

The quality of lacking of intelligence or quickness of mind.

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the state of having mixed feelings or contradictions
ideas about something or someone
JLG

Manto was a victim of some kind of social ambivalence that converged on self-righteousness, hypocrisy and mental obtuseness. His detractors branded him as vulgar and obscene and implicated him into a long-drawn legal battle questioning the moral validity of his writings. Without being deterred by their negative tactics, he remained firm in his commitment to exploring the stark realities of life offensive to the conservative taste of some self-styled purists. In the line of Freud, he sought to unravel the mysteries of sex not in an abstract, non-earthly manner but in a palpable, fleshy permutation signifying his deep concern for the socially disabled and depressed classes of society, like petty wage-earners, pimps and prostitutes.

For Manto, man is neither an angel nor a devil, but a mix of both. His middle and lower middle class characters think, feel and act like human beings. Without feigning virtuosity, he was able to strike a rapport with his readers on some of the most vital socio-moral issues concerning them. As a realist, he was fully conscious of the yawning gap between appearance and reality; in fact, nothing vexed him more than a demonstrable duality in human behaviour at different levels of the social hierarchy. He had an unjaundiced view of man's faults and follies. As a literary artist, he treated vulgarity discreetly -- without ever sounding vulgar in the process. Like Joyce, Lawrence and Caldwell, in Manto's work too, men and women of the age find their own restlessness accurately mirrored. And like them, Manto was also 'raised above his own self by his somber enthusiasm.'

(263 words)

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Solution

Manto was denounced by hypocritical and ignorant critics for being vulgar and obscene in his writings. However, he remained steadfast and continued his mission of exposing the unpleasant social realities and discovering the darker regions of human psyche. He treated sex not as an abstract concept but as a

TITLE

MANTO: A REALISTIC NATURE

Manto was a realistic person of having a mixed personality with a contradicting ideas about life. The critics considered him as a non-ethical. In spite of criticism, he always tried to explore the realistic nature of the society. For example he always considered that sex is not abstract but it is a reality. Moreover, he told about the hypocritic nature of man, because he knew about the ethical and non-ethical behaviour of man. In his writing he tried to look at the socio-moral issues of life. In short, he wrote about reality in a vulgar way without sounding like an immoral.