

Sevensteps

Narrative Story Graph

Title/Topic: ~~Things~~ Too much (or
Tears can dry)

Sizzling Start
Starting with her problem of feeling scared and alone.

↑
Interest level

Backfill
Explaining her friends and concerns:

Pebble (Small problem)
Getting caught not in class.
(Lots of discription for tension)

Rock (Medium problem)
Mrs Hansly leaving.
~~ben~~ (A simile would be good here)

Gradual build-up of tension

Exciting Ending (Action climax)
Going to the classroom CI should use short sentences for tension)

Boulder (Main tension scene)
Missing one of the things that she likes.

Character Wrap-up (Emotional resolution)
She finds new friends. (let the reader imagine after that.)

~~Tears can dry~~

Tears can dry

Anna cuddled up to the beanbag, crying ~~silently~~. She was supposed to be in her trigonometry lesson. She couldn't handle school right now. Her third day of high school, and she had found her ex-best friend, Ashley, calling her a baby behind her back. ~~Anna couldn't help if she hated getting in trouble, or wanted to play games on the playground like they did in year four.~~ Anna couldn't help it. She wanted to be a kid. Anna lifted her head from the bean bag. She felt like a baby. Crying in the library, the ~~only~~ place in the school where she didn't feel like it was all... ~~too much.~~ Too much noise, too much light, too many people.

Anna couldn't help it. She wants to be a kid. good

Primary school had been okay. There were less people. It was okay to be a kid. When Anna came to school on the first day, it felt like all the kids had met up over the summer and decided that they would all try to be mature and cool. It seemed like even the new kids, who came from different schools, were more popular.

Anna lifted her head from the bean bag and looked up at the library. ~~It was huge.~~ The walls were paneled with oak wood. All the book shelves didn't make Anna feel like they were falling down on her. Anywhere else they would. They didn't in this library. The library made Anna feel calm. ~~Made school seem possible.~~

not needed

Anna stood up and walked through the library, trailing her fingers across the book shelves. The tears dried on her cheeks. She heard a voice. "Dear, shouldn't you be in class?" Anna froze. She wasn't alone. A woman entered her view. She had a kind face, "Oh I-I I was just-just-" Anna stuttered before being interrupted. "Having a bad day?" Said the woman. Anna couldn't hold in her tears. "Yes!" Anna ~~blurred~~. She was having a bad day. An awful day. The worst day. The women seemed to understand. "I'm Mrs Hansly, the ~~library~~ teacher. A lot of people come here when they're having a bad day." She replied in a calm and kind voice.

good

Anna held her steaming tea in her hands. Mrs Hansly had invited her to her office, and for some tea. "So, what seems to be the matter?" She said briskly. Anna breathed a sigh of relief. She wanted to tell Mrs Hansly everything. She couldn't. The bell interrupted her.

"Sorry dear, I have a class to teach." Mrs Hansly said apologetically before walking off. Anna ~~blinked back tears.~~ She had found an island, in the middle of an ocean of fear and doubt. Then the island dissolved before her eyes. Then Anna looked at her timetable. 5th period. She should be in science. One of the few subjects that made sense to her.

good

Anna suddenly felt powerful. She wouldn't stay away from a subject that she loved just because of ~~an~~ awful person. She got up. She walked to her science class. She opened the door. Entered. Sat down. Looked Ashley straight in the eye. Found herself a new lab partner. As Anna laughed with her new friend she realized. Tears can dry.

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By Amy Douglas