

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

What does the macabre mean? In the macabre, people get damaged. The hero is often the victim. Life is seen through a glass, darkly, bloodily. The macabre is the art from the failure. The failure of imagination and energy to keep in touch with reason and love. The failure of Dr. Faustus, the failure of Macbeth.

What the artist does is to produce "Myths". He takes some vital philosophical problem like evil, disorder, violence. He reasons it out not through logic or experiment like an scientist but through the creation of a world of characters and circumstances that mimic his understanding of the real world through a narrator who may also be a character and he presents events from that world, using signs to create images. And the text that results, the marks on paper, add up a kind of explanation of the problem or conflict he has been exploring. The artist in general is saying, here is an object I have made: a film, a book, a painting: this object is a model, in this little theatre, it might help you understand where we come from, who we are, where we are going. It might help because I, in my imagination, have tried to live in this world myself. My film, my book, my painting is a map of where I've been a model of what happened there.

The map and the model make up a myth. In the macabre the models are madness, mystery and murder in action and the maps are maps of hell.

QUESTIONS.

1. What kind of art is the macabre?
2. What kind of problem does the writer deal with?
3. Does the artist talk about the world? Who through?
4. Why does the product of the artist help us?
5. What are the models in the macabre?
6. Vocabulary. Give synonyms, antonyms or explain the meaning of:
Glass:
Failure:
Kind:
Murder:
Hell: