

Chapter III -Derrick Vaughan--Novelist

In Chapter III of "Derrick Vaughan—Novelist," Derrick Vaughan awaits the return of his father, Major Vaughan, from India with a mix of hope and trepidation. The reunion, long anticipated, takes a traumatic turn upon the Major's arrival. Rumors of the Major being intoxicated are confirmed upon his noisy and drunken appearance, shattering Derrick's long-held image of his dignified father. The pain of public embarrassment and personal disillusionment is acute for Derrick as he processes this new reality.

Accompanied by his friend Wharncliffe and a kindly ship's doctor, they manage the uncomfortable task of escorting Major Vaughan to Radley's Hotel, where further attempts to celebrate his return are marred by the Major's inebriated state.

The ship's doctor reveals to Derrick and Wharncliffe that Major Vaughan suffers from liver disease, exacerbated by chronic alcoholism—a condition aggravated by his time in India. The doctor stresses the importance of total abstinence from alcohol for Major Vaughan and subtly indicates the challenge of maintaining such a regimen. In the midst of these revelations, Derrick learns that recommendations for recovery include relocation and possibly significant lifestyle changes.

Faced with the stark reality of his father's illnesses, Derrick decides, almost instinctively and with profound selflessness, to take personal responsibility for his father's care. This decision marks a pivotal moment for Derrick, demonstrating his deep commitment to family and duty over his own aspirations. He proposes living with his father, a choice that signifies a ready acceptance of the sacrifices required to support his father's health and well-being.

The chapter highlights themes of duty, family loyalty, the devastating effects of addiction, and the capacity for personal sacrifice. Through Derrick's experiences and decisions, the narrative delves into the complexities of reconciliation with familial

imperfections and the resilience required to face the challenges of caregiving.

Throughout, the writing retains a poignant tone, balancing the gravitas of the situation with moments of gentleness and understanding, showcasing Derrick's strength of character and foreshadowing the emotional and practical challenges he will confront in his evolving relationship with his father.

