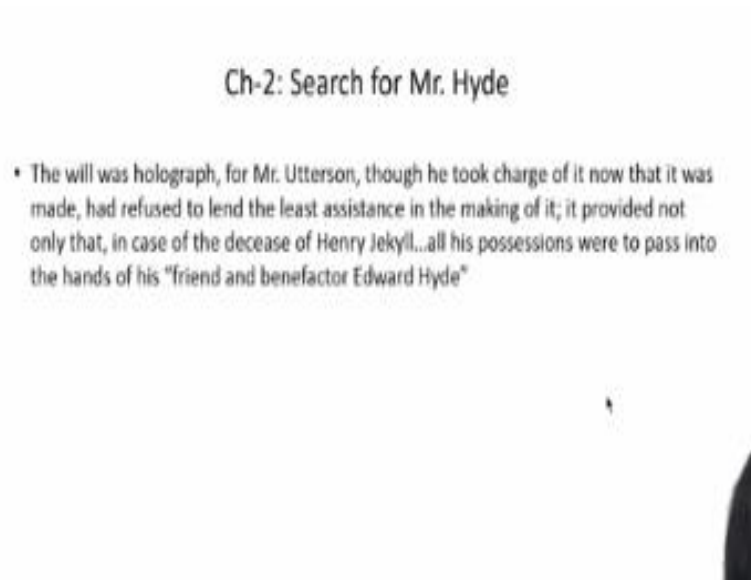


The Nineteenth Century Novel
Prof. Divya, A, DoHSS
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology - Madras

Lecture – 44
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, Chapter 2

Hello and welcome back to week 10's lectures. Today, we will be looking at Chapter Two of R. L. Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. So new characters will be further introduced in this novella in this chapter, and we will also see how Mr. Utterson becomes obsessed with the figure of Hyde.

(Refer Slide Time: 00:37)



Chapter 2 is entitled Search for Mr. Hyde. So somebody is searching for him, and he is particularly interested in Mr. Hyde because his friend Dr. Jekyll is going to leave his entire property and wealth to Mr. Hyde on his death or disappearance. And that was very, very odd to Mr. Utterson because Mr. Hyde is not at all a respectable man in society. “The will was holograph, for Mr. Utterson, though he took charge of it now that it was made, had refused to lend the least assistance in the making of it.”

So, Mr. Utterson does not like the will, and so he does not offer any assistance to Dr. Jekyll when he was preparing that will, when he was documenting that paper. And it “provided not only that, in the case of the disease of Henry Jekyll, all his possessions were to go to his 'friend and benefactor Edward Hyde’”. So it is a very curious thing about Dr. Jekyll to take under his

wing this particular man Edward Hyde, who is very hateful, who has committed crimes against the innocent.

(Refer Slide Time: 01:58)

Ch-2: Search for Mr Hyde

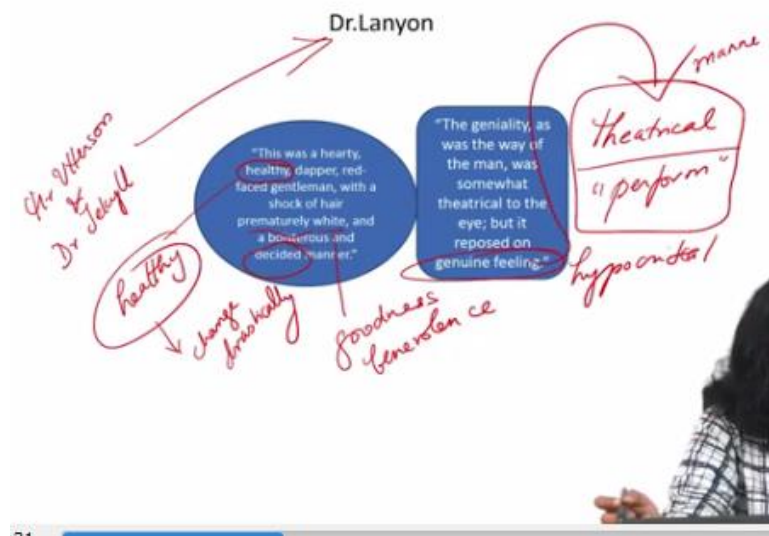
- It was already bad enough when the name was but a name of which he could learn no more. It was worse when it began to be clothed upon with detestable attributes; and out of the shifting, insubstantial mists that had so long baffled his eye, there leaped up the sudden, definite presentment of a fiend.

devil/evil

“It was already bad enough when the name was but a name of which he could learn no more. It was worse when it began to be clothed upon with detestable attributes, and out of the shifting, insubstantial mists that had so long baffled his eye, there leaped up the sudden, definite presentment of a fiend.” Look at the way Mr. Hyde is described in this excerpt. Mr. Utterson had heard of the name in the context of the will that Dr. Jekyll made.

But now, after the description of Mr. Hyde from Dr. Enfield, especially after the story that he hears from his kinsman, he is now beginning to see a specific figure. And look at the way that image kind of leaps up, jumps up out of the shifting insubstantial mist. From the idea of vague, you know, context, he is now given the shape of a fiend, fiend is devil, something that is evil, and now it is becoming very, very definite and it is very sudden.

(Refer Slide Time: 03:14)



We have a new character called Dr. Lanyon. Dr. Lanyon is also a common friend of Mr. Utterson and Dr. Jekyll. So he is a common friend, he is also a physician, a scientist, and how does he look like, what is his character? He is more cheerful, he is more cheerful than Mr. Utterson, in fact Mr. Utterson calls him as hearty, full of cheer, healthy. Look at the adjective healthy, please keep this in mind because we will be talking about the health of Dr. Lanyon later, it is going to change drastically.

So dapper, well clothed, sophisticated, red-faced gentleman with “a shock of hair prematurely white, and a boisterous and decided manner.” So the white is perhaps signifying his goodness here, grey hair, white signifying goodness and benevolence, and his cheerful spirit is also very positive and he has a decided manner, very sharp manner in the sense that he knows what is what. He is able to discriminate between the right and the wrong, he has a very firm moral compass.

And Mr. Utterson further says that “the geniality, as was the way of the man, was somewhat theatrical to the eye; but it reposed on genuine feeling.” It is a very interesting description which says that the doctor is slightly theatrical, he seems to perform to his friends to the audience, not as a performer but you know, he just puts on certain acts, but then there is nothing hypocritical about him.


In fact, Mr. Utterson says that there is genuine feeling behind his manner. There is nothing shifty, there is nothing evil or wrong or pretended about his attitude.

(Refer Slide Time: 05:34)

No common interest

- "But it is more than ten years since Henry Jekyll became too fanciful for me. He began to go wrong, wrong in mind; and though of course I continue to take an interest in him for old sake's sake, as they say, I see and I have seen devilish little of the man. Such unscientific balderdash," added the doctor, flushing suddenly purple, "would have estranged Damon and Pythias."

not toeing the accepted line
Dr Jekyll
too fanciful
too adventurous
too unconventional



But now, in these days Dr. Lanyon and Henry Jekyll who used to be friends have fallen apart. They have gradually separated, they have gone their different ways, they are no longer thick friends as they used to be, there is no common interest between the two friends, two scientific gentleman who had known each other. And this is Dr. Lanyon who says that "It is more than ten years since Henry Jekyll became too fanciful for me. He began to go wrong, wrong in mind; and though of course I continued to take an interest in him for all old sake's sake, as they say, I see and I have seen devilish little of the man. Such unscientific balderdash,' added the doctor, flushing suddenly purple, 'would have estranged Damon and Pythias.'"

So he says that you know, it has been ten years since I have fallen out with Dr. Jekyll because he has become too fanciful. What does he mean by too fanciful, too adventurous? Too unconventional? There is a lot of meaning that can be interpreted in this word too fanciful for me. so Dr. Jekyll is someone who is not toeing the accepted line in terms of tradition, in terms of what is normal and common, there is something odd about him which he is indicated through this description of Dr. Lanyon and especially in terms of science, especially in terms of science we need to remember that.

And he says that of course I continue to take an interest in Dr. Jekyll because of her connection from the past, but I am not in the habit of meeting him regularly. And he adds unscientific balderdash, unscientific rubbish, that is what he says about Dr. Jekyll's scientific experiments, and that connects us with this point of being too fanciful. So there is something extraordinary about Dr. Jekyll's experimentations with science, something that makes men like Dr. Lanyon move away from him, reject his way of looking at and approaching science.

And he says that, you know, such unscientific attitudes, he calls that not science, what Dr. Jekyll does is not science. His attitude would have estranged, broken up the friendship of even the classical friends such as Damon and Pythias. And who are they precisely?

(Refer Slide Time: 08:42)

Greek Legend

- **Damon and Pythias**, also called **Damon and Phintias**, in Greek [legend](#), a celebrated pair of friends who came to signify the willingness to sacrifice oneself for the sake of a friend.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Damon-and-Pythias-Greek-legend>

Damon and Pythias also called Damon and Phintias in Greek legend, a celebrated pair of friends who came to signify the willingness to sacrifice oneself for the sake of a friend. So Dr. Lanyon is comparing his friendship with Dr. Jekyll too, more or less to Damon and Pythias. And he said even if we have been as close as Damon and Pythias, his unscientific balderdash would have broken up a bond, a very, very close bond, because he is playing with science, he is not treating science as science, there is something wrong in his approach to that knowledge.

(Refer Slide Time: 09:23)

Hauntings of Hyde

- The figure in these two *fantastic phases* ~~phases~~ haunted the lawyer all night; and if any time he dozed over, it was but to see it glide more stealthily through sleeping houses, or move the more swiftly and still the more *swiftly* ~~swiftly~~, even to dizziness, through wider labyrinths of lamplighted city, and at every street-corner crush a child and leave her screaming.

Wilson is being haunted



Now, Mr. Utterson is haunted by Hyde, the crime that he did, he committed and Mr. Hyde's hold on Dr. Jekyll. So even in his sleep, even when Mr. Utterson is sleeping in his bed at night, he kind of imagines, he fantasizes, he dreams, he has nightmareish dreams about Hyde blackmailing Dr. Jekyll, he is just going to his room and sitting by his bedside and blackmailing him, and then he also imagines that Hyde is kind of floating over the entire city like a ghost, like a spirit. He is just, you know, haunting that lamp-lit Victorian city that is London.

So, we have like very feverish fantasies of Mr. Utterson about Mr. Hyde. The figure in these two phases; two fanciful faces, one is Mr. Hyde going to the bedside of Dr. Jekyll and blackmailing him, the other is his haunting the city. So the figure in these two phases haunted the lawyer all night, so he is being haunted, Utterson is being haunted. "And if any time he dozed over, it was but to see it glide more stealthily through the sleeping houses or move more swiftly and still the more swiftly, even to dizziness, through the wider labyrinth of the lamplighted city, and at every street corner crush a child and leave her screaming."

Look at the way the ghost, the spirit of Hyde, moves. It moves swiftly, it moves silently, and sometimes, you know, it makes the viewer dizzy. There is a dizziness in the mind of the figure who is observing the movements, the swift and silent movements. Look at the way the spirit kind of moves through the wider labyrinth, labyrinth is that twisted convoluted streets of this lamplighted city that is London, and as it moves, it seems to crush a child at every corner and leave the child screaming. It is a fantastical set of images that we get about Hyde from the fevered imaginations of Mr. Utterson.

(Refer Slide Time: 12:02)

The Haunting

- From that time forward, Mr. Utterson began to haunt the door in the by-street of shops. In the morning before office hours, at noon when business was plenty, and time scarce, at night under the face of the fogged city moon, by all lights and at all hours of solitude or concourse, the lawyer was to be found on his chosen post.

“From that time forward, Mr. Utterson began to haunt the door in the by-street of shops. In the morning before office hours, at noon when business was plenty, and time scarce, at night under the face of the fogged city moon, by all lights and at all hours of solitude or concourse, the lawyer was to be found on his chosen post.” So, at night he is haunted by the images of Mr. Hyde, and in the morning what Mr. Utterson does is he begins to haunt, literally haunt the door in the by-street of shops.

So, he is just waiting, he is just going by that door, and he hopes to catch an image or glimpse of Mr. Hyde. So he is there all day, look he is there in the morning before office hours, he is there very early, and then he is there at you know, during business hours, and he is there at night, and he is there even when the city is fogged. Look at the phrase fogged city moon, under the face of the fogged city moon, there is a lot of fog and smoke in London, and that is captured in this description here.

And he is waiting, you know, either when there is a lot of peace, he is waiting even when there was a lot of crowd, and the lawyer was to be found on his chosen post, at his selected situation, in the particular spot that he has chosen to wait for Mr. Hyde.

(Refer Slide Time: 13:32)

Mr Hyde and Mr Utterson

- “Will you let me see your face?” asked the lawyer.
- Mr Hyde appeared to hesitate, and then, as if upon some sudden reflection, fronted about with an air of defiance ; and the pair stared at each other fixedly for a few seconds. “Now, I shall know you again,” said Mr. Utterson. “It may be useful.”

foreshadows

And one night, he does catch a glimpse of Mr. Hyde. He waits for him to get to the door and as he is opening the door, Mr. Utterson goes up to talk to him. And he makes a request to Mr. Hyde which is that “Will you let me see your face?” Can I see your face. “Mr. Hyde appeared to hesitate, and then as if upon some sudden reflection, fronted about with an air of defiance;

and the pair stared at each other fixedly for a few seconds. 'Now, I shall know you again' said Mr. Utterson. 'It may be useful.'"

It is a statement which kind of foreshadows an interesting event at the end of the novella, when Mr. Utterson confirms the identity of Mr. Hyde. So it is a useful moment as well, it is useful for Mr. Utterson to look at his face because it will come in handy later on. And look at the initial hesitation of Mr. Hyde to show his face, and then as if upon some sudden reflection, he thinks quickly and makes up his mind, and with an air of defiance, he is challenging the onlooker and the two look at each other fixedly, Mr. Hyde and Mr. Utterson.

(Refer Slide Time: 15:03)


Mr Hyde

- Mr Hyde was pale and dwarfish, he gave an impression of deformity without any nameable malformation, he had a displeasing smile, he had borne himself to the lawyer with a sort of murderous mixture of timidity and boldness, and he spoke with a husky, whispering and somewhat broken voice; all these were points against him, but not all of these together could explain the hitherto unknown disgust, loathing, and fear with which Mr. Utterson regarded him.

Symbolic "broken" man?

Contrasts

timidity & boldness



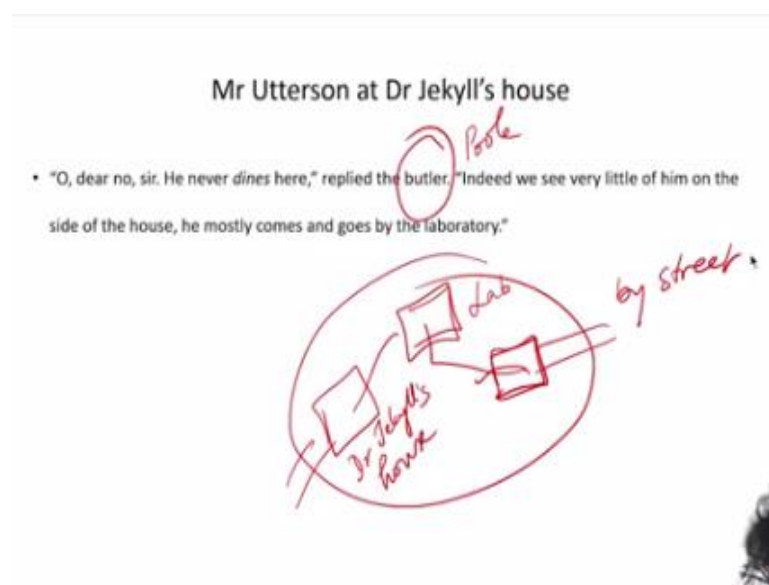
So, how does he look to Mr. Utterson's eyes? "Mr. Hyde was pale and dwarfish, he gave an impression of deformity without any nameable malformation, he had a displacing smile, he had borne himself to the lawyer with a sort of murderous mixture of timidity and boldness, and he spoke with a husky, whispering and somewhat broken voice; all these were points against him, but not all of these together could explain the hitherto unknown disgust, loathing and fear with which Mr. Utterson regarded him."

Again, we have a particular characteristic of Mr. Hyde which is brought up, which is that of deformity. There is an impression of deformity, Mr. Utterson feels that he is deformed, but then he cannot see where that deformity is. It is an unnameable malformation, we cannot spot where that malformation is, and then again he is very displeasing. And when Mr. Utterson looks at his face, his face is full of a mixture of timidity and boldness.

And if you look closely at these two words, they are contrast. They are not synonyms here, they are antonyms, timidity is being very shy, very reserved, not at all confident, and he is, he kind of contains both these in his features, timidity and boldness. And he is murderous, he wants to commit murder on the body of Mr. Utterson, he does not like the fact that Mr. Utterson has interrupted him.

And look at the voice. So even though he is bold in some aspects, he whispers. There is a huskiness to his voice and his voice is broken, and that is very symbolic too. A broken voice suggests a broken man, perhaps. And all these were against, all these qualities were against Mr. Hyde, nobody could like him. And when Mr. Utterson is looking at Hyde, there is disgust, loathing, fear as well. It is important to know that, you know, Mr. Utterson feels fear because Mr. Hyde is capable of horrible things.

(Refer Slide Time: 17:32)

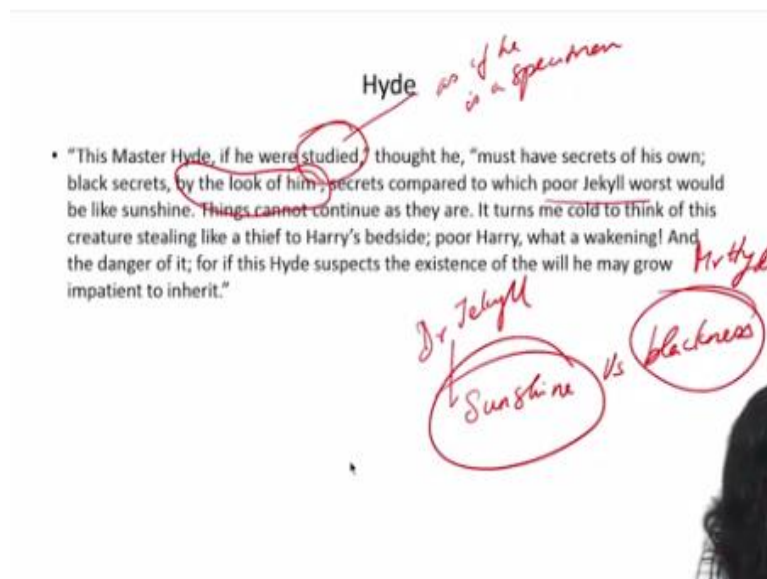


After Mr. Utterson meets Mr. Hyde, he goes to Dr. Jekyll's house and he asks to meet Dr. Jekyll who is away from his home. And then he gets this information that, you know, Mr. Hyde frequents the laboratory of Dr. Jekyll and but he never comes to the house. So we can see that the door that we met with at the beginning of Chapter One, is an entryway to the lab of Dr. Jekyll, and Dr. Jekyll has a house in the grounds of his property.

And we have the house and the lab and the other door all within the same, you know, area, so it is all interconnected. So something is going on in terms of the house, the lab and the door from the by-street. And this is the door that Mr. Enfield and Mr. Utterson looked at in Chapter One. So this is Dr. Jekyll's house, and the butler Mr. Poole says that Mr. Hyde does not come to the

house to dine, but then he just frequents the lab and he uses the other door to get in, not the front door, but the door by the by-street.

(Refer Slide Time: 19:18)



So, we have two extremes in the same area. Now we have Mr Utterson's thoughts here, he says that "This master Hyde, if he were studied," thought he, "must have secrets of his own; black secrets, by the look of him; secrets compared to which poor Jekyll worst would be like sunshine. Things cannot continue as they are. It turns me cold to think of this creature stealing like a thief to Harry's bedside; poor Harry, what a waking! And the danger of it, for if this Hyde suspects the existence of the will, he may grow impatient to inherit."

So, we see Mr. Utterson worrying about the safety and the future of Dr. Jekyll, and wondering about the nature of Hyde. So he says if somebody studies him, as if he is a specimen, he must have secrets of his own. Then this specimen would reveal a lot of secrets and those secrets would be black, dark, evil secrets, because he looks like a man who has a lot of black secrets. And his secrets, if these secrets are compared to the secrets of poor Jekyll, whom Mr. Utterson thinks is being blackmailed by Mr. Hyde, would look like sunshine.

So, look at the contrast here, sunshine versus blackness. This is the adjective used to describe the secrets of Hyde and this is the adjective used to describe the secrets of Dr. Jekyll by Mr. Utterson. So he says things cannot continue in this fashion, and he is also worried that Dr. Jekyll is being blackmailed, being harassed by Mr. Hyde, and he also worries that if Hyde comes to know of the will of Dr. Jekyll which states that all the property would go to Hyde on the death of Dr. Jekyll, then he might even be tempted to commit murder.

So, these are all the worries and anxieties of Mr. Utterson for the safety of his friend, thank you

f
o
r

w
a
t
c
h
i
n
g
,

I

w
i
l
l

c
o
n
t
i
n
u
e

i
n

t
h