

*Agnes Grey* is the touching story of a young girl who decides to enter the world as a governess, but whose bright illusions of acceptance, freedom and friendship are gradually destroyed.

The story begins with the description of the Greys family. Agnes Grey's father is a clergyman with some small private means, her mother, a rich squire's daughter, cast off by her family for marrying beneath her. Although they live in an isolated place that is the parsonage, the family seems to have their happiness because of the close relationship among each member.

•The Greys live happily until Mr. Grey in trying to increase her private income loses all his capital. When the family set to work to remedy their fallen fortune, Agnes is preoccupied with the thought of being a governess.

Altough the family shows their disapproval for her desire, Agnes is not easily discouraged. Influenced by so many inducement, she determines to persevere in order to convince her family that her unknown powers are deserved to be tried. Eventually, she is successed in persuading her family. Leaving her idyllic home and close-knit family, Agnes arrives at her first post, the Bloomfields' residence. On the contrary of her full bright hopes and ardent expectations, Agnes finds that this household is a disaster for her. The young children with whom she has to deal are wholly unmanagable and the Bloomfields parents provide no help in dealing with them. Although faced with tyrannical children and over-indulgent parents, the generosity of spirit and warm candour learnt from her own family never desert her. But, it still does not enough to make improvements on her task of instructions since the Bloomfields continually blame her for the behaviour of the children. At last, she even dismisses from this post.

Having been dismissed from the Bloomfields, Agnes takes up another position with the Murrays, who are of a higher social position than the Bloomfields. Their children are older, and on the whole Agnes is more successful in dealing with them, although the Murrays parents, like the Bloomfields, continue to blame Agnes for the children behaviour, which is largerly the result of their own shortcomings. Apart from her successful in dealing with the Murrays, Agnes' chances of happiness are almost spoilt for her. It is then the flirtation of Rosalie Murray with the curate Mr. Weston whom Agnes falls in love with which makes her suffer. Shortly after the marriage of Rosalie with Sir Thomas Ashby, Agnes is