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The Introductory chapter deals with the contribution of William Saroyan to American Literature. He arrived on the literary scene at the time of cynicism but he displayed a sense of warmth in all his plays. Saroyan’s interest on the display of traditional values and customs is discussed in detail in this chapter. Saroyan’s characters remain imprisoned, alienated and estranged but ultimately they know how to extricate themselves from the hob-hob of life.

The second chapter deals with Saroyan’s depiction of the meaninglessness of life. It is pointed out that there is fear of insecurity in life. Men are alive in one minute and dead in the next. Saroyan advocates the theory of tolerance and says that we have to endure what we cannot cure and also points out that love plays an inevitable part in the bargain of life.

The third chapter examines Saroyan’s portrayal of the society where the people are threatened by the feeling of impending war. Saroyan’s view is that when the war is inevitably thrust on us, there is no use in just evading it. Little hope awaits them but they do not feel disheartened. Saroyan’s lovely and pathetic characters sense the oncoming fury of the Second World War
and the knowledge that life is poised precariously at the rim of disaster haunts their dialogue.

Healthy society exists only in a happy society. Saroyan’s sense of patriotism is dealt with in detail. He suggests some easy solutions to circumvent the problems of life. The outer world presented a menacing threat to the peaceful world; it is our duty to restore order. This is the substance of the chapter.

In the fifth chapter Saroyan depicts that life remains a mystery; men are pushed down by heavy things on wheels. Life is but a journey and every one has to undergo the ordeal. The whole world yearns for a new birth and a new way of being.

In the final chapter Saroyan’s optimistic view of life is analysed in detail. Every life in this world is a miracle; every minute we stay alive. Unless we know this, the experience of life is lost and greater part of its wonder and beauty goes unnoticed. A great emphasis is laid on self-reliance theory. The
finding of study which has been given at the end of the chapter makes it clear that Saroyan is neither a decadent sensationalist nor an immature romantic but a realist and a lover of humanity having deep love for the fundamental human values; He advocated the theory that every one must try to reach the goal of individual maturity and social responsibility.