

Macavity : The Mystery Cat

Macavity—A Master Criminal

The poem is about a cat called Macavity. He is also called the “Hidden Paw”. The cat is a great criminal. He has openly disobeyed the law. Yet the police of Scotland Yard is helpless before Macavity. Sometimes the Flying Squad runs after it. However, the squad is always disappointed. The cat is never found by it. Macavity moves much faster than the Flying Squad.

Macavity—A Breaker of the Laws of Nature

The poet is sure that there has been no creature like Macavity. Macavity has broken not only human laws but even the laws of nature. He floats in the air without any support. Thus, he breaks the nature’s law of gravitation. The fakirs are supposed to have some magical powers but even they stare upon Macavity. Yet, the wonder of wonders is that when one rushes to the scene of the crime, Macavity is not found. Those who look after him find him neither in the basement (i.e., under the earth), nor in the air (i.e., sky).

Macavity—Appearance

Macavity is a very special cat. He is very tall and thin. It’s very easy to recognise him. His eyes are deep set in his face. His brow has deep wrinkles as if he is lost in deep thoughts. Due to constant neglect his skin is full of dust. You will find him swaying his head from side to side just as a snake does. He is an expert cheat. When you feel he is asleep, he is only dozing. In fact Macavity is always alert.

Macavity’s Character

Macavity is unique. He is evil incarnate. Ordinarily you can find him anywhere—in a by-street or in a square. However, when you want to punish him for a crime, he is nowhere to be seen.