



Apperciation

1. How is Satyajit's financial crash introduced to the reader?

Answer: Satyajit has an entire list of denials. He was working on quitting some habits like smoking. This realisation dawned on him when he was about to smoke in the train he was travelling on. While reaching out for his cigarettes he gave it a second thought. He had rationed his habits as it was a time of crisis for him. He could not afford unrestricted luxury. He was bitten by the stark reality that the wheel of fortune did not favour him.

2. Comment on the way in which the story is narrated from Satyajit's perspective.

Answer: Satyajit has been extremely biased in expressing his opinion in the story. The story could also be presented as a diary entry. The narration seems to be in a continuous tone of justification. Satyajit explains himself at every point of the story - may it be feeling regretful for not giving the forgerer another chance or feeling joyous at being considered to be a God by his hosts. His revelation about failure striking faster than success portrays the completely broken condition of his spirit and soul. He very well seems to interpret the fact that the tempo of failure occurs to a man faster than success. His moments of epiphany to forgive the man who had committed forgery, to consider himself stupid for coming at an occasion where Srinath and his family members expected benediction from him, and to pull Srinath through the crisis of getting his daughter married rather than gifting the house and the fish-pond to his own family.

3. How has the author used the episode of the bank theft to comment on Satyajit's success in his career?

Answer: The author has very well knit the entire frame of the story. He wanted to show a common man's rise from a mere client to the post of Managing Director. He, in turn, wanted to explain how success earned through short-cut could be shortlived. He introduced this incident in the story making it the key episode, highlighting on how Satyajit managed to get promoted by play of chance. The author elaborates on a situation here on how men rise by occurrence of such incidents based on luck. It was just a matter of chance that he got the position and, thus, didn't have any rational reasons for the same. Thus, with no solid foundation for him to achieve what he did his success came to an end in a short while. The author wants to exemplify through this story that the tempo of failure is always faster than success.

4. How do these lines capture the essence of the story:

'Glory was all overlaid with dark shame. Glory was dead.'

Answer: The line 'Glory was all overlaid with dark shame' very well exemplifies the state of mind of the narrator. He seems to be a kind of person who is unable to accept defeat or failure. He has broken down completely and yet is not in favour of revealing his loss of wealth and position publicly. He had enjoyed his status as the superior being in the concerned society for a very long time and had always been glorified by all, especially his uncle. His uncle's daughters got married well because of the 'benediction' by Satyajit. Hence, it was impossible for the author to digest the fact that now

the tables had turned and he owned nothing. Thus, he makes failure sound synonymous to shame. He thinks that the opposite of being glorious at one point of time is utter shame in public. 'Glory is dead' is the final statement which reveals the author's complete helplessness and vulnerability to the situation.

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