

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Supernaturalism and spiritualism in this story take on a larger focal point as King apparently imbues John Coffey with the quality of Christ. He cures ill people, resurrects the dead (albeit only a mouse), and finally sacrifices himself on behalf of other people's fault. John Coffey becomes the embodiment of something which none of us can imitate.

Moreover, as has been discussed earlier, the soul that makes the story of *The Green Mile* tick is always the morality values. The book is full of ponderings and melancholic contemplation done by the main character/narrator Paul Edgecombe, who in the story serves as Coffey's biographer as well as his own, taking into full account what happened between him and Coffey back then in 1932 and how that relationship, despite its relatively short duration, changes the very foundation of Paul's faith and frailty as human.

Firstly the morality values are enhanced by the dramatization of the story greatly through the depiction of the supernatural element such as John Coffey's powers as well as the spiritual quest for peace done by Paul to compensate for his feelings of loneliness after he remains alive even as many of his loved ones have surpassed him.

Secondly, because of the intervention of supernatural and spiritual overtones, the story takes on an ambiguity in genre (supernatural or morality tale?), in the sense of which is right and which is wrong (is Paul wrong because he proceeds on executing Coffey or is he actually releasing Coffey from his sufferings

in the world?). Paul himself ultimately fails to see whether his long life is actually a blessing or indeed a curse.

Thirdly and lastly, the mingling creates the sense of nihilistic achievement in that the story moves into a state of nothingness, because in the end nobody, not even Paul, the protagonist/narrator, gets the ultimate peace. His blessing of long life eventually becomes his own long and dreary "Green Mile" to walk on. Even John Coffey, the miracle man, surrenders his life for something which signifies nothingness.

The supernatural and spiritual overtones:

- John Coffey performs magical healings on Paul Edgecombe and Melinda Moores.
- John Coffey resurrects the dead mouse, Mr. Jingles, to life.
- The depiction of John Coffey as a savior figure whose mere existence brings salvation to those who believe in him

The moral values:

- Guilt
- Conscience
- Religiousness
- Redemption
- Sacrifice

The effects of the supernatural and spiritual overtones to the moral values:

- Heightened dramatic tension

- **Ambiguity**
- **Nihilistic impression**



BIBLIOGRAPY