

The New Blue Dress

Lesson Explanation Part 1

The lesson revolves around Gates Avenue and a little girl living there. Gates Avenue was a short street but it looked longer as it was ugly and dirty. It was the spring in 1909 in the city of Cleveland, when the people near the Gates Avenue started making garden and painting their houses but, the people of Gates Avenue continued to look dirty and ugly. They had not painted their houses for many years neither they had running water. The condition of Gates Avenue was terrible. They didn't have any pavement nor streetlights. Rather, the railroad at the end of the Gates Avenue added noises and dirt. Not only they were dirty but they had very little money too. They never expected to have more either.

There lived a little girl, who was very polite, friendly and hardworking but looked untidy, unclean and dirty. She kept on wearing the same dirty dress she wore the entire winter, whereas the other girls from the school near the gates Avenue wore new clothes and pretty clothes.

Her teacher was unhappy seeing her so untidy but always had an eye on her as she was so

nice. She might have been dirty but anyone could see the pretty face under the dirt.

Seeing her continuing to be dirty, the teacher asked her to wash her face and come to the school the next day. The little girl did the same as asked by her teacher. The teacher then asked her to tell her mother to wash her dress but she arrived the next day wearing the same dirty dress. Observing this, the teacher thought to herself that the mother probably wasn't interested in her. So, she bought a new blue dress and gave to the little girl. The child after receiving the gift was overwhelmed and rushed to home.