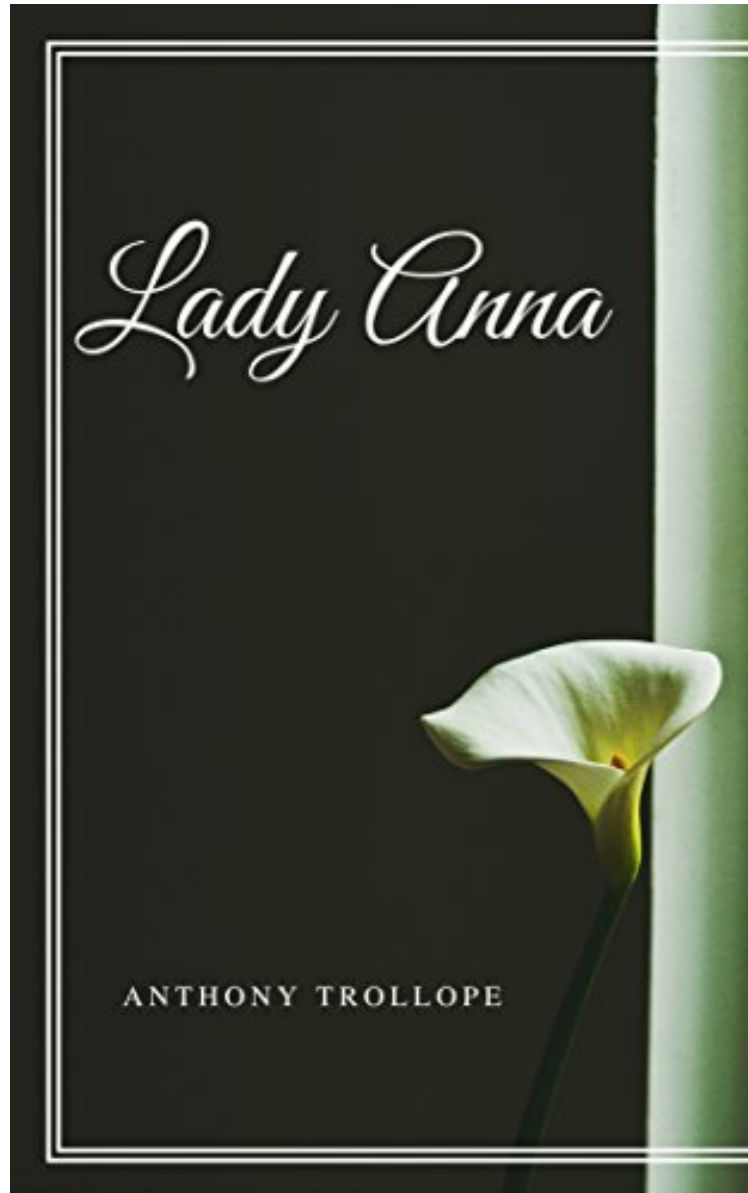


(Mobile pdf) Lady Anna

## Lady Anna

*Anthony Trollope*

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**Anthony Trollope : Lady Anna** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lady Anna:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Unsuitable SuitorBy JanPWhile this was a good plot it was very repetitive. We heard the pros and cons of the legalities of the case from every perspective ad nauseum. There were no extenuating circumstances for Anna the child of poverty when she became Anna the lady, everybody seemed to

forget the wickedness of the father and the many years of the neglect of the Lovel family. Both suitors seemed equally deserving but class prejudice would not let go. Wish Trollope could have written more. 56 of 58 people found the following review helpful. An Incomplete Saga By E. T. Veal Anthony Trollope declared once that "Lady Anna" was "the best novel I ever wrote". Readers did not agree. Appearing between the masterpieces "Phineas Redux" and "The Way We Live Now", it sold poorly and has been neglected ever since. Trollope blamed this failure on his audience's objections to the heroine's choice of a husband, though similar complaints, much more vehemently expressed, had not sunk "The Small House at Allington". (There Lily Dale remains faithful to the memory of a cad, scorning the devoted attentions of a worthy suitor. Anna's wooers, by contrast, are both good men, though vastly different in rank and personality.) "Lady Anna" is, in fact, a well-knit narrative with more suspense than is usual for Trollope. Will the courts declare Anna to be Lady Anna Lovel, heiress to 35,000 pounds a year, or merely Anna Murray, a pauper? Which of her suitors, the sometimes surly tailor Daniel Thwaite or her handsome, good-natured cousin Lord Lovel, will Anna prefer? Will Daniel's political principles lead to a breach with his childhood sweetheart? Will the impoverished Lord Lovel find honorable means to support his noble rank? The plot takes surprising, if not astonishing, turns; the characterization is as deft as ever; and there is a leavening of subtle humor, such as Daniel's cross-purposes consultation with a quondam radical poet (a thinly disguised Robert Southey) who has evolved into an intractable Tory. The book's weakness is that the leading characters are, by and large, decent folk at the beginning and, except for one who falls into a state akin to madness, remain decent, if not unchanged, to the end. Conflicts end in rational compromises. Everybody eventually sees everybody else's point of view. Even the lawyers on opposite sides of Lady Anna's case get along amicably. (One solicitor does have the sense to grumble that such harmony is unprofessional.) Trollope's liking for this novel may have arisen from the fact that it is light, sunny and fresh. There may be an evil earl in the first chapter and a mad countess in the last, but how pleasant for the writer to be free for a time from the political intrigues, financial manipulations and cynical worldliness of the Palliser saga and "The Way We Live Now"! Moreover, "Lady Anna" was, in its creator's mind, only a prologue. The last paragraph promises a (never written) sequel, where the characters doubtless were intended to meet sterner challenges. There are hints that the scene would have shifted to Australia and America and that the hero's and heroine's homegrown principles were to be put to the test in those lands. Thus the author had much in view that he never disclosed to his readers, perhaps accounting for part of the discrepancy between his opinion and theirs. No one who has not read all of the Palliser and Basset novels, not to mention "The Way We Live Now", should pick up "Lady Anna". I recommend it immediately after the last-named. It will cleanse the palate and leave a lingering regret that the rest of Anna's and Daniel's and Lord Lovel's adventures will never be known. Incidental note: The introduction to the Oxford World's Classics edition, the one that I am reviewing, is an extraordinarily silly example of lit crit baffle-gab. Don't read it before reading the novel. Read afterwards, its wrong-headed ideological interpretations may prove amusing. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I wouldn't have missed it By Monique Adam I'm on my way to reading all of Trollope's novels and this is a very interesting one, but for fear of giving spoilers I'll just say it brings up some 19th century obsessions and how they play out against more enduring values. Read it!

Novelist, son of Thomas Anthony Trollope, a barrister who ruined himself by speculation, and of Frances Trollope, a well-known writer, was born in London, and educated at Harrow and Winchester. His childhood was an unhappy one, owing to his father's misfortunes. After a short time in Belgium he obtained an appointment in the Post Office, in which he rose to a responsible position. His first three novels had little success; but in 1855 he found his line, and in *The Warden* produced the first of his Barchester series. It was followed by *Barchester Towers* [1857], *Doctor Thorne* [1858], *Framley Parsonage* [1861], *The Small House at Allington* [1864], and *The Last Chronicle of Barset* [1867], which deal with the society of a small cathedral city. Other novels are *Orley Farm*, *Can you forgive Her?*, *Ralph the Heir*, *The Claverings*, *Phineas Finn*, *He knew he was Right*, and *The Golden Lion of Grandpreacute*. In all he wrote about 50 novels, besides books about the West Indies, North America, Australia, and South Africa, a translation of *Caesar*, and monographs on *Cicero* and *Thackeray*. His novels are light of touch, pleasant, amusing, and thoroughly healthy. They make no attempt to sound the depths of character or either to propound or solve problems. Outside of fiction his work was generally superficial and unsatisfactory. But he had the merit of providing a whole generation with wholesome amusement, and enjoyed a great deal of popularity. He is said to have received pound;70,000 for his writings.

About the Author As young adult, Trollope endured seven years of poverty in the General Post Office in London before accepting a better-paying position as postal surveyor in Banagher, Ireland in 1841. The years in Ireland formed the basis of his second career delineating clerical life in small cathedral towns.