

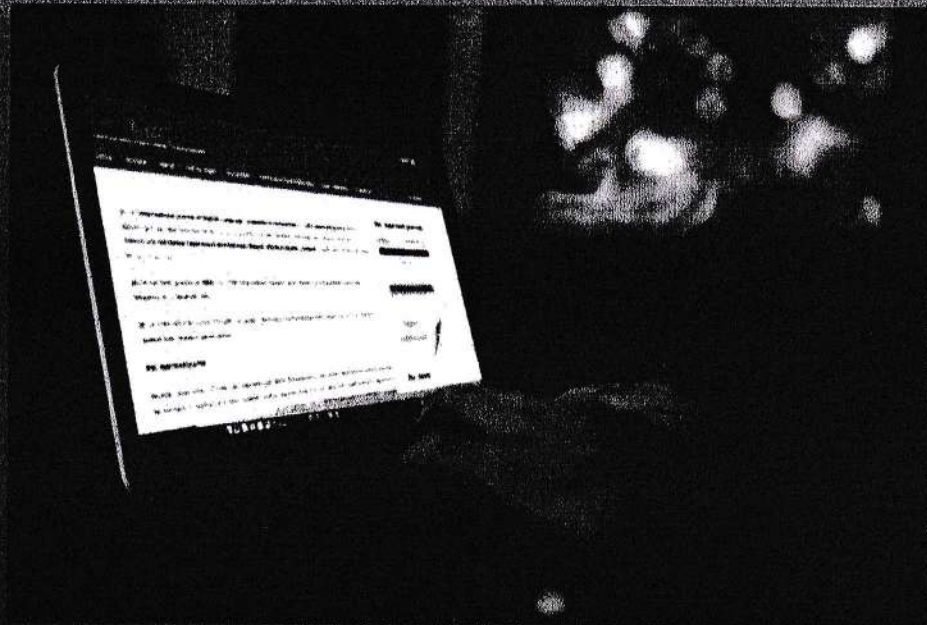
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Vaishali Hamlai's *Mind Trap*: Celebration of the "Eternal Spirit of the chainless Mind"

Abstract: Vaishali Hamlai's *Mind Trap* showcases intricacies of human mind at war with the see-saw of life itself. The novel is concerned with a young girl's apprenticeship to life. It gives the author an opportunity to air her views on various problems that confront human mind in the confusion and haphazards of life. Minds are queer stuff, and one has to know how to manage them. How Kainaat, the protagonist of this piece, acts as healer to manage human minds for the wellbeing of others, has been the major thematic motif of the novel.

The title of a work of art adumbrates the theme of it. It gives that particular work of art a special identity. Vaishali Hamlai's *Mind Trap* showcases intricacies of human mind at war with the see-saw of life itself. The novel is concerned with a young girl's apprenticeship to life. It gives the author an opportunity to air her views on various problems that confront human mind in the confusion and haphazards of life. Minds are queer stuff, and one has to know how to manage them. How Kainaat, the protagonist of this piece, acts as healer to manage human minds for the wellbeing of others, has been the major thematic motif of the novel.

With her dramatist's precision and economy and novelist's realism and restraint, Hamlai conjures up in the opening pages of the book a vision of Kainaat's growing up under the tutelage of her mom. The latter's "energy was so strong that Kainaat would automatically get positively influenced with her presence". (MT 13) Her mom teaches her how to develop