

GIST OF THE LESSON

- 1.The play is about the friendship between an old man and a young boy who is withdrawn and defiant.
- 2.The child is very disturbed because of his scarred face and feels that people do not want to associate with him.
- 3.He drifts into a garden which looks very inviting but panics when he meets the old man.
- 4.The latter tries to make him feel at ease and advises him to accept life as it comes.
- 5.Mr Lamb 's philosophy is to celebrate life in all its forms.
6. To him, difference is a part of life- a flower and a weed are the same, both signs of life, of growth
7. Having an artificial leg (tin leg), he has had to cope with the cruelty of others but has taken it in his stride.
- 8.He has a positive and optimistic attitude to life.
- 9.He tells Derry to live life to the full and to avoid bitterness which can be more corrosive than the acid that destroyed his face.
10. He advises Derry to accept life without any pre-conceived notions.
11. The power of choosing what one wants lies in one's hands.
12. Derry is extremely sensitive about his scarred face and has a fixed opinion that he is repulsive and ugly.
13. He locks himself in a world of his own and avoids contact with others.
14. But inspite of his sceptical attitude, he is moved by the old man's spirit. This is evident from the fact that he defies his mother and returns to the garden, though sadly a little too late.
15. Derry' s face is scarred while Mr Lamb's leg is an artificial one, a 'tin leg' as he calls it.
16. Both have to cope with the cruelty of others. While Derry withdraws into his shell, Mr Lamb takes it into his stride.
17. One gets glimpses of the loneliness the old man faces in spite of his outward bravado in the scene when he talks to the bees.
- 18.From Derry' s point of view also it is sad that when he finally makes an effort to come out of his shell, he is confronted by the loss (death) of the only person who had befriended him (Mr Lamb).