Summary of a Story Example

"The Happy Prince" by Oscar Wilde: A Summary

"The Happy Prince" tells the poignant tale of a golden statue standing high above the city. The statue, once a wealthy prince, is adorned with jewels and clothed in gold leaf. From his elevated position, he can see the suffering and poverty in the city below.

The Happy Prince is not alone; a swallow, en route to Egypt for the winter, seeks refuge under the statue. The compassionate Prince, despite his opulent exterior, learns of the city's misery through the swallow's eyes. Deeply moved, the Happy Prince persuades the swallow to distribute his gold and jewels to the needy citizens.

As the Happy Prince becomes increasingly impoverished, the once-beautiful statue loses its luster. The swallow, too, sacrifices itself to aid the suffering. In the end, both the Happy Prince and the selfless swallow find redemption through their acts of kindness.

Oscar Wilde weaves a tale that explores themes of compassion, sacrifice, and the true meaning of happiness. "The Happy Prince" stands as a timeless reflection on the human condition, reminding readers of the enduring value of selflessness and empathy.