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NOVEL PLOT ANALYSIS**

ACADEMIC ENGLISH

XII

SUMIT THAKUR

Q1. Who was Mr. Teddy Henfrey? How did he meet Mrs. Hall's visitor and what impression did he form of the visitor?

Ans. Mr. Teddy Henfrey was a clock-jobber. Mrs. Hall had called him to repair a clock that was in her visitor's room. When Mrs. Hall took him to the visitor's room, Henfrey was taken a back to see the bandaged person. The strange appearance of the visitor aroused deep curiosity in his mind. He wanted to talk to the visitor. So he deliberately took as long as he could with the clock, taking it apart and reassembling it for no reason. But the visitor remained perfectly silent and still. He just asked Henfrey angrily why he didn't finish his work and go. "All you have got to do is to fix the hour hand on its axle," said the visitor. Henfrey felt offended. He finished his work and left the place. He thought that the visitor was a man of suspicious nature and was perhaps wanted by the police. That was why he had wrapped himself from head to foot, thought Mr. Henfrey.

Q2. What did the people living in Iping think about the stranger?

Ans. The stranger was a common topic in the village due to his village to his weird appearance. Opinion was greatly divided about his occupation. Mrs. Hall would say that he

was an experimental investigator. She would say that her visitor had an accident which temporarily discoloured his face. But most of the people in the village said that he was a criminal trying to escape from justice. It was to escape the eyes of the police that he kept himself wrapped. Mr. Gould, the probationary assistant in the National, School, said that the stranger was an anarchist in disguise who was preparing explosives. Some people regarded the stranger as a harmless lunatic. Whatever the people thought of him, they all agreed in disliking him. His irritability, his frantic gesticulations, his strolls after nightfall, his pulling down of blinds, his extinction of candles and lamps- were things that amazed the villagers very much.

Q3. Who was Mr. Cuss? Why did he want to meet the stranger staying at the 'Coach and Horses'? What happened when he met the stranger?

Ans. Mr. Cuss was the general practitioner in Iping. The tales of the mysterious stranger had filled him with terrible curiosity. The stranger's bandages had excited his professional interest. And the report of those thousand and one bottles of the stranger had aroused his jealousy. He wanted to know if the stranger was doing any research work. So he longed for an opportunity of talking to the stranger. At last he hit upon the idea of collecting donations for a village nurse. And he decided to contrive an interview with the stranger. Then he went to the inn to meet the stranger. Mrs. Hall took him to the stranger's room. During the interview the stranger accidentally removed his hand from his pocket. Mr. Cuss got a glimpse of the empty sleeve to the elbow. When Mr. Cuss questioned him about moving an empty sleeve, the stranger laughed at him. He hit Mr. Cuss's back so severely that he got hysteric. Mr. Cuss became so scared that he ran away.

Q4. Write in brief about the burglary at the vicarage?

Ans. One night the vicar's wife woke up suddenly. She had heard some noise coming from the adjoining dressing room. She aroused the vicar. Just then they heard the fumbling going on at the study desk downstairs. They came downstairs. There they heard the opening of the drawer and rustling of papers. Through of the crack door of his study, the vicar could see the desk and the open drawer and a candle burning on the desk. Then the vicar and his wife heard the chink of money. Someone was taking out the money from the vicar's desk. They rushed into the room but they found no one in the room. However they were sure that they had heard somebody moving therein. They searched each and every corner of the room. There was no sign of anybody. Still the desk had been opened and the money was missing.

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The vicar and his wife were terribly confused to think of the strange burglary committed at their house.

Q5. Describe the circumstances that led to the unveiling of the identity of the stranger?

Ans. One day Mrs. Hall didn't serve any food to the stranger. She was annoyed with him because he had not paid his bills. The stranger tried to assure Mrs. Hall but she refused to accept any excuse. It enraged the stranger and he put his open palm on his face and withdrew it. The centre of his face became a black cavity. He put something on Mrs. Hall's hand. She screamed to see it. It was the nose of the stranger. Then he removed his spectacles, hat, bandages and whiskers one by one and soon became a headless man. Just then Mr. Hall and Mr. Jaffers reached there with a warrant. The stranger said to the constable, I am invisible. Its strange, perhaps but it is not a crime. Mr. Jaffer told him that he was not after any invisibility but after burglary at the vicars house and all the circumstance pointed towards the stranger. At this the stranger started removing his cloths one by one and soon became invisible. Thus, was unveiled the identity of the invisible man.

Q6. Describe the constable Mr. Jaffers fight with the invisible man.

Ans. Mr. Jaffers come to Mrs. Hall inn with a warrant against the invisible man., The man said that I am all here, but it happens that I am invisible. Its strange but its not a crime. At this, Mr. jaffer said that he was not after any invisibility but after the burglary committed at the vicars house and all the circumstances pointed towards him. Hearing this man started taking off his clothes one by one. Suddenly realizing what was happening Jaffers cried, 'Hold Him' once he gets those things off. He himself too tried to grip t he man. He clutched at the man sleeves but only help to pull it off. Soon, the man completely became invisible. He started hitting Mr. jaffer. "I got him!" Jaffers shouted suddenly wrestling against the unseen enemy. He was choking; nevertheless kept holding his enemy tight. At last he fell down unconscious and the Invisible Man escaped from Iping.

Q7. Describe the Invisible man's activities in the Iping village.

Ans. The Invisible mans first adventure in Iping was at the vicar's house. He stole money from the the vicar's desk. The vicar and his wife heard the chink of money. But they saw nobody in the room. Still the desk had been opened and money was missing. His next adventure was at Mr.s Hall's inn. Remaining invisible he threw his hat at Mrs. Hall. Then a chair rose and pushed her out of the room. His third adventure was with Mr. Jaffers who had a warrant

against him. When Jaffers tried to arrest him, the man started taking off his clothes and soon became invisible. He hits Jaffers with unseen blows and escaped from Iping. His last adventure was when he came back to Iping village with Marvel to have his books and clothing. Mr. Vuss and Mr. Bunting were investigating his belongings. So he handled them very roughly. When people started chasing Marvel carrying his stuff, perhaps the invisible man got some chance blow. He lost his temper and hit whosoever came in his way. He broke all the window-panes of the inn, cut the telegraph wire and disappeared from Iping for ever.

Q8. Who was Mr. Thomas Marvel? Describe in brief his encounter with the Invisible Man?

Ans. Mr. Thomas Marvel was not just a tramp. One day he was sitting with his feet in a ditch at some distance from Iping. Suddenly he heard a voice behind him. He turned to see but there was none. "Am I drunk?" said Marvel. "Was I talking to myself?" "Don't be alarmed," said the voice. At this Marvel rose sharply to his feet and said, "Where are you?" There was no answer. "Am I a chump?" said Marvel. "Or is it spirits?" "Neither one thing nor the other" said the voice. Marvel was confused to hear the voice again. But still he considered it a figment of his imagination. He thought differently only when the voice, he was hearing, threw stones at him. Then the voice gave him frightful threats. The invisible man through his voice convinced Marvel that he was real. He told Marvel that he would have to help him get clothes, shelter and other things. Threatened of the consequences of not listening to the Invisible man, Marvel readily agreed to obey his commands.

Q9. How did the whole village join to catch hold of Mr. Marvel and why?

Ans. Mr. Huxter saw a man walking furtively in the yard of the 'Coach and Horses'. The man disappeared for some time from the yard. And then he reappeared with a bundle and three books in the hands. Huxter felt that some robbery had taken place. So he started chasing the man crying, "Stop thief!" Hall, Henfrey and other people sitting in the taproom heard the noise and came out. They saw Huxter running after a man and then taking a leap and falling down on the ground. Then they saw the man vanishing by the corner of the church wall. They at once concluded that this was the Invisible Man. They all once set off chasing him. In the meanwhile Mr. Cuss came out of the parlour and cried. "Hold Him! Don't let him drop that bundle! You can see him so long as he holds the bundle." In fact Cuss knew nothing of Marvel's presence there. And actually it was Marvel who was holding the bundle and the books. The invisible Man had handed over these things to him. So all the villagers took Mr. Marvel for the Invisible Man and joined together to catch hold of him.

Q10. What threat did the voice give to Mr. Marvel and why? What was the Invisible Man scared of?

Ans. when the Invisible Man created havoc in Iping, the people started running here and there in terror to save themselves. Mr. Marvel took advantage of the situation. He ran away with the Invisible Man's stuff that he was to deliver to him. But the Invisible Man somehow found out Mr. Marvel. And he threatened Marvel that if he gave him the slip again, he would kill him. The Invisible Man was scared that the news about his invisibility would soon be in the papers. He said "No one knew I was invisible! And now they know. What I am to do?" He feared that everybody would now look for him.

Q11. The mariner heard another story about an extraordinary thing that had happened quite close to him. What was it? Write in detail.

Ans. This extraordinary thing was a vision of a 'first full of money' travelling without any visible agency. It went along by the wall at the corner of Sr. Michael's Lane. A brother mariner had seen this wonderful sight that very morning. He had snatched the money forthwith, and had been knocked headlong. When he had got to his feet, the money had vanished. The story of the flying money was true. All about the neighborhood, money had been seen that day, floating quietly along by walls and shady places. It would dodge quickly from the approaching eyes of men. It ended its mysterious flight in the pockets of that unhappy man in the old silk hat, sitting outside the little inn on the outskirts of Port Stowe. It was ten days later that the mariner learnt these facts. Only then did he realize how near he had been to the wonderful Invisible Man.

Q12. Why did the people of Burdock bolt themselves into their houses?

Ans. One day in Burdock some people saw a little fat man running down the hills towards them. When he came close, they noticed the terror on his perspiring face. As he ran, his pockets clinked like a well-filled purse being tossed to and fro. He neither looked to the right nor to the left. He started straight downhill to the people who were crowded in the street. Everyone looked up and down the road to know the reason of his haste. A Slimy foam lay on his lips. And then a dog playing in the road, yelped and ran under a gate. And while yet people stood wondering, a sound like that of someone panting and breathing rushed by. People sprang off the pavement and started screaming, "The Invisible Man!" They got so scared that they bolted themselves into their houses. This news spread like fire everywhere.

Even before Marvel was half-way there, everyone in the town was shouting: "The Invisible Man is coming! The Invisible Man!"

Q13. How was Mr. Marvel rescued from the hands of the Invisible Man?

Or

How did Mr. Marvel get rid of the Invisible Man?

Ans. One day Mr. Marvel came to the 'Jolly Cricketers' yelling for help. At that time a policeman, a cabman, and a black bearded American were sitting there. Marvel told them that the Invisible Man was after him. He requested Marvel told them that the Invisible Man was after him. He requested them to help him. The policeman asked the barman to close all the doors. Suddenly a blow made a fastened door shiver. It was followed by a knocking and shouting outside. This was the Invisible Man, said Marvel. Just then a door slammed and they heard a key turn. "I think the yard door was open," said the barman. Suddenly they heard Marvel squeal like a trapped hare. They saw Marvel being dragged. They ran for his help. The policeman gripped the wrist of the invisible hand that collared Marvel. But the policeman was hit in the face and he went reeling back. Then the cabman clutched something and cried, "I got him. Here he is!" The cabman got kicked in the stomach. He cried and doubled up. Marvel's rescuers got repeated blows from invisible fists. When the Invisible Man was busy in dealing with his rescuers, Marvel sought the police protection and thus got rid of the Invisible Man.

Q14. Who was Dr. Kemp? Did he believe in an Invisible Man? What did he think when he saw a little fat man running down the hills towards him?

Ans. Dr. Kemp was a scientist living in Port Burdock. He was a tall and slender young man with flaxen hair and a moustache almost white. He was a disciplined and law-abiding citizen. He, too had read about the Invisible Man in the newspaper. But he did not believe in such stories. That evening he was looking at the setting sun from the window of his room and admiring its rich golden beauty. Just then his attention was attracted by the little figure of a man running down the hills. Dr. Kemp thought that the man also might have heard about the Invisible Man. And perhaps that was the reason that he was running down the hills so fast in terror. "Another of those fools, I think," said Dr. Kemp. "Like that ass who ran into me this morning, crying 'Invisible Man is coming, sir!'" Dr. Kemp wondered how people could get possessed so easily. His scientific outlook did not let him believe in the existence of an Invisible Man.

Q15. Who was Doctor Kemp's visitor? What did he tell Dr. Kemp about himself?

Ans. The Invisible Man was Dr. Kemp's visitor. After his flight with some men at the 'Jolly Cricketers', the Invisible Man had entered Dr. Kemp's house. He was badly wounded. Kemp saw stains of blood stains those were. Just then he heard a voice, "I am an invisible man." He told Kemp that he was really an invisible man. And it was no magic. He further told Kemp that he was Griffin, his junior at University College.

"I am the man who is known to have made himself invisible," said the voice.

"Griffin! I am confused," said Kemp.

"Yes, Griffin," answered the voice, "a younger student, six feet high, with red eyes, a pink and white face, one who won the medal for chemistry."

"It's horrible!" said Kemp. "What devilry happened to make you invisible?"

Griffin, told him that it was no devilry. It was a process, quite simple and intelligible. Then he told Kemp that he was in deep pain. He asked Kemp to give him some food and drink. He also asked for some clothes to wear.

Q16. What happened at Chesilstowe? How did it change Griffin's life?

Ans. Griffin was very good at chemistry. He had won a medal for it. But when he went to Chesilstowe he was so fascinated by Light that it changed his whole life. He dropped medicine and took up physics. "Optical density! The whole subject fascinated me," said Griffin. He decided to devote his life to it. He put all his time, heart and soul to his work. Within a few months he discovered a formula of pigments that lowered the refractive index of a substance allowing light to pass through it rather than reflect it or refract it. Then after three years Griffin discovered how animal tissues could be made transparent. He did not tell anybody about his discovery. In fact he wanted to flash his work upon the world and become famous at a blow. But while working in secrecy he came upon a time when he had to stop his experiment due to the lack of funds. And to meet out the crisis he robbed his own father. His father shot himself because that money was not his. In great despair, Griffin left Chesilstowe and went back to London.

Q17. On what did Griffin try his experiment? What happened? Did he succeed in his experiment?

Ans. At his Griffin tried his experiment on a white fool fabric. He enjoyed the seeing the fabric vanish from his view. Just then he heard a miaow behind him. He decided to try his experiment on this cat. He called the cat softy and gave her some milk. After some time he

gave her some drug to bleach the blood. Then he gave her some opium also. And soon she fell asleep. Griffin kept on looking at the cat. He saw that except her eyes and claws, the rest of her body faded gradually and then vanished. After about two hours the cat began miaowing about the room. Griffin decided to turn her out but he could see only two shining green eyes of the cat. Then he opened the window of his room so that she could herself go out. Then he never saw nor heard any more of her. Griffin became successful in his experiment but not fully. The eyes of the cat had not become invisible. It was so because there is a reflective layer in the eyes of some animals that causes them to shine in the dark.

Q18. Why did the landlord come to Griffin's room? How did Griffin react to the situation? How did he become invisible?

Ans. The landlady had heard the cry of the cat coming Griffin's room last night. So the landlord wanted to know what Griffin had been doing in the room. He came there with threats and enquiries. Griffin thought that the landlord might carry away something of his secret. So he pushed the landlord out of the room. Griffin knew that there was crisis for sure to follow. So he hurried out with his cheque book and his three books of notes. He went to the Post Office and parceled the books to a house in Great Portland Street. Then he came back to his room and drank some of his own potion. In the evening when the landlord came to his room with an ejection notice, he got scared to see the stone-white face of Griffin and ran away. After suffering extreme anguish and sickness Griffin witnessed his body parts becoming glassy and gradually he became invisible. Then he set fire to the landlord's house and ran away.

Q19. What did Griffin do inside a big London store?

Ans. It was mid-winter. The air was bitterly cold and Griffin could not live without clothes. So to save himself from cold he entered a big London store. Closing time arrived. And as soon as the doors were shut, Griffin became able to give himself the pleasure of feeding and clothing without any expense. He went to the clothing section of the store. From there he got socks, shoes, trousers, a jacket, an overcoat, a thick comforter and a big hat. He put on the clothes and became a visible person again. Then he went to the refreshment section. There he relished cold meat with coffee. After the meal he enjoyed sweets and wine taken from the grocery. Then he settled down to sleep in a pile of quilts feeling very warm and comfortable. When store was opened in the morning, he was seen sleeping there. Men in the shop tried to catch him. But Griffin smashed art pots on the men chasing him. Then Griffin started taking off his clothes one by one and slipped out of the store.

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Q20. Why did Griffin go to Drury Lane? What did he do there?

Ans. After escaping from the London store Griffin was once again without clothes in the chilly January air. This time he decided to try the stock of a theatrical company. He was sure that he would find there not only clothes but also something that would help him to hide the empty space above his shoulders. So he hurried to Drury Lane, the centre of the theatrical world. He soon found a suitable shop and went into it. He saw the shopkeeper taking his meal inside the shop. Then Griffin went upstairs to the clothing section of the shop. When he started inspecting the clothes, a pile suddenly fell down. The shopkeeper heard the noise and ran upstairs. But he found no one there. However he was sure that somebody else was present there. So he locked all the doors of his shop. It annoyed Griffin and he stuck the man on his head and made him unconscious. He stole all the money that he could find. Then he slipped out in the street wearing a costume of old clothes, bandages round his forehead, dark glasses, false nose, big bushy side-whiskers and a large hat.

Q21. What were Griffin's original plans before meeting Dr. Kemp? What huge mistake did Griffin finally realize that he had made throughout?

Ans. Griffin's invisibility had become known in his country. So he had planned to go to France, Spain or Algiers. There he thought, a man might be invisible always and yet could do what he liked. But after seeing Dr. Kemp, he changed his mind. "I was going to clear out of the country. But now I have altered that plan," said Griffin to Kemp. Griffin had carried out his research in secrecy. He didn't tell about it to anybody not even to his professor. In fact, he didn't want anybody to share his credit. But now he realized that he had made a huge mistake in working on his research all alone. Thus he had wasted not only his time and strength but also opportunities. "How little a man can do alone! He can rob a little, hurt a little and that is all," said Griffin. He further told Kemp that he wanted a helper and a hiding place.