



H.G. wells' the invisible man

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Abstract

Wells is an imperative product of his age. He believed that the key to mankind's long-term survival were education and a disciplined application of science to matters that benefited everyone. The invisible man (1897) the Faustian story of a scientist named Griffin who tempered with nature in pursuit of super human power. Here wells makes us understand the truth that when a person gains super power, how he can misuse his power and that the aim of science is to benefit mankind and not an individual selfish interest.

Keywords: entail, portmanteau, burglary, metamorphose, fiendish, annihilated, absurdity, homicidal, maniac, irresistible

Introduction

Wells is an imperative product of his age. Stories work out in his brain as a kind of mathematical problems. If human nature under the conditions of the laws of nature evolved somewhat terrifying results, what results would be evolved if this, that, or the other conditions were revolutionized? And it must be admitted that Mr. Wells works out his problems with a skill which leaves all his rivals for behind.

Invisibility in Wells' story, however, is not attained by magic, but through science. Griffin's inhumanity, followed of the most rigidly logical necessity. He contrived to give over humanity into the clutches of the impossible and yet managed to keep it down (or up) to its humanity, to its flesh, blood, sorrow, folly. That is the achievement! In this book he did with an appalling completeness. A pessimism follows Mr. Wells into his new book.

Scientific experiment never makes the world any better or happier. Mr. Wells's invisible Man- Griffin is his name – had succeeded in rendering his body invisible, although it retains its corporal character. Yet what misery this 'triumph of science' entails on its discoverer. Griffin thought himself to lord it over all his race. Mr. Well's motive is to make us understand that scientific research is indeed vanity.

In February at Bramblehurst railway station in the bitter wintry season, a strange man came with a black portmanteau in his thick gloved hand. He was wrapped up from head to foot and the brim of his soft hat hid every inch of his face. He was looking more dead than alive. He stayed in an inn, named Coach and horses. Mrs. Hall was confused with his strange manner and she thought that the poor soul had an accident or an operation or something that discolored his face. After two days his luggage arrived to his lodge. There were a couple of trunks, a box of books and a dozen or more crates, boxes and cases. There were many types of bottles in the cases and boxes. The chemist's shop in Bramblehurst could not boast half so many. Suddenly, Mrs. Hall entered in the room, he was

not wearing his spectacles, so it seemed to her that his eyes sockets were extraordinarily hollow. Hurriedly he put on his spectacles again. Even Mrs. Hall listened his cry of frustration.

"I can't go on." he was raving. I can't go on. Three hundred thousand. Four hundred thousand! The huge multitude! Cheated! All my life it may take me! Patience! Patience indeed! Foul and liar ^[1].

Ingvold Raknem comments

Those who read well's books seriously realized that the treatment of the idea of his story was distinctly novel: "Wells" hero is no magician with the gift of fern seed, but a practical student of physics and physiology ^[2].

Stranger seldom went to the church and indeed made no difference between Sunday and the other week days even in costume and communication with the world beyond the village he had none. His temper continued very uncertain. He rarely went abroad by day light, but at twilight he would go out muffled up invisibly, whether the weather was cold or not and he would choose the loneliest paths. The opinion was greatly divided about his occupation by the villagers. Mrs. Hall explained that he was an experimental investigator. Out of her hearing there was a view that he was a criminal, trying to escape from justice by wrapping himself from the eyes of the police.

William Bellomy comments

"He has changed into dissociated existence, a prototype for existential man. Griffin's attempt at redress fails, and the novel becomes the projection of fears of isolation, alienation and loss of identity ^[3].

Meanwhile a series of mysterious burglaries occur in the village on which the victims catch no sight of the thief. One day stranger complained to Mrs. Hall not to lay his breakfast. He threatened her and said to show himself what he was or

what he was not. Then he began to take off his hat, whiskers, spectacles and bandages. Everyone in the bar gasped and saw his metamorphosed face. A flash of horrible anticipation passed through the bar. People began running towards the inn because they heard shouts and shrieks in the inn. They saw in the dim light the headless figure facing them and police failed to catch the stranger.

When a person gains super power, how he misses his perception. The invisible man is an extremely suggestive image of man in post cultural crisis, of man attempting to assume a god like role.

One day the invisible man entered a nearby house to take refuge and dress his wound. The house turned out to belong to Dr. Kemp, whom he recognized and he revealed to Kemp his true identity, a brilliant medical student with whom Kemp studied at University.

Newspaper of the morning many times in order to conclude the incidents happened in the Iping in the days. People was in terror, women were ill with terror.

Griffin explained to Kemp that after leaving the university he was desperately poor and determined to achieve something of scientific significant. He began to work on an experiment to make people and objects invisible, using money stolen from his own father, who committed suicide after being robbed by his son. Griffin experimented with a formula that altered the refractive index of objects, thus ensuring that the light would not bend when passing through, thereby making them invisible. He made his experiment on the cat. It became invisible. But there was two particulars stuff were not invisible. First was claws and second the tapetum at the back of the eyes. But when the cat's owner, Griffins neighbor, realized the cat was missing she made a complaint to their landlord and Griffin bound up performing the invisible procedure on himself to hide from them. After burning the whole house down to cover his tracks, he felt a sense of invincibility for being invisible. However, reality soon proved that sense misguided. His head was teeming with plans of all the wild and wonderful thing he had now impunity to do.

To Freud – man is a biological phenomenon, a creature of instincts and impulses, to the Marxists – he is an outcome of economic and social forces.

Clement King Shorter writes – "Griffin had thought to lord it over all his race. To have a good time was the motive of his experiments, but one misfortune follows upon another until the wretched man hates his follows and became fiendish in his attempts to war with them. Scientific research is indeed vanity if we are to accept Mr. Wells as a guide^[4].

Further he told Dr. Kemp, he also found unexpected difficulty because he could not see his feet, indeed he stumbled twice. He was caught behind by a dog. Then he noticed that the nose to the mind of a dog what the eyes is to mind of a seeing man. It was a bright sunny day in January and he was stark naked and the thin slim of mud that covered the road was freezing. He looked down and saw two boys were surprised to see the footprints appearing in the mud without feet and he was surrounded by the Public. He was physically highly troubled, he was caught by cold and sneezing. Every day was a terror to him.

Having burnt his house and become free from cultural residues, Griffin becomes socially invisible. He has opted out

of the social dimension: as he walks naked in the winter

streets he finds himself 'out in the cold', inhabiting what he might now see as a post cultural limbo.

Being mid-winter and he was without clothes he slipped into a big store for warmth. There he dressed himself and fed and slept on the pile of quilts. He did not wake up until the assistants arrives next morning. He could escape only by taking off his clothes, shivering with cold, he hurried to a theaters shop in Drury Lane. There he put bandages on his forehead, wore goggles and false nose, there after he robbed a hunch back shopkeeper of all his money. After it he went into hotel, where he ordered a lunch. But he could not eat unless he exposed invisible face. He finished ordering the lunch, told the man he should be back in ten minutes and went out exasperated. He went into another place and demanded a private room in coach and horses inn in Iping, where he got his lunch and tried to reverse the experiment.

William Bellomy comments again.

"When Griffin puts his clothes on in an attempt to re-socialize himself, it is too late: he is socially hollow, his loss of dimensionally and his search for authentic selfhood may be related to J. Hillias Miller's general definition of past Darwinian Crisis: When God is annihilated.....the loss of divine presence^[5].

He told Kemp that the more he realized what a helpless absurdity an Invisible man was, in a cold dirty climate and a crowded civilized city. Before he made his mad experiment, he had dreamt of a thousand advantages- No doubt invisibility made it possible to get them. But it made it impossible to enjoy them when they were got. He had only become a wrapped-up mystery, swathed and bandaged caricature of a man.

This invisibility was good only in two cases. It was useful in getting away and approaching. It was particularly useful in killing. Suddenly he listened the footstep of men at downstairs. Then he understood that Kemp had called the policeman to catch him. Immediately he began to take off his clothes to be invisible and he got success to escape from that place and the plan of Kemp has failed.

WT Stead Comments

"Mr. Wells is a seer of gruesome vision. He spends his life imagining what would happen if one of the laws of nature were altered just a little with terrifying results^[6].

Kemp was sure that Griffin would establish a reign of terror. In spite of being many types of securities a murder has been done of Mr. Wickstead. Kemp read a strange missive, written, in pencil and greasy sheet of paper. It has written in the letter – "This is the announcement the first day of the terror. This day is the epoch of the invisible men. The first day there will be one execution for the sake of example a man named Kemp. Death starts for him today the unseen death is coming. Death will start from the pillar box by mid-day". Kemp carefully shut every door and every window of his house and he took a revolver. After having a meeting with Kemp, Adge went out to get the blood hounds. Then a voice said "stop a bit." Adge stopped dead and his hand tighten on a revolver. After a long tumultation invisible man could not get success to kill Dr. Kemp. The invisible man started to beat Dr. Kemp and after a

heavy struggle, he was caught by Dr. Kemp and the rush.

W.T. Stead writes:

"The story is worked out with much ingenuity, but as if by irresistible gravitation towards the unpleasant, the Invisible Man passes through a series of disastrous experience until finally he goes mad and is beaten to death as the only way of putting an end to a homicidal maniac with the abnormal gift of invisibility^[7].

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