

# CHAPTER XXX -Crome yellow

In Chapter XXX of "Crome Yellow," Denis is abruptly woken from his slumber by Mary, who reminds him to send a telegram. Acting with unusual decisiveness, Denis sends a telegram that demands his immediate return to town on "urgent business." This action pleases him, providing a rare sense of satisfaction from taking a decisive step. Upon returning, breakfast conversation with Mr. Scogan highlights Denis's typical preoccupations with broader existential concerns, but the morning's beauty and his decisive action seem to cast them in a lighter vein.

Denis attempts to maintain a semblance of normalcy, engaging in breakfast conversation and thereafter seeking solace behind the "Times" newspaper to evade Mr. Scogan's philosophical continuations. However, his tranquility is disrupted first by Mary's reminder of a suitable train back to London, then by Anne's casual conversation which leads to an awkward encounter with Mr. Scogan who imposes himself physically and conversationally between them. This intrusion by Mr. Scogan cements the day's theme of Denis's endeavors to seek isolation and reflection being constantly thwarted by the interventions of others.

The arrival of the telegram Denis had earlier sent to himself sets the stage for the final act of his departure. The telegram's ostensible urgency causes a farcical commotion among the guests, each reacting according to their dispositions—from Mary's practicality to Anne's dismay and Priscilla's belief in her premonitions. Despite Denis's guilt and reluctance to leave—propelled by what he had convinced himself was necessary action—he's caught in the momentum of the situation he created. His interactions with Anne reveal a shared regret, yet his departure becomes inevitable as arrangements swiftly encase him in a narrative of urgent departure.

The chapter concludes with Denis's subdued acceptance of his *fait accompli*, his reflection on the consequences of decisive action—a theme underscored by the

juxtaposition of his melancholic departure against the backdrop of the lively and vibrant Crome. This departure, literal and metaphorical, encapsulates Denis's internal struggle between action and inaction, his desires and his duties, and ultimately, his place within the social tapestry of Crome. His exit is marked by a poignant, yet somewhat comic ritual of farewells, underscoring the novel's satirical tone and the futility of Denis's attempt to assert control over his life's direction.

