miserably. As for John Bergson and his brothers, they had to work hard because there was no inheritance so they had to go looking for arable land.

One January thirty years ago in a small town called Hanover which was the navel point of a stretch of land in Nebraska. The houses lined up that used to be barracks for land clearers. The area was originally a stretch of grassland which was later turned into settlements and agricultural land. The main road leading to the train station is lined with ruts of wagons that pass through it, especially in the winter. On the side of the road lined with wooden buildings that house a merchandise shop, two banks, a drug store, a food stall, a hair salon, and a post office. On the side of the road in front of one of the shops there was a small child (of Swedish origin) crying, about five years old. She cried while asking for help to save her gray cat from the tree. Apparently the cat was being hunted by a dog. The child's name is Emil while his older sister, Alexandra, goes to a doctor's office.

Alexandra was a tall woman and walked briskly with confidence and dressed like a man. Alexandra and her sister left the shop and walked to the salon and entered a pharmacy. There he met her friend named Carl Linstrum, a tall man of fifteen years. Carl said goodbye and Alexandra entered the shop carrying a basket of eggs. She found Emil sitting on the stairs playing with a little Bohemian girl (of Austrian descent) named Marie Tovesky who draped a toy ornament around the cat's neck. Marie and her mother came from Omaha, they were in town visiting her uncle, Joe Tovesky.

Now it was time for the cultivators to leave the small town and return to their farming areas with the necessary goods they had bought, such as tobacco, confectionery, refined alcohol, oil, cinnamon, and others. Carl also came with his carriage and took Alexandra and Emil and his friends up. Then they traveled up the hill back to the cultivator's settlement. Along the way they talked to each other. Carl had asked about the condition of Alexandra's family and she answered that her brothers, Oscar and Lou today went to the Blue area to cut wood to be used as firewood by her mother who was at home.

As winter was at its peak, John Bergson's illness got so bad that one day he had Alexandra call all her siblings. Then from the kitchen came Oscar who was nineteen and Lou, who was seventeen. Emil is his youngest son. After the children gathered, John Bergson advised that after his death, they would all take good care of this land and manage the land under the direction of Alexandra. He had been mentoring Alexandra since the first time the pain started. As long as you stay in this house you must have the same mind. If later you are married and each of you has a house, then divide this land fairly according to the rules that apply later, Alexandra will arrange this. Be good children, get along well, and be devoted to your mother. A few days later, John Bergson died.

"Boys," said the father wearily,"I want you to keep the land together and to be guided by your sister. I have talked to her since lhave been sick, and she knows all my wishes. I want no quarrels among my children, and so long as there is one house there must be one head. Alexandra is the oldest, and she knows my wishes. She will do the best she can... Alexandra will manage the best she can" (Cather, 2012:23).

Six years since John Bergson's death, his family life has prospered. However, three years after that they experienced a period of stagnation, namely crop failure that changed the situation drastically. Many people leave their fields and return to their hometowns of Iowa, Illinois, and elsewhere. This situation makes unemployment increase so that labor becomes cheap. People in the city also panicked because of the invasion of workers from the frontier area who experienced crop failure, Lou's uncle in the city of Chicago named Otto was also affected by this situation. The predicament caused people in the state or county to be loss spirit or demoralized.

The difficult situation experienced by people in farming areas requires a pioneer who has a bright imagination or mind in overcoming life's problems, "A *pioneer should have imagination, should be able to enjoy the idea of things more than the things themselves*" (Cather, 2012:38). Alexandra is a pioneer who continues to think innovatively in managing land. She must be better than the previous generation. A history shows that many nations were raised by the innovative soul of men and women. All the innovative and creative efforts made by Alexandra succeeded in prospering the cultivators. The population living in the Divide area is starting to become dense, the fields are producing abundant harvests, it is easier for people to manage agricultural fields, crops are also thriving, and the weather is in stable condition.

Alexandra successed to manage agricultural land and her life became prosperous and rich, her two younger siblings named Oscar and Lou have also become successful cultivators, her youngest brother named Emil has also successfully entered college at the University of the United States. To the south of the hill there is a vast expanse of gardens with various fruits hanging down. The house and large plot of land belonged to the richest farmer in the Divide, a woman named Alexandra Bergson as **a pioneer** farmer in the frontier community. The house is very pleasant and classy. Alexandra has three young Swedish maids who work in the kitchen, house and yard. *"Any one thereabouts would have told you that this was one of the richest farms on the Divide, and that the farmer was a woman, Alexandra Bergson"* (Cather, 2012:62).

Behind Alexandra's success in overcoming the problem of famine and successfully innovating in managing agricultural land as well as being an innovator for other cultivators, she also has to overcome problems with her younger siblings, Oscar and Lou. Oscar started the conversation by saying that the neighbors started talking about the presence of a man named Carl Linstrum at Alexandra's house, who had been living for a month. Alexandra responded to Oscar in a displeased tone because nothing had happened while Carl was staying at home and she did not feel needed to be advised about this. Lou immediately responded to Alexandra's comments by emphasizing that what the neighbors said about this family, we all became anxious and scared. Alexandra, Oscar, and Lou's conversation grew tense and eventually became an open conflict. Oscar and Lou sued the house occupied by Alexandra, in fact they felt burdened to pay interest on the loan taken by Alexandra in the past, including being used to build a house. Alexandra defended herself by saying that the interest they paid was only for the part of the land they already owned and they had enjoyed the fruits of the land including the cost of their wedding. Alexandra also added that in the past when this land was divided equally, you were happy to receive it, but why bring this up now. Since then, we have agreed to work on each other's land instead of working together, what I have now is the result of my own efforts and I have never interfered with your efforts. "Yes, you paid the interest. But when you married we made a division of the land, and you were satisfied. I've made more on my farms since I've been alone than when we all worked together" (Cather, 2012:119).

Lou challenged Alexandra's words even more by saying that the boys actually had rights to the land because he was the one who was responsible for the family. Alexandra said that there was no state rule that she had violated, instead she challenged her two younger siblings to go to the government office in the city to check the land which Alexandra owned, all the land was hers and none of her two younger siblings' shares were in her name. Alexandra reminded Lou and Oscar that they had intended to sell this house to Reverend Ericson for two thousand dollars, but I got in the way, otherwise you both would have been living in huts by the river by then and would forever be poor farmers. Then when I was told by Emil that the grass and hay should be sold as animal feed, you opposed mocking me in the name of what the neighbors said, but it actually brought me great profit. Furthermore, on the advice of educated people, I was able to manage the land with yields three times more than the results obtained by the neighbors so all that I got was the result of hard work and this profit was what I used to renovate and build this house.

The young man who was about to enter university at that time Alexandra meant was her youngest brother, Emil and educated people like Carl Linstrum were Alexandra's best friends. Emil and Carl Linstrum are indeed both close and have compatibility, compared to Lou and Oscar who tend to be jealous of Carl. Lou and Oscar thought that they had worked hard all this time, but all of Alexandra's wealth was only for her youngest sister, Emil. Alexandra chimed in that only you guys thought you had worked hard, but actually not because it was me who worked hard, *"Hard on you? I never meant to be hard. Conditions were hard... If you take even a vine and cut it back again and again, it grows hard, like a tree"* (Cather, 2012:121).

After feeling unable to beat Alexandra in an argument, Oscar and Lou express their real intention that they are worried that Alexandra will marry Carl because they suspect that he has the intention to take Alexandra's property. According to them, Carl is five years younger than Alexandra, who is now in her forties, so they suspect that Carl's motive for romance is wealth, when in fact this is just malice. Alexandra was upset that her best friend since childhood was accused by her two younger siblings. Alexandra firmly smashed the table and ended the conversation by saying that no one could take what she had right now. Alexandra's warning was actually addressed to her two younger siblings. Oscar and Lou could only look at each other in a confused state left by Alexandra's house. Oscar said there was nothing to be gained, Lou then continued that Alexandra was like a female wolf who could not be fought. Lou and Oscar looked at each other questioningly, *"There seemed to be nothing to do but to go, and they walked out"* (Cather, 2012:122).

Another problem faced by Alexandra when Emil was shot dead by Frank Shabata. It started when Emil met his best friend as a child, Marie Tovesky, who is now Frank Shabata's wife. The lack of harmony in the household makes Marie meet Emil more often to share her family problems. One night, Frank Shabata arrives at his house and is surprised to find Emil's horse tied to the fence. At that time, he was still half conscious because he had been drinking alcoholic beverages since noon. He suspected that something urgent was happening, especially since the house was pitch black. He sneaked into his house, checked all the rooms, but found no one. Frank walked out of the house with a gun. He searched here and there, but could not find his wife. He then went into the garden, stood for a moment watching. Under the moonlight, he could faintly see what he thought was Emil hunting, but when he got closer, it turned out to be just leaves. He continued to walk on the side of the wheat field on the border of the Bergson's prairie. He stopped there again observing the situation.

Suddenly Frank heard a gasping sound like the sound of running water in spring. He approached the white mulberry tree and saw the black silhouette of a woman lying on the side of the field hearing a sigh. Frank's blood boiled up to his brain, he then aimed his rifle at the shadow and shot it three times. Not long after, he heard the sound of a woman's hysterical cry which made him worried that he had killed someone, but he did not know who it was. Frank, who just realized that he had shot someone, immediately planned to run as far as possible. He was about to leave for Hanover, then take the one o'clock night train ride to Omaha, but before fleeing he let go of Emil's horse tied to the fence. *"After two or three attempts, he lifted himself into the saddle and started for Hanover. If he could catch the one o'clock train, he had enough money to get as far as Omaha"* (Cather, 2012:185).

On the way to Hanover, Frank thought that the woman's crying voice was his wife, Marie. He was about to go back to check it out, but he did not because he was afraid he would be caught murdering and be punished so severely that he had to go far. That night the bullet pierced Emil's heart and immediately fell backwards dead. Marie's fate is also concerning because the bullet pierced her lungs. He did not die right away, but he still had the chance to see Emil's body, that's when he screamed hysterically as Frank heard. Marie finally crawled around hugging Emil's body from behind and died too. Their bodies were stacked against each other under the white mulberry tree which witnessed this tragic event. Ivar finally found a discarded Frank Shabata rifle on the way to the garden. Alexandra, who woke up early in the morning because she was worried about Emil's condition, immediately went to see his room upstairs, but could not find him. Not long after that Ivar came in a hurry that he had found Emil dead saying, *"Mistress, mistress," he sobbed, "it has fallen! Sin and death for the young ones! God have mercy upon us!"* (Cather, 2012:194).

In the late afternoon of late October, Alexandra in a black jacket traveled by train to Burlington in Lincoln. He stayed at the Lindell Hotel, this place two years ago when he attended the Emil Certificate Presentation Ceremony. Alexandra was bored in her room and after dinner, she went out to visit the campus at the university where Emil had lived. He just walked outside the campus fence while watching students move in every building, including the library. Alexandra reminisced about her youngest brother, Emil, who is now dead.

The next day, Alexandra visited the prison at the State Penitentiary and met the head warden, a German named Mr. Schwartz. Alexandra brought a letter of guarantee from a banker in Hanover. The warden finally agreed to the meeting and ordered that prisoner room number 1037 on behalf of Frank Shabata be brought out. Frank looked thinner with and whiter in handcuffs. Frank is taken by guards to meet Alexandra in a special room. Frank told Alexandra that he had never hit Marie, even though his wife was annoying at times. He began to suspect when in the last two or three years, his wife no longer cared about him and sometimes he was considered not a real man. Actually she knew that there was another man that Marie had in her heart, but he did not care. That night he did not intend to shoot him only because he was shocked mixed with anger and drunk so he indulged his emotions. "Frank clenched his fist and broke out in excitement. "I don't feel hard at no woman. I tell you I not that kind of a man. I never hit my wife... Two, t'ree years I know dat woman don' care no more 'bout me, Alexandra Bergson. I know she after some other man. I know her, oo-oo! ..." (Cather, 2012:210).

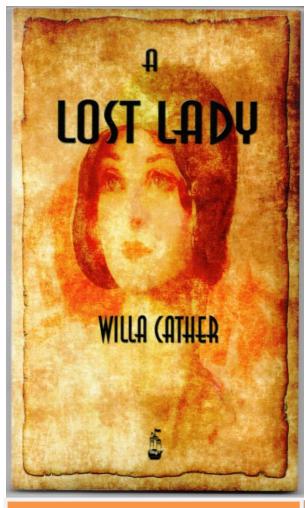
Alexandra understood that Frank never intended to kill Emil and Marie after hearing his story. Alexandra then stated that she wanted to make peace and withdrew her demands in a formal letter to the Governor to get Frank out of prison. Hearing this, Frank was very moved and said he wanted to go back to where he came from to live with his mother and did not want to go to Divide again for fear of making another mistake. Alexandra then made sure that she could no longer do well to Emil, so now she came to do good to Frank. It was not long before the warden came and took Frank back to his cell. *"Alexandra," he said earnestly,"if I git out-a-here, I nt trouble dis country no more. I go back where I come from; seemy mother"* (Cather, 2012:211).

Alexandra left the prison after a brief chat with the chief warden, Mr. Schwartz then said goodbye to take a taxi back to Lincoln. Along the way, she reminisced about Frank Shabata's kindness and fate with a poem from her high school days. Arriving at the hotel, Alexandra finds a telegram on her desk in a yellow envelope. She then rushed into the elevator straight to the room while locking from the inside. Alexandra was sitting on a chair reading the telegram and she was surprised that it was sent by Carl Linstrum. It read, *"Arrived in Hanover last night, I waited here for you to come. Please hurry."* Alexandra cries after reading Carl's telegram, *"Alexandra put her head down on the dresser and burst into tears"* (Cather, 2012:213).

Alexandra leaves Lincoln at midnight and meets Carl at the Hanover train station early in the morning. Alexandra changed her clothes to white to match Carl's brown clothes. Alexandra asked Carl not to be bothered by Lou and Oscar's words first. They no longer want to care about Alexandra especially since Emil's death. Carl chimed in that he had no problem with Lou and Oscar's actions because the most important thing for him was to fulfill Alexandra's expectations and protect her. Alexandra was touched and cried while spilling her feelings that I always pray crying for you at night until I do not want to know about you anymore, but once I received a telegram from you, then I again felt you were everything in my life in this world.

Alexandra is forty years old and not yet married, although she also thinks that she should marry so that she can be with her husband taking care of the family and the fields. In the afternoon, Alexandra and Carl walked alone through Mrs. Hiller. Carl Linstrum, who was Alexandra's best friend since childhood, brought a change in Alexandra that marriage is God's nature that humans cannot refuse. They intend to get married. Alexandra held Carl's hand as they walked together and reminisced about this road they had traveled together many times when they were teenagers. Before arriving at the fence, Carl took the time to kiss Alexandra's lips and eyes with affection. Alexandra stated that she was tired, all this time alone. The two of them stepped into the house leaving the Divide fields behind while the stars sparkled in the night, *"They went into the house together, leaving the Divide behind them, under the evening star"* (Cather, 2012:220).

## 1.4 A Lost Lady



Cather, Willa. 2012. **A Lost Lady**. New York: Merchant Book

This novel tells the story of a woman named Mariam Ormsby or known as Mrs. Forrester. Some thirty or forty years ago in a green town along the railroad tracks in Burlington, there was a house that still vividly remembers the settlement from Omaha to Denver. The person who has contributed to connecting the Burlington area by rail is Captain Daniel Forrester, a man who works as a contractor and has built hundreds of miles of roads in Burlington all the way into the hills of the Black Hills. He is a man who speaks less, but thinks and works more. He and his wife, Mrs. Forrester lived in a big house, nice, beautiful, comfortable, and spacious yard. The house is located in a valley about a mile east of the town of Sweet Water, "The house stood on a low round hill, nearly a mile east of town; a white house with a wing, and sharp-sloping, roofs to shed the snow" (Cather, 2012:3).

The beautiful and intelligent-looking woman is Mrs. Forrester who is the second wife of Captain Forrester. The age of Mrs. Forrester was twenty-five years younger than Captain Forrester. Even though they are far apart in age, they seem to be living happily ever after. They married in California and moved to Sweet Water. They already think this area is their hometown. Then since Captain had an accident falling from a horse while crossing a hilly area, now they prefer to stay at rest in this house and the railroad construction efforts are also not continued. Both of them are getting older day by day and their bodies are also getting old.

Every year after Thanksgiving, Mrs. Forrester and her husband spent the winter living in Denver and Colorado Springs, then returned to Sweet Water in

May. Actually Mrs. Forrester wanted to take care of Niel as his adopted son, but his busy activities made Mrs. Forrester did not have much time to do that. However, when there is a celebration, Mrs. Forrester always invites Niel and his friends. Likewise, if the children know that Mrs. Forrester was at his house, so they came to picnic and play there, *"He knew that Mrs. Forrester like him, but she hadn't much time for growing boys. When she had friends staying with her, and gave a picnic supper for them, or a dance in the grove on a moonlit night, <i>Niel was always invited"* (Cather, 2012:18).

Now the situation c of the city of Sweet Water has changed greatly. Since experiencing crop failure, the spirit of farming has also disappeared as George Adams and his family returned to Massachusetts. The same thing happened to other cultivators, they also moved too. As for Niel Herbert's father, after experiencing business failure, he left Kentucky to return to Denver. However, Neil continued to live with his uncle, Judge Pommerov, but his interests were not on the same level as his uncle's career in law. Judge Pommerov remains proud of his niece, Neil Herbert, who has now grown into a dashing, capable and critical nineteen-year-old.

On a winter afternoon a few days before Christmas, Mrs. Forrester came to Mr. Judge and also met with Niel there who temporarily helps with work in his uncle's office. Mrs. Forrester came to invite dinner tomorrow night which also happened to have a guest from Denver named Frank Elinger who also wanted to celebrate Christmas. The Forrester family dinner was attended by several invited guests, including Judge Pommerov and his nephew Neil Herbert, the Odgens family and daughter Constance Ogden, and a number of friends from the town of Sweet Water. The atmosphere of the banquet was solemn and full of joy and friendship was established. Mrs. Forrester introduces Constance to Niel. Constance is a beautiful girl princess Ogdan. That night Mrs. Forrester appeared very graceful, charming, and dazzling like a queen. They were engrossed in the party and excitement of the night. When it was late at night, they were already very sleepy and some were a bit drunk from drinking a lot of alcohol. One by one the guests said goodbye to their respective homes. The party was over and only Captain Forrester, Mrs. Forrester, and Frank Ellinger.

After a long time not seeing Mrs. Forrester's family again, Niel does not know if Mrs. Forrester is alive or dead. At the end of the year there is a winter storm in Sweet Water on the first day of March. The Forresters' home was also not spared by the storm and was buried by 30 inches of snow. Neil took the time to visit the Forrester family's house, when he arrived he was greeted by Captain Forrester. Mrs. Forrester also appeared from inside the house to welcome Neil. The meeting was really touching, Captain Forrester gave a souvenir to Neil and Mrs. Forrester made a tea treat. Mrs. Forrester look still charming with a dress made in Japan.

Early June in the spring is a happy days for Captain because he can enjoy the flowers and flowers in his yard. That morning a telegram came in informing him that Captain's large stake in the Denver bank had gone bankrupt. Captain immediately calls his lawyer, Judge Pommeroy, to accompany him to Denver to save the money. Before leaving, Pommeroy instructs some work in his office to Niel. Mrs. Forrester drove them to the station and then took the express business class train, *"That evening the Captain and his lawyer went west on the express. The Judge, when he was giving Niel final instructions about the office business,..."* (Cather, 2012:50).

Mrs. Forrester is not too worried about the state of her husband's savings because she is a woman who always has her own money, is good at frugal, and does not waste money. Captain Forrester tells his wife that you will stay here debt free and please take advantage of my retirement fund. Mrs. Forrester even though her face was pale when he heard of her husband's bankruptcy at the Denver Bank, but she still smiled and gave her husband a cigarette and calmed him by saying it is okay, we will organize and make good use of the remaining property, *"Niel saw that Mrs. Forrester grew very pale, but she smiled and brought her husband his cigar stand. "Oh, well! I expect we can manage, can't we?"* (Cather, 2012:54).

In August, Neil left for Boston to begin his entrance exam to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Architectural Studies Program. Before leaving, he took the time to visit the Forrester family to say goodbye. Niel is very sad to be separated from the Forrester family. Captain could only sit in his big chair near the window and say a friendly greeting. Meanwhile, Mrs. Forrester sat on the sofa in the corner of the room talking about Niel's travel plans. Mrs. Forrester said that at the age of twentieth Niel would have many friends, including girls. Niel was told to choose a beautiful and kind girl. Mrs.

Forrester will also help if there is a need for Niel's money, *"Mrs. Forrester, on the sofa in the shadowy corner of the room, talked about Niel's plans and his journey"* (Cather, 2012:60).

After two years, Niel Herbert returned home to Sweet Water. In the afternoon of the next day, Niel met Captain Forrester who was temporarily in the flower garden around his house. He greeted Niel who proudly told him that last summer, he was visited by his friend Cyrus Dalzell who had come to hunt around the hills. Mrs. Forrester tells about Captain's situation, who can only sit and watch the clock from time to time, counting the time from hour to hour, sometimes even acting like a child. The conversation continued Mrs. Forrester by asking Niel's views on changes in the behavior of today's women, including the habit of young women now smoking as well as the behavior of men after dinner. According to Mrs. Forrester, such habits are only common among celebrities and today's women tend to look stylish where nothing like that was previously found. Hearing Mrs. Forrester generation of women.

"And tell me, Niel, do women really smoke after dinner now with the men, nice women? I shouldn't like it. It's all very well for actresses, but women can't be atrractive if they do everything that men do." "I think just now it's the fashion for women to make themselves comfortable, before anything else." Niel laughed. Yes, that was certainly the idea of Mrs. Forrester's

generation (Cather, 2012:67-68).

Mrs. Forrester told Niel that she had not been in town in over six weeks, she had not seen Judge. Now she no longer owns a horse so she has to walk everywhere. In her house almost no more valuables. Gradually she felt her strength waning and her body began to tire. Mrs. Forrester aspired that if she had enough money, she would buy a house in Chicago and lives there. She encouraged Niel to quickly achieve his dream of becoming a successful person, do not play around with time for too long, now money has a very important role, *"And you haven't time to play any more either, Niel. You must hurry and become a successful man… Money is very important thing"* (Cather, 2012:68).

On the night of the first week of July along with the full moon, Niel finds Captain can only stay in the house and can no longer do activities. While Captain is asleep, Ivy comes to see Mrs. Forrester and informed her that she would come tomorrow morning to harvest wheat on Forrester's estate. He would leave his horse and stay for lunch at Forrester's house. He reported that tomorrow at around six o'clock in the morning, her people had come to harvest and expected the work to be finished by ten o'clock at the latest. After lunch, lvy planned to go to the office at three o'clock to meet his client. Mrs. Forrester then assured that at one o'clock lunch was ready.

Mrs. Forrester told Niel that she had a dream for the next two or three years to return to California and live there. As for his collaboration with Ivy, she is also indebted to Ivy Peter's family. Last winter, Mrs. Forrester and the Dalzell's family have been in Glenwood Springs for three weeks and while she is not in the house, Ivy's sister takes care of the house while looking after Captain. She said that at that time, she felt that she had free time again and could go back and forth to the city to meet dinner party invitations. She I was happy to be able to enjoy meeting old friends at the banquet as Mrs. Dalzell. She feels like young again together with many people, *"I looked happier than any women there. They were nearly all younger, much"* (Cather, 2012:75).

After a few weeks of this hot and dry weather, at the end of July, storms, lightning, thunder, and torrential rain began to pour down the Sweet Water valley. A lake and two small streams began to fill with water that separated Forrester's house from the town of Sweet Water. That night, Niel suggested that Mrs. Forrester only stayed on the first floor of this office because it was very dangerous to go home alone crossing the overflowing river. Early in the morning before the people in town woke up, Niel escorted Mrs. Forrester returned home down a muddy road and across a creek that was difficult to cross. When dawn broke, they had arrived. Niel immediately met Captain in his room and informed him that last night Mrs. Forrester was in his pace because the river had overflowed, so this morning he drove her. Neil then helps Captain fix his position to be more comfortable and relaxed. Captain also thanked to Niel.

In the following days, Captain Forrester's condition, who suffered a stroke, became even more alarming. The mothers who lived in the city every day and night like Mrs. Elliot came to the house to care for and bring food. The Beasleys and Molly Tuckers were like a part of the house, including taking care of the food in the kitchen. They are neighbors now helping Mrs. Forrester cleans and takes care of the house. Meanwhile, Captain's friends have now moved and live far away, except for Dr. Dennison and Judge Pemmeroy still live in the town

of Sweet Water not too far from Captain's house. The situation at Captain's house is now really changing. The house used to be very luxurious, the furniture was high-class, many important people came, and almost every night there was a banquet while playing cards. Now that situation is gone, the house is not well cared for in fact some parts have been damaged, the furniture is old, and some of it was sold to cover living expenses. The splendor, luxury, and glory of the Forrester family slowly disappeared along with the stroke suffered by Captain Daniel Forrester.

One night, Mrs. Forrester had gone to bed and Captain was resting peacefully. Niel saw them again happy. As his habit, Captain calls Mrs. Forrester was just checking to see if his wife was around. Captain felt that he knew his wife more than Mrs. Forrester recognized herself. Captain showed his expression that his wife, Mrs. Forrester was a person of great value to him. After a while, it turns out that Captain Forrester died, closing the pages of his life peacefully.

He wanted to know if she were near, perhaps; or, perhaps, he merely liked to call her name and to hear her answer. The longer Niel was with Captain Forrester in those peaceful closing days of his life, the more he felt that the Captain knew his wife better even than she knew herself; and that, knowing her, he,-to use one of his own expressions,-valued her (Cather, 2012:86).

Captain Forrester died in early December. This sad news was reported by the state electronic media telegraphic news, everywhere this sad news was reported in the city of Sweet Water. Flowers and telegrams of condolences came from everywhere, the western and eastern regions. Among the many people who came, no one a close friend of Captain's could be seen, except for Dr. Dennison and Judge Pommeroy. They are generally still in remote places like Mr. Dalzell in California, president of the Burlington railroad. He temporarily toured Europe on his business. On the morning of the funeral, Captain's body was placed in the coffin. Niel heard from the kitchen door that someone came carrying a white painted chest filled with flowers. It turned out to be Adolph Blum who brought funeral equipment from expensive materials. Niel then carried the equipment up the stairs and handed it to Mrs. Forrester. After the funeral, on the way home, for the first time Mrs. Forrester spoke. She told Judge Pommeroy and Niel while pointing at Captain's grave that she wanted to arrange tombstones over the grave and plant flowers around it just as when Captain was alive, he liked to sit in the middle of his flower garden. The three of us arrived at Forrester's house around four in the afternoon and Mrs. Forrester made tea and we drank tea, *"When they got back to the house it was four o'clock, and she insisted upon making tea for them"* (Cather, 2012:88).

On an April morning, Niel was alone again in his uncle's attorney's office. Niel regularly hangs out in the office because his uncle, Judge Pommeroy, is suffering from acute rheumatic disease and has to rest. Suddenly a guest came, but this guest knew Niel well. He is Mr. Ogden, a good friend of the Forrester family and Judge Pommeroy. After talking about the Forrester family and Niel's school, Mr. Ogden conveyed the purpose of his arrival. He wanted to help arrange for the late Captain Forrester's increased pension benefits for Mrs. Forrester because he had some colleagues in the Washington central government who could help, but Niel refuted that Mrs. Forrester was no longer a client of his uncle, Judge Pommeroy. Mrs. Forrester now turns to a young lawyer named Ivy Peter. Niel informed that she has shifted legal handling of company assets after her husband, Captain Forrester, died. Hearing that, Mr. Ogden is disappointed that while Captain was alive, Judge Pommeroy was his trusted attorney during his more than twenty years of partnership, "Mr. Ogden's normal eye became as blank as the other. "What's that? He isn't her lawyer? Why, for twenty years-" (Cather, 2012:90).

One day, Niel came to Mrs. Forrester and relayed the rumors currently circulating her about her close relationship with Ivy Peter. Hearing this, Mrs. Forrester chimed in by saying what was wrong with her, Ivy Peter was her lawyer, her business partner and her tenant. If she often comes with her friends, it actually helps so that the house is not lonely and she is not alone. Niel suggested that Mrs. Forrester just returned to his hometown in California, the people there certainly really appreciate it. Mrs. Forrester responds by saying that she intends to sell her house for \$20,000, but your uncle says it should be \$12,000. Ivy is now helping to repair and paint this house so it can sell for as much as I want it to. It was the reason that Ivy was often in this house, *"That's why Ivy here so much, he's trying to make the place presentable; pulling down the old barn that had become an eyesore, putting new boards in the porch floor where the old rotted"* (Cather, 2012:88).

Mrs. Forrester as a widow is no longer comfortable living in Sweet Water, the area where her husband had started. She then left too and Niel did not have time to say goodbye. After his uncle Judge Pommeroy died, Niel heard the news that Ivy Peter had bought Forrester's house and land in Sweet Water and had brought his wife from Wyoming to live in Forrester's house. As for Mrs. Forrester has gone nowhere, but people think she was back in California, *"After his uncle's death, Niel heard that Ivy Peters had at last bought the Forrester place, and had brought a wife from Wyoming to live there. Mrs. Forrester had gone West, people supposed to California"* (Cather, 2012:104-105).

For years Niel never heard from Mrs. Forrester until he got information from someone who lived in Sweet Water. That night Niel was staying at a Chicago hotel, suddenly someone named Ed Elliott appeared who then invited to chat at a table while ordering dinner. Ed Elliott informed that the twelve years since Mrs. Forrester left Sweet Water, he met her in Buenos Ayres (Argentina) on a business trip in South America. Niel is now finally back with news about a woman who has been missing in him for a long time or **a lost lady**, *"Niel was destined to hear once again of his long-lost lady*" (Cather, 2012:105).

Ed Elliot told Niel that Mrs. Forrester was chatting at that time in the hotel until her husband came to call her for dinner. It turned out that Mrs. Forrester was married to an old British tycoon named Henry Collins. They met in California. According to Mrs. Forrester, her husband is a nice man who loves her and provides many facilities including a car made in France. She had advised Ed Elliott to convey her greetings to Niel Herbert, *"She asked about everybody, and said, 'If you ever meet Niel Herbert, give him my love, and tell him I often think of him'"* (Cather, 2012:106).

Ed Elliott continued that story when he arrived back in Sweet Water from his South American trip. Ed visited Niel's office, but Niel was not around while he was in Europe so greetings from Mrs. Forrester just delivered now. Niel then replied that he wanted to visit Mrs. Forrester to meet him, but Ed says that she died three years ago. Ed knew that because since leaving Sweet Water, Mrs. Forrester every year always sends a check to the military headquarters of the Grand Army Post asking for a decorative wreath to be placed on Captain Forrester's grave. Three years ago a letter came from an English man ordering it to be placed in Mr. Captain Forrester inscribed with written, **peace in the**  **memory of my wife, Marian Forrester Collins**. From that moment, Ed knew that Mrs. Forrester had died. Hearing Ed Elliott's story, Niel thanked God because Mrs. Forrester still remembers and cares for Captain Forrester until the end of his life. The look on Niel's face seemed to feel the shadow of their faces in the past.

"No, she died about three years ago. I know that for certain. After she left Sweet Water, wherever she was, she always sent a cheque to the Grand Army Post every year to have flowers put on Captain Forrester's grave for Decoration Day. Three years ago the Post got a letter from the old Englishmen, with a draft for the future care of Captain Forrester's grave, 'in memory of my late wife, Marian Forrester Collins'" (Cather, 2012:106-107).

### 2. Biography of Willa Cather



(Source:https://www.google.com/search?q=willa+c ather&sxsrf=AOaemvIGZqLcjnYq1cRZAC3v02SMI EY1Zw:1643115118877 accessed on January 25, 2022 at 8.54 p.m.)

Willa Cather is a writer who has extensively described the situation of settlers in the American West. She was born in Virginia West in 1873 and moved with her family to Red Cloud, Nebraska when he was 10 years old. The small town of Red Cloud is a residential area for immigrants from various nations in Europe, especially from Bohemian, Scandinavian, and French. She pursued her higher education at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, a college exclusively for women. While at the College, she began writing short stories, playing plays, studying music, reviewing books, and being involved in the media "Nebraska Journal." Willa Cather pursued her undergraduate education from 1891 to 1895.

After earning her bachelor's degree, Willa Cather became editor of a magazine in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Five years later she became a teacher at High School English. Then in 1906, she moved to New York as a managing editor at the high-profile corruption news journal "McClure's Magazine." There, in 1908, Willa Cather met and became acquainted with a regional writer from

New England named Sarah Ornet Jewett. She greatly influenced the development of Willa Cather's writing talent for the public world. That same year, Willa Cather had an apartment and was living with a boy friend from Nebraska named Edith Lewis. He became Cather's life partner until her death in 1947. Cather had experienced a life shock in 1922 when her health deteriorated and her feud with the publisher that published her works had brought her disappointment. In addition, changes in American society's behavior, which is consumptive and moving towards materialism, has made her stressed. To restore her self-confidence, she did spiritual therapy at the Episcopal Church and in 1932 began to actively write again.

In various life experiences that she has witnessed herself regarding the position of women in family and community relationships, Willa Cather has sensitivity to various upheavals within women. The psychological burdens and stereotypes that are conventionally attached to the sex differences between men and women are carefully examined and expressed in the form of turbulent images of the ideal woman. Women are shown as figures who represent desire, feelings of love, and disappointment in relationships. Willa Cather through her works wants women to be independent figures who have a strong sense of sensibility and desire in their lives.

In the 1920s, Willa Cather returned to the American West region in Virginia, New York, Illinois, Parthia, and Nebraska after previously visiting and living in Europe for several years. The American West is the place where she was born and spent her childhood. After returning to the area of her birth, she observed indications of a shift in people's mindset that was starting to be felt. Women are starting to glorify marriage again as part of their life choices, but this time marriage is a bit different because the values of freedom and justice are emphasized. This shift was generally influenced by the arrival of settlers from the East America region who entered the Central and West America region while bringing a new mindset. The situation of those regions were observed very closely by Willa Cather, "*The values in American culture that Willa Cather admired most were drawn from the new Immigrants who settled the American Midwest*" (Ware, 1989:529).

According to Ware (1989:167), there has been a shift in mindset among American society as a result of the fulfillment of American women's political rights through the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment of America Constitution which has created a new atmosphere among young American women. The new mindset in question is the spirit of justice and freedom in various aspects of life as part of the moral values of modern American women. The 1920s were a transitional period in American society where previously in the traditional societal mindset that put men in a more dominant role in life, and now they have to deal with the mindset of modern society that prioritizes a balanced role in life as a form of modern democracy. In addition, the women's agenda, especially among young American women, is more focused on the social aspect, namely the issue of marriage and the economic aspect, independence of individual rights in terms of productivity, and others.

This transition period results in internal conflicts within women to find new values and forms of life that are right for their identity. Those women who take part in the new atmosphere of thought, especially from among young women and educated people are considered modern women who are shaping the new life of American women. Social and political aspects are one of the sides that do not escape the spotlight of American female leaders. The condition of society, especially among women, is absorbed by Willa Cather in several of her works as stated by Ware (1989:159) as follows:

The world broke in two in 1922 or thereabouts, "observed writer Willa Cather. In Many ways, the period beginning in the 1920s represented a new, more modern orientation to American life. The year 1920 served as a definite watershed for the nation's women, as they gained the vote and embarked on full citizenship and political equality with men.

Willa Cather in presenting changes in people's lives in her literary works, does not show her partiality to either party, either those who support the new atmosphere or those who still idealize the old mindset. She only describes how the impact of two different forms of life is then left to the readers' perception which one is appropriate. It seems that Willa Cather as proposed by Hart (1986:112) is a person who wants to combine old values with new mindsets. The point is that the old values of marriage for women are something that should not be denied, but in the world of marriage and family life there is justice and equality of roles between men and women.

Willa Cather in building her imagination was much influenced by the values and atmosphere that was built by settlers in the American West region

such as Nebraska, Illinois, Iowa, Parthia, Denver, and others. All of these areas are social facts witnessed by Cather as Carlsen (1985:159) describes as follows:

Willa Cather poured out her feelings about the rugged settlers of the West, their codes of behavior and their love for the earth. All of her major work comes out of her youthful impressions of the West, her wide reading in histories of its development, and frequent revisits to her relatives and her favorite towns. What she sought was the spiritual truths that are illuminated by a discriminating choice of fact and detail.

Willa Cather is a female writer who has made a major contribution in revealing the existence of women from the past, present, and future. As a feminist writer, her works are more directed at women's self-conflict in relation to social relations. Through a number of novels such as *O'Pioneers!, Antonia, A Lost Lady, My Mortal Enemy*, and others, Cather presents an unusual female protagonist in her era who views men as friends as well as enemies in her life. The female fictional characters shown are those who try to understand various life problems that reflect the character of the first wave of American feminists. In this case, Cather said that women need to go through a process to understand true love and life.

As a female author, Willa Cather has to deal with the antipathy of society, which still holds patriarchal and misogyny values. To face this challenge, she sometimes incarnates herself as a male character in the story to be able to express her emotional and erotic feelings towards women safely. The same thing was done by other women writers in the Willa Cather era such as Gertrude Stein, Katherine Mansfield, Virginia Woolf, Mary Ann Cross, and Kate Chopin. Willa Cather died on April 24, 1947 in New York and during his lifetime several literary works have been produced. Those her works noted in https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willa\_Cather, accessed on August 17, 2022 at 9.<sup>58</sup> p.m.

#### 1. Novels

- Alexander's Bridge (1912)
- O Pioneers! (1913)
- The Song of the Lark (1915)
- *My Ántonia* (1918)
- One of Ours (1922)
- A Lost Lady (1923)
- The Professor's House (1925)
- My Mortal Enemy (1926)

- Death Comes for the Archbishop (1927)
- Shadows on the Rock (1931)
- Lucy Gayheart (1935)
- Sapphira and the Slave Girl (1940)

## 2. Short fictions

- The Troll Garden (1905)
- Youth and the Bright Medusa (1920)
- Obscure Destinies (1932)
- Neighbour Rosicky (1932)
- The Old Beauty and Others (1948)
- Willa Cather's Collected Short Fiction, 1892–1912 (1965)
- Uncle Valentine and Other Stories: Willa Cather's Uncollected Short Fiction, 1915–1929 (1972)

# 3. Poetry

- April Twilights (1903)
- April Twilights and Other Poems (1923)