There has always remained a debate on the respective significance of artistic truth and artistic beauty. There are certain writers who have tried to follow the canons of truth by giving importance to the transcendental themes. While scanning through the works of a number of writers I was impressed by the choice of subjects and the treatment of the subject by Evelyn Waugh. I have been able to find that he has an earnestness to disseminate humanistic values among the multitude and he has made use of novel to perform this task. Moreover, he does not lag behind in artistic beauty, things are presented in a lucid and unadorned form and so they go deep into the mind and heart of the people. No doubt, Evelyn Waugh is considered one of the most prominent men of letters of English of the 20th century. From the very beginning, he has established his reputation of being a writer with a clear perspective having over brimming gusto and entrancing style to bring his ideas before the literary world.

He satirised the moral incongruities in the society, but his satire was never misanthropic, as it always contained a moral vision for a better tomorrow. The issues raised by Waugh like social and moral degradation of the society and deterioration of the human values, are not only the issues of one place or a country but of the whole world. Instead of running away from the problems like a few contemporary romantic writers or bitterly criticizing the world saying that it has no hope like few others, Waugh came up with solutions in all his novels. Further, he has not only tried to explore the reason behind the changing morals of the people in the contemporary society, but visualizing the future, he has tried to bring out the repercussions of the same. While graphically dramatizing the spiritual deprivation of the whole generation, he succeeded in bringing out the
fact that though modern man is increasing his materialistic possessions but along with it, he is losing his spiritual values and so while searching satisfaction in the outer world he has forgotten to explore his inner self. Thus, his novels emphasize the fact that a man has to owe elegance to an authority or tradition outside himself otherwise, he has no chance to redeem himself. Therefore, his novels are a medium through which he provides great value to moral and aesthetic disciplines and it was only his moral concern that was instrumental in giving birth to his genteel satire combined with humour and irony. As a result, despite showing corruption and hypocrisy having a hey day in the modern world, his all novels end on an optimistic note. They reassure man’s faith in the humanistic values, and so despite being considered grim by certain people, they affirm our faith in humanity by showing us the right path of truth and wisdom.

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