

Far from the Madding Crowd

Chapter 1-4 : Intro of Gabriel Oak- 200 sheep – more pregnant ewes- rescued by Bathsheba Everdene- vanity-having many lovers- her aunt's words are untrue - proposal - unrequited- leaves for Weatherbury- Bathsheba Everdene, a willfull, flirtatious, young woman, unexpectedly inherits a large farm and is romantically pursued by three very different men.



Chapter 5-8 : Gabriel Oak ruined financially - 200 sheep fell dead- shot down the dog – Thanked God for Bathsheba not marrying him - nothing more than his clothes –he rescues her from fire- becomes a bailiff – a hired shepherd to Bathsheba Everdene -



Chapter 9-15 : Her neighbour Mr. Boldwood, a dignified bachelor- visits her for the servant Fanny Robin- having a sly relationship with Troy, a sergeant- gossip about her elopement- Mr. Boldwood is oblivious in her beauty-She too presents a valentine gift, with words “Marry me”



Chapter 16-23 : marriage is to be held for Fanny
Robin and Troy – confusion arises – she flees
away – marriage stops – Gabriel suspects
Bathsheba and Boldwood- so he leaves her farm
– she is not interested to marry him- avoids him
– postpones it to harvest time – her sheep eat
clover and get health problems- only one who
can save them is Gabriel- saves them



Chapter 24-30 : Gabriel performs the same task every evening, a sign of his unending devotion to her - Bathsheba is surprised to see Troy is a soldier – regrets for being rude to him – traps- admiration- gifts- regular visits- assisting in her farm works- kissing her- she falls in love with him -she chastises her servant Liddy, because of her gossip and confesses that she loves Troy -In the midst of their conversation Bathsheba breaks down in tears; she has lost all her self-possession.



Chapter 31-34 : Bathsheba refuses to meet Boldwood
- will not accept her refusal -he knows she loves Troy
– out of jealousy and anger he said that Troy should
not come to his sight - Boldwood tries to bribe Troy to
marry Fanny Robin and leave Bathsheba alone – he
consents and asks him to listen to her conversation
secretly- she calls his first name Frank- gets shocked-
Troy brings Boldwood back to the farm and shows him a
newspaper announcement revealing that he and Bathsheba
are already married – humiliates him



Chapter 35-38 : When Gabriel comes to know her secret marriage, his face is as white as a corpse's – he finds Boldwood's despair - He foresees more future misery resulting from her hasty wedding - Troy announces that he wants the laborers to be served brandy and water. None of the laborers are used to hard liquor, and Bathsheba objects, but Troy overrules her- she has 750 pounds' worth of wheat exposed to rain- Gabriel saves despite the storm- decides to go to Bath to break her love for Troy- He saves Boldwood's ricks also- gets shocked on his negligence



Chapter 39 to 42 : Bathsheba returns to Weatherbury from Bath - complains about all the money Troy has lost at the horse races - As they proceed, they pass a woman who asks Troy the way to Casterbridge. When he replies, she utters a cry and falls down, recognizing his voice: The woman is Fanny - he runs away from her - Upon waking, she thinks she may be dead by the time she is to meet Troy – he asks her for 20 pounds- she refuses -As they argue she notices a curl of yellow hair in his watch and asks him about it. He explains that it belongs to "a young woman I was going to marry before I knew you." After she demands that he burn it and he refuses, Bathsheba bursts into great sobs, hating herself for being so weak as to fall for Troy- comes to know that Fanny Robin is dead from an unknown cause - She offers to bury Fanny, as she worked for Bathsheba's uncle, and sends Poorgrass to collect the body.



Chapter 43-48 : When Troy enters the house, not yet having heard of Fanny's death, his first instinct is to wonder who in the house has died. When he approaches the coffin and sees Fanny, he leans down to kiss her; he tells Bathsheba he has been a bad, black-hearted man. He declares that Fanny is his wife in the eyes of Heaven, and tells Bathsheba, "I am not morally yours." Bathsheba leaves the room and runs out of the house- Troy spends his last 27 pounds buying a gravestone for Fanny in Casterbridge - Despite Troy's heartlessness, she still feels bound to him. When she goes to the market a stranger tells her that he saw Troy drown, but Bathsheba cannot believe this is true. It is only when Troy's clothes arrive, with the watch still containing a curl of Fanny's hair, that Bathsheba begins to accept that he is dead.

Chapter 49-51 : From late autumn to late summer of the next year - Boldwood even gives Gabriel a share of his profits – owns property- but stingy- no change in his life style- Bathsheba may be willing to forget Troy and marry him - The narrator briefly explains that Troy has been wandering through England and America over the past few months. In America he has worked as a professor of gymnastics and sword exercises, but, not liking it, he has returned to England. He intends to wait and see what Bathsheba's financial situation is before revealing his presence to her, not wanting to be held financially "liable for her maintenance." In the meantime, he has taken up with a traveling circus – she refuses Boldwood's second time proposal- Gabriel replies that "The real sin, ma'am, in my mind, lies in thinking of every wedding wi' a man you don't love honest and true." After their conversation, Bathsheba feels piqued that Gabriel has not mentioned his own love for her

Chapter 52-57 : Troy is seen by many others – he meets bathsheba and lands her in a fix -her dread irritates Troy, who seizes her arm violently; she screams. The sound of the scream is followed by a deafening bang: Boldwood has shot Troy dead. He is about to shoot himself, as well, when a worker stops him. Boldwood leaves the hall - is at the Casterbridge prison - Troy is buried in the same grave as Fanny Robin- One day, as she is visiting the grave, she sees Gabriel singing in the church choir. He joins her at the grave and tells her that he intends to leave Weatherbury- Bathsheba admits that she has come "courting him" and the two agree to marry- the last chapter is about their joyful marriage.

