

THE PROPOSAL

Summary: This drama is about certain deep-entrenched notions and beliefs in our society. In most of the societies, marriages are arranged according to economic status of bride's and groom's family. This cannot be denied that money is an important factor to lead a happy life. But many people ignore personal shortcomings of prospective bride and groom; just to ensure economic compatibility of both families. This drama shows three characters; a young man, a young girl and girl's father. These three characters indulge in quarrel with each other at the drop of a hat. Throughout the drama, they keep on quarreling on trivial issues. But finally, they agree on the marriage of the young man with the young girl because both of them could understand economic compatibility.

Question 1: What does Chubukov at first suspect that Lomov has come for? Is he sincere when he later says "And I've always loved you, my angel, as if you were my own son"? Find reasons for your answer from the play.

Answer: Chubukov at first suspects that Lomov must have come to borrow some money. Chubukov knows that Lomov is young and reasonably well off. He is quite happy to get the proposal for his daughter. He does not like Lomov but for the sake of his daughter, he trying to flatter Lomov.

Question 2: Chubukov says of Natalya: "... as if she won't consent! She's in love; egad, she's like a lovesick cat..." Would you agree? Find reasons for your answer.

Answer: The way Lomov and Natalya start quarreling with each other, does not show that they are in love. Even at the end of the play, they start quarreling. Hence, her father's statement that she was lovesick does not sound true