English 10 Ainsley

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Journal Response on The

Short Story House

In the short story “House” by Jane Rule, the main character Harry wants to be just like everyone else but his wife Anna is hesitant about it.

Harry saw that everyone else was living normal lives in big houses with backyards, and he wanted to live just like they all were, but his wife Anna wants to stay where they live because she wants to save her money to buy an island. “Harry, baby she said, I’ve told you what I am doing with my money. Six more months of chewing tacks, and I’m buying that island.” (Pg.22). After a lot of persuasion Harry finally convinced Anna to look at houses, and they agreed on a house. They sold their boat, and bought a house.

After they all moved in and were going to bed their son complained it was too quiet, and their daughter cried about sleeping alone in her big room. This is where Harry had his epiphany and realized that he made the wrong decision and Anna was right all along. His family didn’t need to live an “ordinary” life like everyone else to be happy.