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### A Disturbing Thought

Disturbing thoughts come to mind when thinking about the future. Will we live in a utopian world, where our days and lives are all planned out? Will we be able to make our own choices, or will they be made for us? In a *Brave New World*, *Gattaca*, and *Fahrenheit 451* symbolism, tones, and themes define what utopian societies are. Within these three stories, there are many connections between the writers' ideas. These ideas were once farfetched and strange, but some are now becoming a reality.

The themes of these three stories are all the same. All of the characters are living in a utopian society. In a *Brave New World*, books are banned just as in *Fahrenheit 451*. In *Fahrenheit 451*, the main character, Guy, meets a woman named Clarisse. This female character is very similar to John from a *Brave New World*. These characters both are very strange, and are considered different from natural society. One reason why John is so different is because he has read the works of Shakespeare and he can quote it by heart. John says, "On the white wonder of dear Juliet's hand, may seize And steal immortal blessing from her lips, Who, even in pure and vestal modesty, Still blush, as thinking their own kisses sin" (Huxley 144). The community had never heard anything like this before. None of the citizens have ever thought of anything like this, because they never have had the drive to learn. Not only were the citizens not supposed to have relationships, but rather sleep with everyone. John is quoting Shakespeare by saying he wants a relationship. John and Clarisse both have different ideologies from the other citizens and

influence people in different ways. In a *Gattaca* the citizens have a class system so that the “Faith Births,” are lower level citizens because they simply cannot complete the tasks that the other citizens can. This is just like in a *Brave New World*, how at the World State they produce their citizens in a tube and raise them to become a part of specific classes. All of these stories have similar outlines and themes.

Symbolism plays a significant role in these stories, and is what makes them classics. Symbolism is omnipresent throughout these stories. In a *Brave New World* a symbol is the whip. This symbolizes how people outside of the utopian World State are savages, and it proves why the World State is better. The shock and excitement is shown by this reaction, “Do you mean to say that you wanted to be hit with that whip?” (Huxley 117). This is how the World State looks at everything differently. At the end of *Fahrenheit 451* the homeless man is talking to Guy about how civilization is a phoenix. He sees this because of how a phoenix burns to death, but rises from the ashes more beautiful than before. He says that the world is just like this. Mankind will destroy the world they live in, realize the mistake, and then rebuild the world. *Gattaca* has tons of symbolism within its storyline. The contacts that the main character has to wear are a huge piece of symbolism. This is because they symbolize sight, but also a new beginning. As soon as he put the contacts on, he is a new person. When he takes them off he becomes someone else. There is way more symbolism within these stories.

Tones are huge when it comes to these stories. In *Gattaca* the tone seems as if it is sad. Towards the end of the story, it becomes grateful or thankful. This is because the main characters whole life he is told he can’t do specific things. He works his whole life to pursue his dream, and eventually, he proves everybody wrong and makes it as an astronaut. In *Fahrenheit 451* the tone seems gloomy the whole time. The whole story seems to be told in a monologue voice. This to

me means upset, unhappy, or dissatisfied. The main character is yearning for a purposeful life.

The review says, “Captain Beatty...articulates for Montag the fundamental idea underpinning the laws and norms of this oppressive and ignorant society” (Brown). This is the exact tone. The people don’t need to worry about other things; they can just focus on their jobs and family.

Eventually though in the end, he found his purpose to be remembering a book. *Brave New World* has a similar tone. The tone was that of a perfect world. This is seen within the World State’s motto, “Community, Identity, Stability” (Huxley 1). The author wants to portray the World State as a perfect world. Nobody has any feelings, no attachments, and no long term relationships.

There are no problems, until John presents all of his new ideas to the community. Nobody has any questions about the world, except for John and Bernard. They are exiled for these questions, and John kills himself.

The characters within these stories have a lot of struggles. The themes and tones are also very similar by being oppressive. The symbols within these stories are what make them classic. These stories are amazing because they all fall back on the Moore’s original utopian ideas. A *Brave New World*, *Gattaca*, and *Fahrenheit 451* are all great utopian stories.

Works Cited

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