

## THE HAPPINESS SUFFOCATED BY THE SMOKE OF TIME (ANALYSIS OF “MUMU” BY TURGENEV)

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### ABSTRACT

The article analyses the short-story “Mumu” which was written by Ivan Sergeyevich Turgenev.

**Keywords:** the Russian peasantry, the janitor Gerasim, dog Mumu, muteness.

### INTRODUCTION

Ivan Sergeyevich Turgenev Russian was a novelist, poet, and playwright whose major works include the short-story collection. His works offer realistic, affectionate portrayals of the Russian peasantry and penetrating studies of the Russian intelligentsia who were trying to move the country into a new stage. Turgenev poured into his works not only a deep concern for the upcoming of his native land but also an honesty of craft that has ensured his place in Russian literature, since he's one of the pre-eminent short stories is Mumu (Russian: «Мумы»).

Method:

The painful smoke of time in human life is so important that inspires the human mind to do unbelievable things. I witnessed this again after reading Ivan Turgenev's “Mumu” It was written in such a way that it makes the reader think deeply. The story of Gerasim, a deaf and mute serf whose life of poverty is brought into sharp relief by his connection with Mumu, a dog he rescued, brought greater national attention to the cruelties of serfdom and received praise for its brutal portrayal of this institution in Russian society. The genre of the work is a story. The main characters: the janitor Gerasim, the dog Mumu, the lady. Minor characters: the butler Gavrila, the washerwoman Tatiana, the shoemaker Kapiton. Episodic characters: mongrel, companion-companions of the old lady.

When it comes to the main plot, the protagonist of the play, Gerasim, was a dumb native, very hard-working, energetic, and rude, but his heart was full of hot

love. He was one of the prominent servants of a rich woman. If about a rich woman, the play depicts her as very capricious, self-conscious. Another of the heroes that caught my attention was the image of Tatiana. She was a very gentle, wordless obedient, weak girl who left her destiny to fate.

As for the events of the play, it begins with the warm love of the dumb Gerasim for Tatiana, the love of the dumb was like a delicate leaf. Tatiana's simple trick forced her to throw away all her delicate love, but the fate of the unlucky girl forced her to go far with his wife. Gerasim's last meeting with Tatiana is embodied in such a touching way that it even brings tears to the reader's eyes.

It was as if destiny could not remain indifferent to this, and on that day, the day she lost her lover, another meaning came into Gerasim's life. He found a puppy tonight. The puppy was a mother-born, needy animal. Gerasim took care of it, even named it Mumu. The dumb was very happy, but their happiness did not last long when they said that they had found the meaning of life, as if time had darkened them. When the capricious woman heard of Mumu, she ordered him to be brought to her, and in front of him, Mumu behaved as if he had come to another world, and tried to bite the rich woman, even though he had not yet frightened or bitten anyone. Enraged by this, the rich old woman ordered him to be absent, and Mumu was secretly taken away from Gerasim.

Gerasim searched day and night for Mumu, who seemed to have lost not only the puppy, but the meaning of his whole life, but one day, as he lay in despair, his skirt was pulled, and you could see that it was Mumu with a broken rope around his neck. Gerasim was silent, but his eyes showed how happy he was. He tried to hide the puppy, but unfortunately, the rich woman found out about it and ordered him to be killed. At first, Gerasim resisted, but at the last moment, felt helpless, he said that he would kill Mumu himself, and like a friend, he tied his close puppy to a rope and set off in a boat. Believe me, no matter how painful and unbearable it was, he tied a brick to Mumu's rope and threw it into the water.

## LITERATURE AND REVIEW

### The Role of Chance:

Chance and coincidence are themes throughout Turgenev's short works, and Mumu is no exception. Several events in the story are based completely upon coincidence. For example, Gerasim discovers Mumu exactly as his beloved, Tatiana

departs with her spouse. Mumu is then reduced to a victim of destiny; the mistress's arbitrary brutality acting as an agent of destiny.

#### Love and Isolation:

A common theme discussed in this story is the presence and absence of love, and feelings of isolation which drive many of the characters' decisions. There are many examples and relationships lacking in affection in this story: Kapiton is not in love with Tatiana, the old woman has no family, and indeed, there is no remark of family in the full story. At the start, this lack of love seems like an insurmountable barrier: In Gerasim's love with Tatiana he is unable to overcome his silence, to express his feelings and bridge this gap. This, however, changes when Gerasim finds Mumu. Mumu signifies love in its cleanest form: Gerasim's muteness does not limit his ability to express his feelings, and Mumu is undeniably devoted to him. These different loves of Gerasim tie the story together: from Tatiana's departure, to the finding of Mumu, and ultimately Mumu's loss. The sight where Gerasim drowns Mumu seems almost like a wedding, drawing out the theme of tragic love. This love is, in part, so tragic because of Gerasim's lack of agency in finding and keeping love.

#### Muteness:

In the act of rendering Gerasim both deaf and silent, researchers discuss how Turgenev takes the role of an external observer to the greatest extreme. Due to his sensory failings, the author is unable to precisely embody his consciousness, or to infer his inside thoughts and spirits. In the primary parts of the story, Gerasim's inability to efficiently connect with his peers leaves him isolated and misunderstood. Scholars suggest that by naming the dog Mumu, Gerasim finally obtains speech. His once meaningless moans become a significant word, that he can share with others. This language does not last long, however, for he is soon ordered to put the dog to loss. With the death of Mumu, Gerasim also loses the only language he could possess.

## CONCLUSION

Yes, that's right, it's very deplorable! Can a man dare to sacrifice what he values? Yes, the reason for all this is the bitter smoke of the times. This smoke suffocated Gerasim, even deprived him of Tatiana and lost her dearest. The only reason for this was that freedom was not in their own hands!

## REFERENCES

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