

**Degree 1 English (Sub)**

**Unit 1 Drama**

**Lecture 3**

*A Brief Outline of the Drama Loyalties by John Galsworthy*

De Levis keeps quiet and Dancy goes back. When the Inspector comes back to the room the General and Winsor are afraid that De Levis might tell him about his suspicion. But De Levis keeps quiet. The Inspector doesn't get any clue and is puzzled. He says that he will ask the bookie about the numbers of the notes. He asks whether they are suspecting anyone in the house. De Levis remains quiet but Winsor emphatically says "no", the Inspector leaves having found no clue at all.

Canynges tells Winsor about his suspicion of Dancy, Winsor also suspects Dancy now. But their loyalty is to him and so they decide to support him and make De Levis silent. They call De Levis and tell him that Dancy is an officer and a gentleman. De Levis replies, "My tongue is still mine, General, if my money isn't". General then tries social blackmail to keep De Levis silent. De Levis is the member of three clubs and he wants to become a member of the Jockey Club. Canynges is the important member of the governing bodies of the clubs. So, he

warns De Levis that if he makes this allegation against Dancy again, they will completely dissociate themselves from him. Then he cannot be the member of the Jockey Club and he may be expelled from the other clubs.

Three weeks after the theft Lord St. Erth, Winsor, General Canynge and Augustus Borring are seen playing Bridge in the club. Lord St. Erth and Canynge say that Whist is much better game than Bridge. Winsor says that Bridge is better than Whist. Suddenly Lord St. Erth informs them that De Levis had not been elected as member of the jockey Club. This makes Canynge and Winsor uneasy because they have given promise to De Levis that they would make him the member of jockey Club if he remains silent, they are also informed about Rosemary which Won the Cambridgeshire horse race. This is the same mare that Dancy had given to De Levis and which is again sold to Kentman for \$1000. They think that Kentman must have won a lot of money. They feel that Dancy must be mad because he had given the mare to De Levis for nothing. De Levis must have been equally sad because if he had not sold Rosemary, he would have got a lot of money after this race.

Dancy and De Levis are playing in - door games in different rooms of the club. When De Levis hears that he is not elected as a member of the Jockey Club, he becomes very angry and is no more bound to his promise. He openly says that Dancyn had taken his money and he is a thief. When Colford heard this in the billiard room he comes and tells Canynge that De Levis is saying openly that Dancy had robbed him at Winsor's house. Canynge asks Colford to call De Levis to his room. Lord St. Erth asks Winsor whether Kentman had given the numbers of the notes to the police. Vinsor informs him that Kentman had the numbers of only two of the notes. The police are unable to trace them. De Levis is called there. He is in a highly excited mood. Canynge tells him that his conduct in accusing another member of the theft is scandalous and he must explain his conduct and one of the two will have to be removed from the membership of the club. St. Erth calls him a "venomous young man". De Levis says that they are chasing him like a pack of hounds because he is a Jew. He calls Dancy " a common sharper".

Winsor tells him that he is making this accusation without any proof. De Levis says that Dancy knows that Rosemary is sold to kentman.

Dancy can jump like a cat. There is not foot print on the ground near the window. The creeper on his balcony is crushed. All this prove that Dancy had jumped to his balcony and took the money. Lord St. Erth tells De Levis that he is saying this without any proof. A case can be brought against him for making this accusation. Courts need proof and without it he may be fined and even sent to prison. De Levis wants to Be confronted with Dancy. When Dancy is called and hen this accusation is made, his reaction is very strange. Dancy wants to know on what grounds De Levis is making this allegation. When De Levis tells him his reasons, Dancy tells him that he can settle it with any weapon when and where he likes.

Lord St. Erth says that if De Levis doesn't withdraw his accusation he has to take it to the court to save his honour. Dancy calls De levis "a damned Jew". De Levis calls Dancy a "thief" and challenged him to bring his action in the court. St. Erth asks him to consider his membership of the club suspended. De Levis tells him not to trouble himself about his membership as he has resigned it. De Levis tells Dancy that he is proud to be a Jew. Then he tells him that they will again meet in the court.

Dancy is asked few questions. They suspect Dancy but they want to support him. Canynge says that it is for De Levis to prove what he alleged. Lord St. Erth says that for upholding the honour of the club of which he is a member, Dancy has to file a defamation suit against De Levis. Dancy replies that he has to think over it and he is in financial difficulties and litigation is a costly process. Canynge says that De Levis has made the allegation of several members. If he doesn't file a suit against De Levis people will think that there is some truth in the allegation. Dancy leaves after saying, "I might prefer to look on the whole thing as beneath contempt". St. Erth and Boring are suspicious of him. Canynge know that Dancy has stolen money because he had touched Dancy's wet sleeve after the theft, but he wants to support him because of his loyalty to his fellow army officers. Winsor also knows that Dancy had committed the theft but he supports him because he has known him since he was a child. Colford supports Dancy because Dancy is his true friend. Colford says "you may have my head if he did it, Lord St. Erth". His loyalty to "an old school fellow, a brother officer and a pal' is absolute. He declares, "He didn't but if he did, I would stick to him".

The next day Margaret Orme and Mabel Dancy are sitting on a coach in the centre of the sitting room and are talking in an excited manner. Margaret tells her that her husband had stolen money at Meldon Court, Mabel is surprised to hear this and tells her that her husband didn't tell her about this. Mabel says that De Levis must be a beast to make such an allegation. She says that she was in her bed room on that day. Margaret asks whether the door between her room and Dancy's room is open. Mabel replies that she doesn't know. She gives an indefinite answer. Margaret tells her that in the court she must say that the door is open. Mabel feels sad when she hears about the court. Margaret explains to Mabel that Dancy should bring a suit against De Levis to vindicate his honour. Mabel asks her if his honour would be fully vindicated if the verdict in the court is in his favour. Margaret is not sure. Margaret tells her that Canynge is supporting Dancy but is like lukewarm on his support. At this Mabel says, "I hate half hearted friends. Loyalty comes before everything". Margaret replies, "yes, but Loyalties cut up against each other sometimes". Mabel goes to ring up to her husband. Meanwhile Lady Adela arrives. She has also come to

talk about the accusation against Dancy. Margaret tells Lady Adela that Mabel doesn't know anything about the theft till then. She tells her that there would be a court case and they would be witnesses. Lady Adela tells her in confidence that General thought Dancy is the thief because he touched the arms which were wet after the theft. Margaret tells her that she must support Dancy against the Jew. Margaret says that Dancy is one of those persons who cannot live without danger. They are in their elements when fighting a war or shooting man - eaters. But when there is no excitement, they will do the maddest things for no mortal reason except the risk involved. Margaret also tells Lady Adela that before his marriage to Mabel, Dancy was in love with a foreign looking girl.

While they were talking Mabel comes back. She couldn't contact Dancy on the phone. Margaret suggests Mabel that if there is going to be a case they should engage Mr, Jacob Twisden as their solicitor. Just then Dancy comes back. He understands that these ladies must have told everything about the theft. He does not like to hear any words of sympathy from them. Lady Adela and Margaret leave the house.

When two of them are left alone, Mabel embraces Dancy and kisses him but he remains rigid and doesn't respond. He only says that he wanted to see De Levis first before telling her. He feels that life in London is dull and boring. He proposes her that they should go to Nairobi and start a new life there. But Mabel objects that the people will say that they had run away. Dancy says that he does not care for what the people will say. In spite of everything that he might do people will suspect him. He cannot prove his innocence. Mabel however insists that they must stay and fight. Mabel has absolute faith in his innocence. Dancy says that they should consult an advocate.

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