

Black Beauty

Anna Sewell





Anna Sewell (1820-1878)

Anna Sewell was born in England in 1820. When she was a child, she had an accident which badly damaged her legs. After this she couldn't walk, but she learned to drive a horse and a carriage. She loved the horses that helped her to travel around. She also helped her mother, who wrote children's books. Anna decided that she wanted to write, too. She wanted people to understand that looking after horses was important, so she wrote a book about the life of a working horse. In 1877, she wrote Black Beauty, and it has become one of the most popular books for Children.

Main Characters

1 - *Black Beauty*

* The black horse who tells the story.

2 - *Farmer Grey*

* Black Beauty's first owner.

3 - *John Manly*

A kind man who is Squire Gordon's helper.

4 - *Merrylegs*

A short, fat horse who carries the children at Squire Gordon's

5 - *Earl Smythe*

A rich man who buys Black Beauty from Squire Gordon

6 - *Lady Smythe*

Earl Smythe's wife

7 - *Squire Gordon*

The first Owner who Black Beauty works for

8 - *Mrs Gordon*

Squire Gordon's wife

9 - *Ginger*

Black Beauty's friend, who had a difficult past

10 - *York*

Earl Smythe's helper

11 - *Earlshall Park*

The country home of Earl Smythe

12 - *Joe Green*

A boy who helps John Manly



Chapter (1)

Word	Meaning	Word	Meaning
accident	حادثة	kick	يركل - يرفس
damage	يدمر	bite-bit	يعض
carriage	عربه يجرها الخيل	gentle	لطيف
horse	حصان	advice	نصيحه
travel around	يسافر حول	white foot	قدم بيضاء
decide	يقرر	coat	رقبه
look after	يعتني بـ	explain	يشرح
important	مهم	needs	يحتاج
popular	مشهور - محبوب	true	حقيقي
remember	يتذكر	stables	استبل
wood	خشب	helper	مساعد
along	بطول	jolly	مرح
owner	مالك	laugh	يضحك
farmer	فلاح	face	وجه
healthy	صحي	frightened	خائف
kindly	بطيبة - بعطف	apples	تفاح
field	حقل	handsome	وسيم
perfect	ممتاز	call	يسمى
thoughtful	مراعى لشعور الاخرين	bad-tempered	سيء المزاج
work hard	يعمل بجد	friends	أصدقاء
hurt	يؤذي	cruel	متوحش - عنيف
refuse	يرفض	machine	آله
different from	مختلف عن	cried	يصرخ
angry with	غاضب من	respect	يحترم
behave	يتصرف	continue	يستمر
ground	الارض	sold	باع

My early years

The first place that I can remember is a large field with a little wood at the top, where I lived with my mother and some other horses. A small river ran along the bottom of the field. If I stood at the gate to the field, I could see my owner's house next to the road. The owner, Farmer Grey, was a good man. He gave

us healthy food and he spoke to us as kindly as he spoke to his children.

There were other young horses in the field with me, but I was the youngest. I used to run with them, and have great fun. We used to have races, and when the biggest horses got too excited, they kicked and bit the horses next to them. One day, when my mother saw that was happening, she called me over to her.

“Listen to me. The horses in this field are all good horses, but they are not like us. I don’t think you have ever seen me bite or kick anyone. I hope that you will grow up to be gentle and good, Never bite or kick, even when you are just playing a game.” I have never forgotten my mother’s advice.

I grew into a tall, strong horse with a black coat, with one white foot and a white star on my head. I soon learned how to pull a carriage. Sometimes I pulled the carriage with my mother, and she helped me to learn what to do.

“The harder you work, the kinder people will be to you,” my mother explained one day. “I hope you find a good owner. However, there are many kinds of men. Some are as good as our owner, but some are bad. We never know who might buy us. Sometimes people don’t understand what a horse needs.” I found out that my mother’s words were very true.

When I was older, Farmer Grey decided to sell me to a new owner. His name was Squire Gordon and he lived in a big house in a place called Birtwick Park. It was a lovely place to live in, with large fields and comfortable stables.

Squire Gordon had a kind helper called John Manly who looked after me, and I soon became friends with the other horses in the stables. One was a small, fat horse called Merrylegs. He was a jolly, gentle horse who was always making people laugh because of the way he walked. He carried the young children of the family. Another was Ginger, a tall horse with a sad face. Merrylegs told me that Ginger often bit or kicked because people were not nice to her in the past.

Squire Gordon’s children used to bring me apples and nice things to eat,” said Merrylegs. “But when they knew that Ginger

bit people, they became frightened and now they don't come to visit us horses any more. However, if people are kind to her she will soon learn to stop biting," he explained.

The next day, Squire Gordon took me out around Birtwick Park.

"How is your new horse?" asked his wife when we returned.

"He is a perfect horse!" he said. "What shall we call him?"

"He is very handsome," his wife said. "Why don't we call him Black Beauty?"

"Yes, I like that." said Squire Gordon. And that is how I got my name.

On some days, I work with Ginger, pulling carriages. Although Merrylegs said that Ginger was sometimes bad-tempered, I found that she was thoughtful. She always worked hard so that I didn't have to pull the carriage any more that she did. We soon became good friends.

One day, when I was working with Ginger, she told me about the people she worked with in the past. None of them was kind and some of them were often cruel. She decided that she didn't like people and didn't want to do what they asked her to. The problem was that some people hit her hard when she refused to do what they wanted. That was when she started to kick and bite people. Then they wanted to sell her, and finally she arrived at Squire Gordon's.

However, as time passed, Ginger understood that John and Squire Gordon were different from her other owners. They were always kind and gentle with their horses and she was happy to do what they asked, most of the time.

Then one day, she saw something that showed her that some people could be good. Squire Gordon was riding her when they passed a man who worked for Squire Gordon. The man was angry with his horse and hit it hard to make it go faster. Squire Gordon didn't like this.

"I have never seen a man who was so unkind to a horse," he cried. "No horse will do what you want by hurting it! The people who work for me must understand that a horse is not a machine!"

Ginger now began to respect Squire Gordon. After this, she decided she would not bite or kick people any more.

“She will be as good as Black Beauty soon,” said John. “All she needed was for people to be kind to her.”

One day, I was surprised when John brought Merrylegs back to the stable and said, “Don’t do that again, Merrylegs, or you will be in trouble.”

“What did you do?” I asked him. I was very surprised because Merrylegs always behaved so well.

“Oh, I didn’t do much,” said Merrylegs. “I wanted to give the boys a lesson, so I threw them on the ground.”

“What?” I said, very surprised. “But you are always so careful with the children!”

“Of course I am,” he said. “I would never hurt the girls or the little children. But the older boys need a lesson sometimes,” he continued.

“They think that a horse is like a machine, which can continue for hours without a rest. They never think that I can feel tired. So I stopped. When I didn’t continue, they hit me with a stick. Then I threw them off. They need to learn how a horse feels.”

“Why didn’t you kick them?” said Ginger.

“No, I would never do that. I threw them off because I knew it wouldn’t hurt them. If I kicked the boys, I would be sold to some unkind person who would hit me all the time. We must always remember what a good place we live in.”



A) Answer the following questions

1 – Who is the author of the story?

♦Anna Sewell.

2 – Who is the narrator of the story?

♦The horse (Black Beauty)

3 – With whom did Black Beauty live?

♦With his mother and some horses.

4 – Who was the first owner of Black Beauty?

♦Farmer Grey.

5 – How was farmer Grey a good man?

♦He gave them healthy food and spoke kindly.

6 – Who was the youngest horse ?

♦Black Beauty.

7 – What did Black beauty and other horses use to have?

♦They used to have races.

8 – What did the biggest horses do when they got excited?

♦They kicked and bit other horses.

9 – What did Black Beauty's mother advise not to do?

♦Not to bite or kick even when just playing.

10 – Describe Black Beauty when he grew up.

♦He grew tall, strong with a black coat with one white foot and a white star on head.

11 – What did he learn to do?

♦He learnt how to pull a carriage.

12 – What advice did his mother give when he grew up?

♦She said the harder he worked, the kinder people will be to him.

13 – When did farmer Grey decide to sell Black Beauty?

♦When he got older.

14 – Who was the new or second owner of Black Beauty?

♦He was Squire Gordon who lived in Birtwick Park.

15 – Who looked after Black Beauty?

♦John Manly, Gordon's kind helper.

16 – Who were Black Beauty's new friends?

♦Merrylegs who was small, fat jolly and gentle.

♦Ginger who was tall with sad face.

17 – Why did ginger often kick and bite?

♦Because people weren't nice to her in the past.

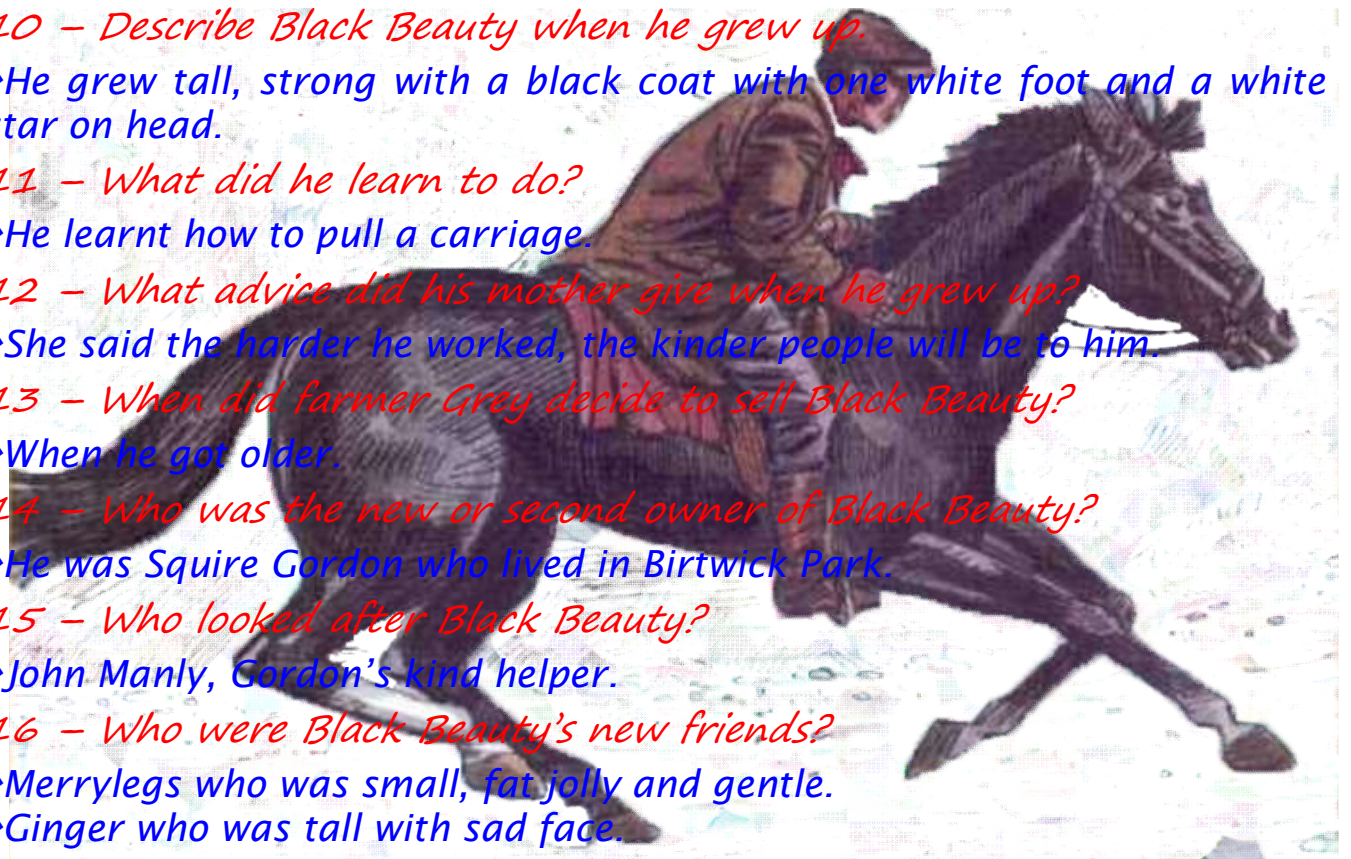
18 – Why did Merrylegs make children laugh?

♦Because of the way he walked.

19 – What did the children bring Merrylegs?

♦They brought him apples and nice things.

20 – Why didn't the children visit the horses any more?



♦Because they knew that Ginger bit people.

21 – What did Gordon's wife say about Black Beauty?

♦She said he was a perfect horse.

22 – What name did the wife suggest for the horse and why?

♦She suggested calling him Black Beauty as he was handsome.

23 – What did Merrylegs say about Ginger?

♦He said that she was sometimes bad-tempered.

24 – What did Ginger say about people she worked with in the past?

♦She said that they were not kind and cruel.

25 – What was Ginger's problem with people?

♦Some people hit her hard when she refused to do things.

26 – Why did the people decide to sell Ginger?

♦Because she started to bite and kick people.

27 – For Ginger, How did she know that Gordon and John were different from other people?

♦They were kind and gentle with their horses.

28 – What happened that made Ginger think that some people could be good?

♦When Gordon was angry with a man who hit the horse and said that a horse is not a machine.

29 – When did Ginger start to respect Gordon?

♦When he told one of his workers that a horse was not a machine

30 – What did Ginger decide not to do?

♦She decided not to bite or kick people.

31 – When would Ginger be as good as Black Beauty?

♦When people became kind to her.

32 – What bad thing did Merrylegs do one day?

♦He threw children on the ground.

33 – Why did Merrylegs throw the children on the ground?

♦To teach them a lesson because they hit him with a stick.

34 – Why was Merrylegs angry with older children?

♦Because they thought it was a machine and could continue without rest.

35 – Why didn't Merrylegs kick the children?

Because he didn't want to hurt them and if he did so they would sell him to unkind people.

B) Match the following:

1 - Anna Sewell was born	a - Farmer Grey
2 - Anna had an accident which	b - Gordon
3 - The narrator was	c - Black Beauty
4 - The first owner was	d - damaged her legs
	e - In England

B) Match the following:

1 - Black Beauty first lived with	a - Black Beauty
2 - the owner's house was	b - badly
3 - Grey spoke to the horses	c - mother and other horses
4 - The youngest horse was	d - kindly
	e - next to the road

B) Match the following:

1 - Black Beauty's mother	a - the kinder people will be
2 - Black Beauty had one	b - when he became older
3 - The harder you work,	c - white foot
4 - Grey decided to sell Beauty	d - advised him not to bite
	e - black foot

B) Match the following:

1 - The new owner was	a - Merrylegs and Ginger
2 - Gordon lived in	b - John Manly
3 - Gordon's helper was	c - Farmer Grey
4 - Black Beauty became friends with	d - Birtwick Park
	e - Squire Gordon



B) Match the following:

1 - Merrylegs was	a - a horse was a machine
2 - Ginger was	b - a horse was not a machine
3 - Black Beauty	c - small, fat and jolly
4 - Gordon thought	d - was handsome
	e - tall with sad face

هذا العمل متاح للجميع لوجه الله دون استئذان وهو صدقة جارية على روح والدتي وموتى المسلمين

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