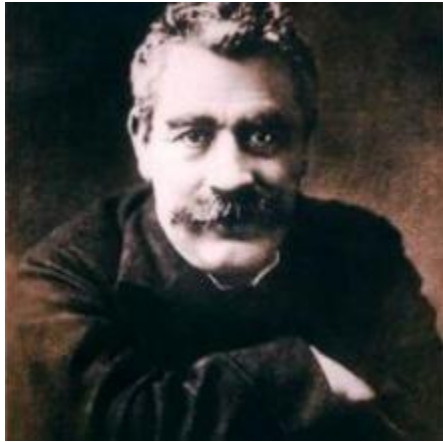


If Not Higher is an ancient story by IL Peretz. In this story, he focuses on the habit of the Rabbi of Namirov. Similarly, he focuses on selfless services. Its four levels part literal comprehension, interpretation, critical thinking/ analysis, and assimilation are:



If Not Higher

IL Peretz

Literal comprehension

'If Not Higher' is the [altruism story](#) composed by 'Il Peretz' in this story early every Friday morning at the time of penitential prayers, the Rabbi of Namirov([Priest](#), religious Guru of their society) would vanish, people thought he went to the heaven at that time. But a Litvak didn't believe it. He decided to find what is truth & that same night after the evening prayers Litvak secretly went Rabbi's room to find what he does during the penitential prayers. He is under the Rabbi's bed the whole night. At next morning at the time of penitential prayers, Rabbi takes some clothes out a bundle of peasant clothes, an ax & rope. Then he goes out of town & Litvak secretly follows him.

Out of the town Rabbi cuts a tree & makes a bundle of wood & returned into the town. Then he stopped at the behind of small house & he goes to that house. There was a poor room with the broken miserable furnishing & an old sick woman wrapped in rags, lies on the bed. Then he sold those woods on very cheapest at credit, also helped to burn the fire. While burning brightly he recited different types of portions of penitential prayers. After seeing these are all activities of Rabbi of Namirov, the Litvak impressed who has secretly followed him & became his disciple.

Interpretation

This story is quite impressive in terms of giving a moral lesson to the readers. Maybe this story trying to tell us that help, respect, believe, hope, etc are the way of heaven. This story displays if the true person helped helpless people like poor people, old people, sick people after his or her death he or she will go to heaven. It also says one can please the God by helping the helpless

one. Similarly, it is not limited to go to temples, churches, worship or pray Gods. So, Heaven is there where we have a holy mind & respect of others.

Critical thinking

This story is well-appreciating tasks of Rabbi of Namirov, who helps helpless people selflessly. But in the present world, everyone is so busy to do their works & they don't believe about the heaven which is invisible from our eyes & also from the world. So, in my mind also some questions raised,

- Can we find such an altruism person in this materialistic world?
- Is it really there is heaven?
- Can modern readers believe that there is heaven?

So I am not fully happy with this text.

Assimilation for this story

Before reading this story as well as If Not Higher I can't believe about the heavenly pleasure. Also still I can not involve in the way of helping peoples. But after reading this text I came to know that. There is necessary to help helpless people to be a great person. Also, heaven is here on earth. So, from now I have a great desire to help helpless people to be a great person & reach to the heaven like Rabbi of Namirov.

for more notes visit [tyonote](#)

Also, read

four levels of [The Great Scott Gadzooks!](#)