



Hallo, Mister Gott, hier spricht Anna

Fynn

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Fynn

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Der 19-jährige Fynn liest die vierjährige Anna in den 1930er-Jahren in den Londonder Docks auf. Sie ist von zu Hause ausgerissen, weil sie vermutlich von jemandem geschlagen wurde. Fynn nimmt Anna bei sich auf, und über die nächsten dreieinhalb Jahre - bis zu Annas Unfalltod - entsteht eine tiefe Freundschaft.

In dieser Zeit erforschen und erfahren die beiden mehr als viele Menschen im ganzen Leben. Denn Anna nimmt nichts hin, bloß weil es so ist, wie es ist. Anna weiß, was das wirklich ist: Gott und die Welt, Menschen und Liebe, Lachen, Angst, Freude und Trauer. Anna entlarvt vieles, was die großen Leute so reden, als Gewäsch. Anna hat den Röntgenblick für falsche Gefühle. Anna bohrt bis auf jeden Grund. Anna liebt einfach alles. Und alle lieben Anna.

Hallo, Mister Gott, hier spricht Anna Details

Date : Published 1988 by W. Heyne (first published 1974)

ISBN : 9783453026087

Author : Fynn

Format : 184 pages

Genre : Fiction, Religion

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Kathryn Green says

More of a 4.5 - this book was very emotional and powerful and really makes you think! I loooved the relationship between fynn and Anna, it was just so lovely to see how this little girl affected him. It definitely makes you think and I recommend this to everyone, even if you're not religious.

Charlotte says

True story of a 4-year-old found on the streets of London in the 1930's by a 19-year old blue collar worker with a passion for math and music and all things mechanical. The first edition included the tale of how the book's manuscript came into the hands of the publisher and of a meeting with "Fynn," the book's author; all subsequent editions have omitted it.

Anna had an intimate relationship with "Mister God," and searched for him in all things. Everything and everyone in creation was evidence for Anna that God existed, that he was a gentleman, and that he loved people in ways they could not possible comprehend. She prayed for the gift of asking "real questions" and to avoid those which led nowhere. Theology has been a lifelong passion for me; Anna is my favorite theologian. Her ideas resonate with the child inside me - her fearless trust, her refusal to accept adult explanations based on fear, her spirit afire with love of God. I have probably given away 25 or more copies of this book; people are often daunted by the explanations in the language of math and mechanics. I can only say look beyond; look at Anna's love; look at the relationship between Anna and Fynn. Smile at their willingness to turn the world upside down and see God everywhere.

Ivz Andonova says

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Jackie says

Five stars are not enough. So I am going to take my "mirror book" and create an endlessly repeating circle of stars. Anna deserves no less.

This is a spiritual and philosophical book, but it is not tied into religion. Anna is spectacularly, terrifyingly and completely ALIVE!Every fibre of her being hums and sparks with life, feeling and imagination.

What makes me sad about reading this again after almost 30 years is the realisation that I have become so full of holes. This became obvious when the little nagging voice in my head insisted that the relationship between Fynn and Anna was odd. It's really not. Anna and Fynn loved each other. They fully trusted and believed in each other. It's a sign of how jaded I've become that I doubted the purity of that feeling for even a moment.

This book is like night-time: "It stretches your soul right out to the stars. And that...is a very long way."

Vivian says

As I began reading this I was prepared to dismiss it as a cheap attempt by "anonymous" to challenge the accepted philosophy and practices of Christianity. It begins with a teenage dock worker, Fynn, in pre-WWII London finding an abandoned four-year-old girl one night and taking her home to his mother. Over the next several years the girl, whom they call Anna, fills his life with wonder and his mind with her ideas about "Mister God". How, I wondered, could this young man have the quantity of idle time he appears to spend with this girl AND work AND study math and science AND read philosophy and classics to the extent he says he does. He has a microscope and a slide rule and he assembles a radio set. In short, he does not fit with the neighborhood he describes nor the person he professes to be.

I was sufficiently troubled about all this to execute some google searching. Searching the word "Fynn", I found: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mister_G... Searching the phrase "Mister God, This is Anna", I found: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mister_G... but best of all this link: <http://www.finchden.com/sgh/index.htm> My skepticism was satisfied and I was able to read the remainder of the book with a more open mind.

There are some thoughts in the book that did not resonate with me, but much that did. In fact, so much so that I began reading aloud full chapters to various members of my family and enjoying the passages even more with each reading. Anna has the capacity to think out of the box, so to speak, because she has never been fettered with a box. Fynn is something of a child prodigy himself when it comes to all things mathematical. The combination of the two produces some amazing theories about metaphysics and Christianity.

This is by no means a sentimental, trite, or simple story, as the title might suggest to today's reader. In fact, I intend to re-read parts of it and add reference notes in my copy of the book. As a whole it is beyond amazing. It is astounding.

Post script: This story is also an exploration about a revolutionary model of the education process. Ideally, all children would be more like Anna, and perhaps they are. In which case, providing MORE time for idle wanderings, tinkering, and engaging in the scientific process combined with discussion, questioning, postulating, framing solutions by the child and extensive reading of the classics and immersion in acquired areas of interest and expertise by teens and adults with the same eagerness as the child would result in a more invigorating and effective educational process. Three cheers for Anna and Fynn!!!!

Sarah says

Out of the mouths of babes, indeed! The tale of a truly remarkable little girl and the impact of her short life. Were this a work of fiction I would have found young Anna an unbelievable character. Beyond precocious, Anna is deep and preceptive. Her observations and revelations, particularly those involving her view on Mister God, blew me away. Many times I had trouble following her line of thought and had to work my own lil' noggin in order to grasp the meaning she was trying to convey.

To modern American sensibilities the relationship between this man and the child he discovers late one night are odd, to be sure. But, that was part of the book's charm. It forced me to set aside my preconceived notions about childcare and focus instead on the content of their relationship rather than the parameters. I will definitely be checking out Fynn's further musings about Anna.

Elif Ince says

Keine Bewertung, da die Geschichte anscheinend auf wahrer Begebenheit beruht.
Ganz am Anfang steht: "Anna und Fynn haben wirklich gelebt"

Pasha says

Too religious for my callous soul.

Sarah Monreau says

Anna ist wirklich ein unglaublich tolles, kleines Mädchen und so viel schlauer als die meisten Erwachsene es je sein könnten. Es war ein Highlight, dieser Maus beim Leben und Entdecken zuzuschauen und Fynn, ihren Ziehvater zu verfolgen.

Schade ist - was man von Anfang an weiß, dass Anna nicht alt wird und das sie nur ganze zwei Jahre, glaube ich, bei Fynn lebt. Sie stirbt also sehr jung.

Es ist kein allzu trauriges Buch, da man von vornherein das Ende kennt, allerdings musste ich mir dennoch am Schluss ein Tränchen verkneifen, da es wirklich ein 'schönes' Ende war. Toll beschrieben und mit einer wunderbaren Anekdote, die zum Buch passt. Wundervoll!

Die kleine Anna stellt unglaublich viele Fragen und stellt damit das Weltbild von Fynn und ihrer Umgebung

gehörig auf den Kopf. Sie ist mit Mister Gott sehr verbunden und sieht in allem etwas Wunderbares. Sie entdeckt die Welt mit Kinderaugen, aber eben auch mit Augen, die viel tiefer als diese blicken. Sie sieht mehr, als jeder andere sieht und vielleicht auch mehr als man selbst je gesehen hat. Von der kleinen Anna kann jeder noch etwas lernen und auch, wenn man mit Gott und dem Christentum so gar nichts am Hut hat, wie ich beinah, dann kann man dieses Buch trotzdem lieben! Ich habe es getan und werde Anna und ihre vielen Fragen und Theorien und ihre eigene Philosophie in schönster Erinnerung behalten. Ein Buch, das man verschenken sollte, selbst lesen und stark verinnerlichen sollte. (: Ein schönes Vergnügen mit wenigen Seiten aber umso mehr Inhalt. Ob er auch nachhaltig ist, kann ich jetzt natürlich nicht beantworten, aber für den Moment war es schön und ich habe durch Anna wieder eine kindliche Lebensfreude gespürt und das tat meinem Herz sehr gut! Es war so schön ihr durch die Welt zu folgen und aus ihren Augen zu sehen. Zudem mochte ich auch Fynn sehr gerne, der die Geschichte erzählt. Bitte lest es!!

Und lasst es von dem Gott nicht zu sehr abschrecken, eigentlich spielt die Welt und wie sie läuft, sehr viel mehr eine Rolle als die Religion. Die auch, aber in einer sehr angenehmen und schönen Form. Und das sagt jemand, der damit nicht viel zu tun hat. (: Wagt euch. Es lohnt sich.

PS: Fynn und Anna haben wirklich gelebt. Fynn hieß eigentlich anders und war ein Mathematiker aus Irland.

Shubhangi says

This book changed my entire world, my entire life.

Its explanation and insight into what God is, is a completely different outlook onto a topic as old as humanity.

It has a refreshing way of describing things, but without the various pretenses that most authors seem to have. Honest writing is a really rare find nowadays but this book, despite convention, remains, even if untrue, honest.

Nadine Larter says

Mister God, This is Anna is a book about a man who finds a little girl wandering the streets, and he takes her home. This always tickles me, because: how insane! Granted it does sort of explain itself out of that hole, and the book is set in the 1930s so it is forgivable, but still, it makes me giggle. Then again, if you pulled that kind of thing today, would anyone notice? I think it's probably less likely than we expect.

Anyway, the book is ok, I suppose. I don't think you need to be a believer in God to enjoy it, you simply need to be respectful of religion, I suppose. Anna is a precocious little thing who spends her days puzzling the narrator, Fynn, with intense questions and poignant observations about the world around her. It does get a bit blahblahblah in the middle, but all-in-all it is quite a sweet story.

Dan Glover says

I read this book quite a while ago. It is engagingly written but it contains some very errant and very wishful thinking theology. The story centers around the relationship between a 4-7 year old girl (story takes place over 3 years) and a 16-19 year old boy who finds her on the street one night and brings her home to his

Anna died when she was 8. She fell from a tree. And for living her life as she did, fully and without regrets, she didn't doubt one moment that therefore Mister God would let her into his heaven. She died with a smile on her face.

The book is for children and adults alike. A wonderful, touching, very emotional story about a girl that changed not only the life of the people she lived with, but also of the thousands who read about her.

I've read this book many times over. And I'll probably read it many more times. It's a gem of a special kind.

Faith Spinks says

This book is so very, very beautiful. It is simple and yet profound. It is a book that I have read, re-read and re-read again and again. And I never tire of it. Every time I read it I discover some new gem. My copy of the book makes it an art to read as it is beyond the 'falling apart' stage. The pages are no longer attached and yet for me that is just a sign of how loved the book is. Loved by my parents and then passed on and loved by me.

I never met Anna, but I feel like I have, and I like her. I like her a lot! Anna was just four years old when Fynn found her wandering round London's Docklands one foggy night in the 1930s. Badly neglected and abandoned by her parents, he took her home to be cared for by his own family. She was little and she was young but her impact by far outsized her. Nobody who met Anna remained the same: not even Bossy the cat or Patch the dog who she tamed in an instant. As Fynn said of her, "this was no casual knowing; it required total application." Anna may have been young but she was an intelligent, lively, precocious chatterbox who had an outlook on life which could completely transform your understanding of life and make you think "of course it is that simple!"

One of the things about Anna is the incredible relationship she had with 'Mister God'. Not some distant childhood vision of a god sitting on a throne up in the clouds, but in her wonderful matter of fact way she just really knew 'Mister God'. And her insights were just incredible. And as you read you find yourself, along with Fynn, learning so much. Anna's mirror book, her understanding that you can do billions of sums when you start with the answer, the way she could see everyday objects in a way which reflected her understanding of 'Mister God' are just some of the amazing aspects of Anna.

Each time I read it I feel like I come away having gleaned more than from any sermon, or from all my years at school. On this reading one of the things that struck me was the understanding that God's greatest creative act was rest. He spent 6 days sorting out the muddle that was there in the first place and then to crown it all he created rest for us. "When he finished making all things, Mister God had undone the muddle. Then you can rest, so that's why rest is the very, very biggest miracle of all." God didn't rest at the end of all that creating because he was tired. Of course not. He's God! He created rest!

Anna dies before she even reaches her eighth birthday and yet at the end of the book I put it down with a sense of feeling full, of wonder and of gratitude for the life she lived and the impact she made. "Anna's life hadn't been cut short, far from it, it had been full, completely fulfilled"

Anna's influence continues today. Anyone reading this dips into her thought-processes, and then you can't help but fall under the wonder of her innocence, wisdom and amazing relationship with 'Mister God'. Read it, and see what your eyes get opened to!

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Pili says

En mi oficina se ha creado de manera espontánea un pequeño "club de lectoras"; una de ellas me prestó este libro por tratarse de uno de sus favoritos y sabiendo que "El Principito" era uno de los míos. Lo disfruté mucho, y creo que es de esos libros, que al igual que "El Principito", se entienden, saborean e impactan más en una segunda o tercera lectura.

hrisy says

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Orinoco Womble (tidy bag and all) says

I remember when the American paperback edition of this book came out in the 1970s and all of the adults in my parents' immediate circle jumped on it. I must have been about 13 when I got my hands on it and read it and loved it. Unlike Fynn and Anna, I've never understood math, partly thanks to being forced into "the new math" at age 8 and missing three vital years of basic arithmetic, and then transferring to a school that had never taught the new math, realising kids my age needed the old one more. I never had a slide rule (and the people around me don't even know what it is these days) or a piano or even an oscilloscope, but their adventures sure sounded like fun. I read it several times, stole my parents' copy when I went off to college and moved to Europe, and finally lost it at about age 30 when I lent it to someone who left the country without returning it. (*Which is sorta OK, because we had traded books and I borrowed her copy of Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe. I would have returned it, but she left no adress, and this was in the days before the Internet, where I live now.*)

Fast forward to the 90s, and I came across a copy of Anna and the Black Knight and pounced on it. Read it, but found it less about Mr God and more about math and physics. It also made me wonder; the main characters in Fynn's books all seem to have a habit of dying at the end.

Just recently, due to a GR friend reading "Mr God", I ordered a copy of the Anna trilogy and re-read the first book. And the older, more cynical me wonders still: Was Anna a real person, or a device that Fynn used to float his ruminations on reality, mathematics, spirituality and so on? I know that in 1930s London there were many street kids who basically floated through life--Fynn himself seems to have been one, after a fashion, as

he was first a student and then a staff member of a "therapeutic community" according to Wikipedia and a website called "therealfynn.co.uk." I haven't read Anna's Book yet, which purports to be notes and jottings written by Anna herself, so the jury's still out on that one.

If Anna was real, and she had lived, she would probably have been a math or science whizkid, and as that plus an idealist plus a woman, at that time in that place probably would have been a misfit and quite unhappy.

Jason says

The book recounts the friendship formed between the author and narrator Fynn (who is in his late teens or early 20s in the narrative) and a foundling named Anna in London's East End, in the 1930s. Anna, reminiscent of a character from Dickens, is a little girl who lives on the streets until she is taken in by the narrator. She has a unique perspective on life, a mystical spirituality, and a boundless curiosity that she shares with the author and the reader on every page. She occasionally (at least once per chapter) lets loose with a metaphor or pronouncement that is as deep as they come, but it is hard to imagine a real five-year old spouting these profundities with such regularity. Was she a real kid or just a figment of the author's imagination? I have no idea, but I do know that her death in the final chapter (this isn't a spoiler---Fynn tells us about her death in the first few pages) felt real enough.

I loved the characters of Fynn and Anna, yet I have mixed feelings about the book itself. It was given to me as a gift by a good friend, who in turn had it recommended to him. Both recommendations came with the suggestion that the book had substantially shifted their perspectives. Yet in reading the book, I could never shake my suspicion that the author was just using sentimental tricks to make the book seem profounder than it really was. (It felt like the same kind of emotional manipulation that I associate with the movie *Forrest Gump*.) Put it this way: if the wise-sounding comments had come from an adult, rather than from a small homeless child, would they still have seemed as deep?

Luckily, the book is an easy read and is readily available in almost every thrift store in the country, so you can read it for yourself and see what you think.
