

Read Harrison Bergeron

By Kurt Vonnegut

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Read by
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Satire

- **the use of humor, irony, exaggeration, or make fun of or to expose and criticize people's stupidity, particularly in the context of contemporary politics and other topical issues.**

Yo

It's that simple.





Check your Lit. Terms. Be specific. Explain your answer.

- 1. Why is Harrison probably considered to be such a threat to society?
- 2. What is ironic about how Hazel and George react to the Harrison's death?
- 3. What is Vonnegut's tone at the end of the story toward about George and Hazel?
- 4. Who or what do you believe Vonnegut is targeting in this satire?

WHAT SO PROFOUND WE HAIL

Kurt Vonnegut was active in liberal-left causes and an advocate of socialism. His political views sometimes made it into his stories. What do you think is being satirized in this story? Why do you think Vonnegut wrote it?

Define these
words

1. Independence
2. Pursuit
3. Articulate
4. Self-evident
5. Endowed
6. Unalienable
7. Derive
8. Prudence
9. Transient
10. Usurpations *

11. Invariable

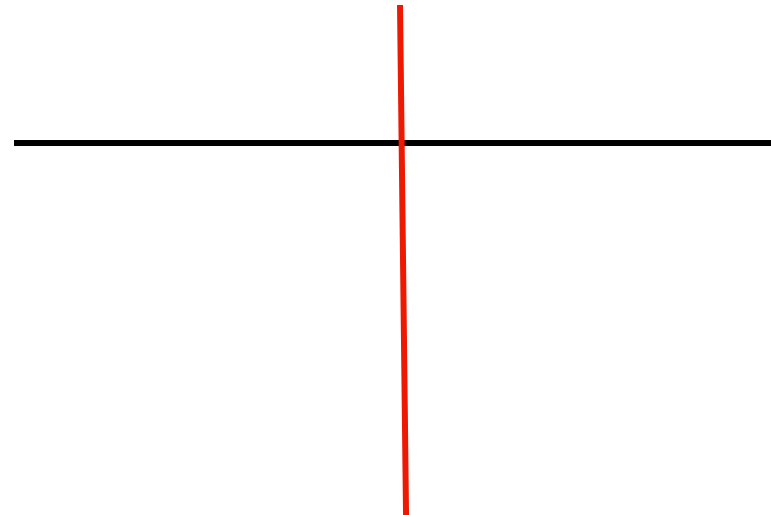
12. Despotism

13. Tyranny

14. Candid

Read

- Using your vocabulary and your notes from the video, read the section of the Declaration of Independence that I've provided for you.
- As you read, create a T-Chart listing the elements of this type of America vs. Harrison Bergeron's America.
- Add at least 3 points to each side.



Writing prompt

- **Using both texts and your notes, respond to the following prompt with 5 complete sentences.**
- The United States has often been called the land of opportunity. This suggests that individuals are free to pursue their dreams to the best of their abilities, which may differ greatly. At the same time, our Declaration of Independence states that all people are created equal. How does Vonnegut use **characterization** and word choice to warn his readers of the potential drawbacks of a truly “equal” society? Support your claims with valid reasoning and relevant and 3 pieces of evidence from the text, including direct quotes.
***Characterization: How a character is described.**