

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 12th



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Class : 12th

Subject : English

Chapter : 6

Chapter Name : On The Face of It

Q1 What is it that draws Derry towards Mr Lamb in spite of himself?

Answer. Derry is drawn towards Mr. Lamb in spite of himself because he introduced him , a new life where he was no different to others. The reason, Derry entertained the truth of being a part of the world and accept it in the way it is with an amalgam of sweetness and bitterness was all possible due to his conversation with Mr Lamb. He aroused out to be a vital figure to Derry as he neither consoled him of his burned face nor found him ugly. He had rather shown him the joy of living life to the fullest and accept whatever it offers him in the most pragmatic way.

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Q2 In which section of the play does Mr Lamb display signs of loneliness and disappointment? What are the ways in which Mr Lamb tries to overcome these feelings?

Answer. The disappointment of Mr. Lamb has been encompassed in the last section of the play where he tells himself that people come and go but never return to his place after meeting him once. As he was an optimist he tried out many ways getting himself busy to abate his solitude. Mr. Lamb says that when it's cold, he gets a stick and a ladder and pull the crab apples off the trees and make jelly with it. After that, he says that he is interested in anybody and anything which God has created, be it a human, animal, flowers, weed etc. It's also a spider climbing up the ladder or hearing the bees singing. Moreover, he would read when the sun is up and there aren't any curtains in his house because he embraces everything, even the darkness.

These are the ways in which Mr. Lamb overcomes his loneliness.

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Q3 The actual pain or inconvenience caused by a physical impairment is often much less than the sense of alienation felt by the person with disabilities. What is the kind of behaviour that the person expects from others?

Answer. Speaking from the context of the text *On The Face Of It*, the story is of two people who are physically impaired. One has a tin leg and the other has a burned face.

Mr. Lamb the one with the tin leg, feels pain every now and then and lives alone in a big house with books and nature surrounding him. Similarly, Derry who has a burned face, is afraid of meeting people and their judgemental stares and comments.

These two were in the state of absolute solitude from within. Their physical incapability and abnormality may cost them a sense of pain in their body but the harsh treatment, negligence and sympathy of normal people make them feel alienated with low capabilities and instill a sort of pain in their hearts. This treatment for them was more pain instilling than their physical injuries which ribbed off their confidence to face the world with a rectitude.

It's not just the case with Derry and Mr Lamb but also the people who suffer any kind of physical impairment. We all must entertain the fact that such people don't need our sympathies or negligence but they wish a normal behavior from us, as we do to all others who are physically fit. A sense of respect and goodness is what such people actually crave for.

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Q4 Will Derry get back his old seclusion or will Mr Lamb's brief association effect a change in the kind of life he will lead in the future?

Answer. Derry will not get back his old seclusion because being with Mr. Lamb for a while has radically brought a positive change in him. He resists being in shackles of insecurities and want to live his life like all normal people do. His conversation with Mr Lamb wasn't only a thing of a few moments but something of great importance which instilled in him a sense of self love and self respect, like a little lad has gotten an experienced vision of an old age man. Moreover, he no longer cares about his face and what others might think of him, all due to the wisdom words by Mr Lamb.

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Q. How about using your imagination to suggest another ending to the story?

Answer. There can be a different ending to the story, a rather happy one.

When Derry returns to Mr Lamb, he could have met him in a healthier state. They both could have shared their experiences of how they deal with their respective problems. It would make them feel better and embellish their new bond of 'friendship'.

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