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## Existentialism in Hairy Ape

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Abstract:

A philosophical theory or approach which emphasizes the existence of the individual person as a free responsible agent determining their own development through acts of the will. The form of a philosophical enquiry that explores the problem of human existence and centres on the lived experience of the thinking feeling acting individual a primary the existentialist thought is authenticity this term is associated with several 19th and 20th century European philosophers who shared the human subject despite profound Doctrine differences. Existentialism is a work in the character of Yank. Yank, the protagonist of the play The Hairy Ape by birth does not hold any qualities. It is the decision that he has taken constitutes his own qualities. Yank's mind is obsessed bitter experiences which drives him agitated.

**Key words:** Existentialism, Theatre of Absurd, Social Criticism, Atheism and Religion, Anxiety, Alienation.

The Hairy Ape is a 1922 expressionist play by American playwright Eugene O'Neill. Existence is the central theme of existentialism, which means that the actual life of the individual is defined as the Actual Existence and true value of life. The qualities and Characters associate with individual come to them after Taking birth in this world.

Existentialism says "I am nothing but my actual existence which exists in reality." Yank, The protagonist of the play the Hairy Ape by birth, does not has any quality or merits, He does not has taken, constitutes his own qualities. As a result in the in the starting of the play he is introduced as human with the qualities of animal which have been shown through his behavior. It is this wild dominant quality introduced him as an individual even in the first scene where he is described in this manner: "Yank is related in the foreground. He seems broader, fiercer, and more powerful, they respect his superior strength - The grudging respect of fear."

Two brothers Long and Paddy have been given names they are simply the symbol of a point of view. Long is the symbol of a dreaming of a golden era of a social equality and Justice who knows the right to vote. Paddy on the other hand golden age in the past when man lived in pleasure of life through the insights nature the others stokers not been given any names they are just chorus of voice they just exclaimed together animal like existence of stokers.

Thus as Yank think advise him in way, "drink, and don't think distinct personality is the basic quality for being and existentialist." Yank's mind is a obsessed with bitter experience which drives him agitated in prison he sees himself as a hairy Ape in the cage which forces him to break the cell cage and comes out. He has the strength of a Gorilla but is no longer capable of logical thought. One of the defining facets of Yank's individualism is that he does not believe in anything except his own strength. When other people have ideas that seem too sophisticated and conceptual especially when they try to explain suffering in the world, Yank can only see them as weak cowardly. After Long's socialist speech Yank reacts with great sarcasm and contempt. Yank hasn't actually made an argued rebuttal but like a bully he has silenced and humiliated long just by sheer force.

Although Yank is a dogged individualist and a man confident in the powers of his own body. Neill makes it clear that not only is he dependent on machines which eventually emasculate him but also the affirmation of his fellow working men who eventually abandon him. Yank himself only realizes this too late when he is thrown out of meeting in a sense he has taken masculinity to so extreme an extent that he alienates those men whom he used to impress and stand before as a model

He is put behind the bars of cell it is the decision that makes him move to zoo. As individual he is unable to find any idea of his own mind in society, so he goes to zoo where the caged ape gives him temporary relief as he believes strongly the Ape belongs to his world he is injured by ape which puts him in a very stressed and desolated condition.

As the socialist stoker tells his fellow workers in a brief soapbox speech, and Yank personally when the two visit Madison Avenue in New York, that he believes they should realize the terrible state of their living and working conditions, and realize the societal forces that determine them. According to Long, who is portrayed by writer as one dimensional ideology defined character everything that is wrong in the lives of workers is the fault of the capitalist class, whom they should therefore overthrow. Yank and one senses O' Neill himself is averse by disposition to any view that accepts that there are forces outside of oneself that one cannot overcome by blunt force. This sort of thinking is almost a parody of the socialist work they do.

At the end of his long elegy to the past age of sailing, Paddy levels a challenge to the machine loving Yank , posing against modernist faith in the empowering potential of the romantic respect for a kind of essential humanity. Yank contemptuously rejects Paddy's ideas at first but then throughout the rest of the play he comes to realize that machine civilization in fact deprives him of his power and furthermore of his humanity.

Yank is only able to see the truth of the Importance Paddy places on basic humanity when he has already lost it himself by the point Yank thinks despairing that he has had none to begin with.

This kind of worry, an existentialist should undergo in thier lifetime. In this way this existential suffering Yank up in his own character which is highly individualistic in nature. This sense of individuality considers his attitude.

The worldview exposed by Yank even though it may seem to smack of classical Greek tragic heroisms driven by a kind of aggressive modern ideology that finds one of the most frightening expressions in the idea of Social Darwinism. On the origin of Species (1859), by Charles Darwin Everything is reduced to natural phenomena and no higher ideals remain. For Yank, So long as he feels to function perfectly, however, once he finds himself in a position of impotence as well as the deep rooted theme of Existentialism the sort of situation for which he would have mercilessly criticized another he implicitly senses the emptiness of the way he looks at life.

#### Conclusion:

The considerable analysis of the character Yank in every aspect proves that Yank built his own character through his individualistic attitude. This attitude inspires him to take a brave decision against those who are at cross swords with him. In this way existence in all about the base of life as it is, which is called the genuine life. Position of impotence the sort of situation for which he would have mercilessly criticized another he implicitly senses the emptiness of the way he looks at life, which almost address the audience directly mocking them as carnival goers and mocking himself as a hapless caged ape.

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