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B.A. (Part-II) Eng. (H) Paper-IV

The Duchess and the Jeweller
Short story by - Virginia Woolf

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Virginia Woolf is critically acclaimed Mrs. Dellaney. Her short story, The Duchess and the Jeweller is the study about how everyone and everything is connected - the poor with the rich, the past with the present, the body with the soul, man with animal. She does not simply explain that these things are true, she shows it through the actions, dialogue and every existence of the characters. So that the readers will never be presented with irrefutable evidence of her relative theory.

Virginia Woolf goes on to say show that Oliver Bacon has a physical characteristics who is linked with every essence of his ambition, a nose that is so long it quivers and the quivering reaches deep inside, keeping everything within him dissatisfied like a giant hog in a pasture rich with truffles that snells a bigger blacker truffle under the ground further off.

While she is waiting, the clock is ticking, and though time has warmed Bacon's hands, and created a tremulous history between he and the duchess, time also waits on him as both each tick clock handed him - so it seemed - patade tic gras a glass of champagne, another of time brandy, a cigar costing one guinea.....' so that time does not cost him money but earns his wealth for him.

This, of course, is where the reader finds that Oliver Bacon, the self man, the envy of Jeweller's worldwid the man who has the daughter of a Hundred Earl's waiting on him while time itself is his servant, is nothing more than a servant himself. He is uncertain about the validity of the pearls and in the story she is trying to sell him, but it

Soon becomes more evident that it is a story indeed as he reaches for the bell to summon a servant to fetch his testing kit, but she stops him with a query, one that only she knows could stop a man of such untouchable status.

Though his check is already written, the duchess is already out the door with misty thousand pounds in her hands, though he beams the rotten "trouble", it is the last sentence in all of his rhythmic, poetic elegance that is the final stroke.

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