

■ Tekst 8 Morgan's Passing

The following text is a fragment from the novel Morgan's Passing by the American writer Anne Tyler.

Morgan's oldest daughter was getting married. It seemed he had to find this out by degrees; nobody actually told him. All he knew was that over a period of months one young man began visiting more and more often, till soon a place was set for him automatically at supper-time and he was consulted along with the rest of the family when Bonny wanted to know what color to paint the dining room. His name was Jim. He had the flat, beige face of a department-store mannequin, and he seemed overly fond of crew-necked sweaters. And Morgan couldn't think of a thing to say to him. All he had to do was look at this fellow and a peculiar kind of lassitude would seep through him. Suddenly he would be struck by how very little there was in this world that was worth the effort of speech, the entanglements of grammar and pronunciation and sufficient volume of voice.

Then Amy started beginning every sentence with "we." *We* think this and *we* hope that. And finally: when we're earning a little more money; when we find a good apartment; when we have children of our own. This just crept in, so to speak. No announcements were made. One Sunday afternoon Bonny asked Morgan if he thought the back yard was too small for the reception. "Reception?" Morgan said.

"And it's not just the size; it's the weather," Bonny said. "What if it rains? You know how the weather can be in April."

"But this is already March," Morgan said.

"We'll all sit down this evening," said Bonny, "and come to some decision."

So Morgan went to his closet and chose an appropriate costume: a pinstriped suit he'd laid claim to after Bonny's father died. It stood out too far at the shoulders, maybe, but he thought it might have been what Mr. Cullen was wearing when Morgan asked him for permission to marry Bonny. And certainly he'd been wearing his onyx cufflinks. Morgan found the cufflinks in the back of a drawer, and he spent some time struggling to slip them through the slick, starched cuffs of his only French-cuffed shirt.

But when the four of them sat down for their discussion, no one consulted Morgan in any way whatsoever. All they talked about was food. Was it worthwhile calling in a caterer, or should they prepare the food themselves? Amy thought a caterer would be simplest. Jim, however, preferred that things be homemade. Morgan wondered how he could say that, having eaten so many suppers here. Bonny wasn't much of a cook. She leaned heavily on sherry – several glugs of it in any dish that she felt needed more zip. Everything they ate, almost, tasted like New York State cocktail sherry.

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"Morgan's oldest daughter was getting married. It seemed he had to find this out by degrees" (regels 1-2)

3p **39** □ Vat dit proces samen in drie stappen.

Baseer je antwoord op de regels 1 tot en met 26.

1p **40** ■ Which of the following statements is/are true, according to the text?

1 Morgan is impressed with his daughter's boyfriend.

2 Morgan thinks that his wife Bonny drinks too much.

3 No one is really interested in Morgan's opinion about the organisation of the wedding.

4 When Morgan asked Bonny to marry him, he was wearing his best suit.

A Only 1.

B Only 2.

C Only 3.

D 1 and 2.

E 2 and 3.

F 3 and 4.