

## *Macavity The Mystery Cat by T.S Eliot*

*Macavity The Mystery Cat* is a mysterious poem, written by a great poet, critic, and poetic dramatist of the 20<sup>th</sup> century T. S Eliot. In this poem, the poet describes a mystery cat of extremely villainous characterization in his poem. Macavity; The Mystery Cat. This cat is known by the name Hidden paw as he is the criminal mastermind who disregards law. He is an enigmatic figure to even the specialized detective agencies of the world like the Scotland Yard and the Flying Squad. These agencies had accepted their defeat by this clever cat and therefore he is considered as the bafflement of Scotland Yard.

“For when they reach the scene of crime,

Macavity is not there”

Macavity is too clever to be caught and he is nowhere near at the crime spot. The poet says that Macavity disobeys all the laws of human and also the law of gravity. His levitation is so powerful that it causes a fakir to stare bewildered. But when the crime spot is reached, Macavity is not there. The poet says that we may search him in the basement or we may look up in the air but Macavity is not there. T. S Eliot describes Macavity

as a ginger cat who is both tall and thin. He can be recognised from his eyes which are deeply sunken in. this cat has lines on his fore head stepped with thoughts; he has a head that is highly domed while his coat is untidy and his whiskers uncombed. Macavity moves like a snake and whenever he is mistaken to be asleep, he is wide awake.

The poet says there is no one like Macavity. He is devil in disguise of a cat; he is a monster of a wickedness. One may meet him in a by- street or in the square but when the crime is discovered Macavity is not there.

Macavity footprints are never to be found in any file of the Scotland Yard's. here the port mentions some of his crimes. He says that Macavity is the one behind looting the larder, or the jewel case. He is also behind the breaking of the green house glass and the trellis. The most surprising factor that connects them is that when the offence is discovered and Macavity is not there.

When the foreign office's Treaty is not found or the Admiralty loses some plans and drawing, it is useless to investigate as they all know that the mastermind behind this act is Macavity. But Macavity is a mile away from the scene of crime; he is either relaxing or licking his thumbs or occupied himself in solving complicated long division sums.

The final stanza of the poem states that there has never been a cat such deceitfulness and tactfulness. Macavity is always ready with an alibi or

two and when the crimes are discovered Macavity is not there. T. S Eliot talks about other wicked cats namely Mungojerrie and Griddlebone who are nothing but agents of Macavity: *The Napoleon of Crime*.

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