

Summary of the story All About a Dog by A.G. Gardiner.



'All about a Dog' by Gardiner is a story that gives birth to some questions related to our society and social rules and regulations.

It was a very cold winter night. The passengers were all eager to reach home early. A young lady carrying a little dog boarded the bus. Immediately, the conductor asked the lady to go up to the uncovered top with the dog. But the other passengers were quite sympathetic towards the lady with the dog, considering the weather. Moreover, the lady was suffering from cough and cold. So they did not object to carrying the dog inside the bus. But the bus

conductor would not disobey the rule so easily. He forced the lady to go to the top of the bus on cold night. Initially the lady was reluctant to do that and persisted on staying inside. She also argued with the conductor. But the conductor was strict in his decision. So he stopped the bus in the midway, creating trouble to everyone in the bus. Ultimately the lady have to obey the order of the conductor.

After sometime when the bus developed some engine trouble, the passengers had to bear with the delay. But the conductor refused to compromise. All through the journey, the lady had to travel on the top of the bus. At the end the narrator of the story try to advise to the conductor that rules should be modified according to the circumstances and should be tempered with goodwill.

Rules are formed for comfort what should not cause inconvenience. That is the essence of the rule. That means in our society the most important thing is not the rules and regulations but its application with humanitarian consideration.

HOW I BECAME A PUBLIC SPEAKER

- **George Bernard Shaw**

Introduction:

George Bernard Shaw was born in the year 1856. He was a famous Irish dramatist, critic and novelist. He was well known for his plays, often called as problem plays because all of them deal with the social vices which affect human lives. He was awarded the Noble prize for Literature in the year 1925. He left this world at his ripe age of ninety four in the year 1950 leaving all his socialist views in the hearts of good men.

Bernard Shaw's "HOW I BECAME A PUBLIC SPEAKER" recalls how he became a successful public speaker. Before taking his public speaking career, he knew nothing about public oration and meetings. When he spoke for the first time, he became nervous and failed in that endeavor. After many efforts he won success in the art of oration.

Shaw's experiences in the Zetetical society:

Shaw went to the meeting at Zetetical society with his friend Lecky. It was his first experience. There was a debate going on. He stood up and blabbered something towards the speaker. He was able to estimate his reply as a meaningless one. He felt ashamed of it. So, he joined the society and attended every meeting. At the starting, his speeches were ignored by the members of the society. But, the members gradually started to hear his speeches. He perfected his oration techniques progressively by hard work.

Shaw's securing of freedom of speech:

Shaw visited all sorts of meeting held in London. He joined and delivered speeches in all the debates. He spoke in streets, parks and associations. He never missed any opportunity. He took part in all debates at various societies, clubs and associations of London. Very soon, he found his giddiness and nervousness faded away from him. By this way, he secured his freedom of speech.

Shaw's nature of giving free oration:

Shaw never got money for his orations because, he lectured on controversial topics in politics and religion. Sometimes if the place was in a long distance, he would get only money for travelling in the third class compartment. At one meeting while he was speaking, a man yelled at him saying everyone should not hear the talk of a hired professional. As a reply, Shaw on the spot offered his emoluments for five pounds to him. The men who shouted at Shaw shocked to hear it. Then, Shaw explained him that he had come to this place to give lecture at his own expense. He also added, he never got money to any of his speeches from the organizers

Shaw and Anti-Fabians:

At once occasion, Shaw was delivering his talk at St.James Hall in London. At that time, a hostile group entered the room. They were anti-Fabians. In a few minutes, they all broke up the meeting and insisted to make their leader as the chairman of the meeting. Shaw scored their notion and dealt with them carefully. He demanded some time to give a talk and

spoke for a long time. By his persuasive speech, the news papers wrote articles criticizing the anti-Fabians on the next day. Thus, Shaw by his wit disgraced all the anti-Fabians.

Shaw and H.G.Wells:

Shaw got perfection in community training along with platform techniques. He got a great success as a public speaker. On the contrary, H.G.Wells who was a gifted writer and thinker never practiced this talent. At one meeting, H.G.Wells tried to insult the Fabian society. But Shaw by his talent as a platform artist defeated Wells' views.

Conclusion:

Shaw cured his nervousness by his regular practice on public speaking in a gradual manner. He delivered speeches on various themes till to the age of eighty five. All of his speeches were highly commanding and tend everyone who hears them. His socialistic views were reformatory and made the people aware of the social conditions of London.

A Brief Summary:-

Once there was a king who thought that to be a successful ruler he must know the answer for the following 3 questions;

1. What is the right time to begin something?
2. Which people should be listened to ?
3. What is the most important thing to do?

Many messengers were sent into different directions to know the answers. For the first question some felt the king should follow a timetable. But others felt it impossible to decide the right time. For the second question some advised that the king should follow councillors, others were of the opinion that they should follow priests, doctors, or soldiers. For the third question some said that one should follow science while others were of the opinion to follow religion. But the king was unhappy with all these answers.

The Hermit-

The king approached a hermit. He was sowing the seeds .He was digging and digging. Eventhough the king asked for the answers the hermit ignored him. The king offered his help. At that time a bearded man was running towards them. He was a wounded man with bleeding in the stomach. The king cleaned his wound and dressed him.Then they took him inside the house.Later they knew that the man was the one who came to take revenge on the king as he had killed his brother and taken his property. But king's bodyguards who knew this wounded him. Now he regretted and apologized.

The king was pleased to turn his enemy into a friend. Thus the wounded man became the most important man. Nursing the wounded man was the most important work to do . To do good for others as we are sent for this noble cause is the greatest job.The most important time is the present time as we have the power to act.

Thus the king got happy with the hermit's answers for the three questions.