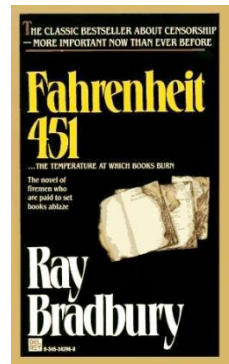
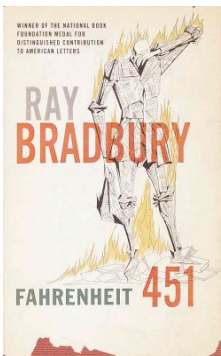
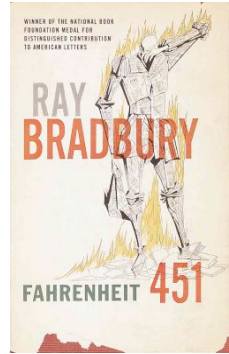
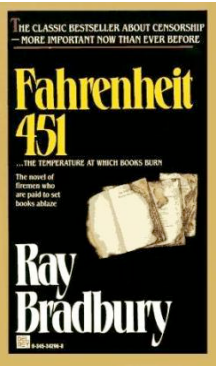
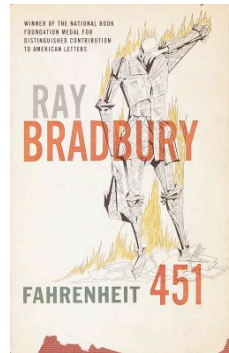
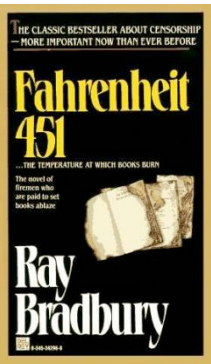


Fahrenheit 451

UNIT PACKET



"We need not to be let alone.
We need to be really bothered once in a while.
How long is it since you were *really* bothered?
About something important, about something real?"
-Montag, *Fahrenheit 451*



English II / April 2009

Name: _____

Period: _____

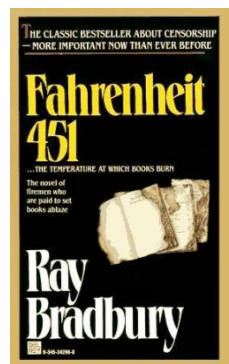
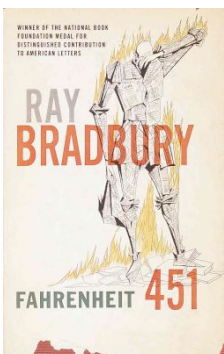


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Student Contract

Student Statement of Purpose

Our final mission this year is to read and analyze the classic novel, *Fahrenheit 451*. In reading this novel, we will use all of the knowledge that we have gained thus far in the year, as well as learn new skills that will help us in our journey to become excellent readers and thinkers, AND, prepare us to be high achieving ELEVENTH GRADE SCHOLARS.

In order to gain the most knowledge from this unit and be successful throughout the remainder of the year, I know that:

1. I must bring my *Fahrenheit 451* Unit Packet to EVERY class. If I do not, I lose points for that day's assignments.
2. I must bring my copy of *Fahrenheit 451* to EVERY class. I am responsible for doing this.
3. If I miss a day of class, for ANY reason, it is my responsibility to check the class calendar to see what work I missed. Ms. Paulus will not remind me that I missed work.
4. If I miss a day of class, for ANY reason, I have ONE extra class to make the work up. If I do not make the work up within ONE class, I forfeit the grades and will take a "Z" in the Gradebook.
5. I must keep up with the reading assignments AND each night's homework.
6. I must come to class willing and ready to THINK and LEARN and PREPARE myself for my future.
7. I must keep an open mind and remember that the best part of being a student is being able to think and grow my mind. Making mistakes is part of the growing process and is okay, as long as I learn from those mistakes.

YES! I am ready for success!

I have read the Student Contract. By signing below, I agree to follow the contract to ensure my success:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Class Calendar

Periods 3, 5, 7		Periods 2, 6, 8	
Thursday, April 30th		Friday, May 1st	
Monday, May 4 th		Tuesday, May 5 th	
Wednesday, May 6 th		Thursday, May 7th	
Friday, May 8 th		Monday, May 11th	
Tuesday, May 12 th		Wednesday, May 13th	
Thursday, May 14 th		Friday, May 15th	
Monday, May 18 th		Tuesday, May 19th	
Wednesday, May 20 th		Thursday, May 21st	

***Dates may change; pay attention in class!**

Homework Tracker

DATE ASSIGNED	DUE DATE	ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION	MATERIALS	COMMENTS/NOTES	CHECK WHEN COMPLETE



Benchmark Quiz Tracker: Fahrenheit 451

Tracking My Progress



✓ in box = Correct on Quiz / X in box = Incorrect on Quiz

Benchmark:	Quiz #1	Quiz #2	Quiz #3	Quiz #4	Quiz #5	Overall Quiz % Mastery (Add # of checks and divide by 5)
Author's Purpose/ Point of View: <i>L.A.A.2.4.2</i>						
Cause and Effect: <i>L.A.E.2.2.1</i>						
Compare and Contrast: <i>L.A.A.2.2.7</i>						
Context Clues: <i>L.A.A.1.4.2</i>						
Main Idea: <i>L.A.A.2.4.1</i>						
Reference and Research: <i>L.A.A.2.4.4</i> <i>L.A.A.2.4.7</i> <i>L.A.A.2.4.8</i>						



Working HARD to achieve

BIG GOAL #1



Vocabulary Section

Directions: Each of these words appears in *Fahrenheit 451*. For each vocabulary word, write the definition. Then, find the word in the book and write the sentence where the word appears. Words are in order as they appear in the book.

1. Stolid - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

2. Refracted - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

3. Imperceptibly - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

4. Pulverized - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

5. Melancholy - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

6. Capillary - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

7. Multifaceted - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

8. Ballistics - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

9. Erected - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

10. Proclivities - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

11. Odious - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

12. Ravenous - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

13. Pratfall - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

14. Dictum - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

15. Noncombustible - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

16. Tactile - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

17. Cadenced - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

18. Retaliation - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

19. Receptacle - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.
20. Cowardice - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.
21. Simultaneously - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.
22. Manifested - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.
23. Verbiage - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.
24. Smouldering - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.
25. Indecisive - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.
26. Grotesque - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.
27. Limned - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.
28. Juggernaut - _____
Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____
_____.

29. Cardamom - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

30. Pedants - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

31. Pyre - _____

Pg. _____ / Sentence from Book: _____

Reading Response Section

Directions: Using your knowledge from what you read, answer the following questions. Include the page numbers where you found the answers. These response questions will also serve as your Unit Test Review, so complete the answers thoroughly!

BE SURE TO CHECK THE DUE DATES FOR READING RESPONSE QUESTIONS!

Reading Response Questions: Set One

DUE DATE:

1. Who is Guy Montag? Describe his job.
2. Describe Clarisse McClellan.
3. What smelled like perfume to Montag?
4. Clarisse asked Montag if he was happy. Was he?
5. Who is Mildred, and what happened to her?
6. Why did Emergency Hospital send technicians instead of doctors to treat Mildred?
7. What are parlor-walls?
8. Describe the mechanical hound.
9. What did Montag believe had been done to the hound?
10. Why was Clarisse considered anti-social?
11. Who gave Clarisse most of her information about the way life used to be?

Reading Response Questions: Set Two

DUE DATE:

1. Who was Captain Beatty?

2. How did the firemen know which houses had books?

3. What lie did Captain Beatty tell Montag?

4. What did Montag do in the old lady's attic?

5. Why were the alarms to burn always at night?

6. Why did the old woman light the match and commit suicide?

7. What happened to Clarisse? Was it an accident?

8. What was Montag afraid Captain Beatty would discover when he came to visit?

9. Why did Captain Beatty believe books should be destroyed?

10. What did Montag show Mildred after the captain had left the house?

Reading Response Questions: Set Three

DUE DATE:

1. Who was Faber?

2. Why did Montag go to see Faber?

3. What three elements did Faber feel were missing from life?

4. What plan did Montag and Faber devise?

5. What was Montag willing to do to convince Faber to help carry out the plan?

6. What had Faber designed that allowed him to be in constant contact with Montag?

7. Why did Faber decide to go to St. Louis?

8. Why did Montag burn the book of poetry in the wall incinerator in his home?

9. Where did Montag hide his books after the ladies left?

10. What was the destination of the alarm on the night Montag returned to work at the firehouse?

- 1. Who was the informant on Montag's home?**

- 2. Why did Montag kill Captain Beatty?**

- 3. Why didn't Montag run away before he killed Captain Beatty?**

- 4. Where did Montag go after he killed Beatty?**

- 5. When Montag left Faber's house, which direction did he go?**

- 6. Why did Montag take whiskey, a suitcase, and some of Faber's dirty clothes with him?**

- 7. What did the railroad tracks mean to Montag?**

- 8. What was different about the fire Montag saw after leaving the river?**

- 9. During the manhunt for Montag by the hound, why did the camera identify an innocent man as Montag?**

- 10. What was different about the hobos Montag met? Why did each man identify himself as a famous author or piece of literature?**

- 11. What had Montag been able to memorize?**

- 12. What happened to the city during the war?**

- 13. What did Montag and the intellectuals believe their mission was once the war ended?**

Figurative Language Guide

One of the most AWESOME and INTERESTING tools that great writers use is figurative language. Very simply, figurative language is *speech that contains images*, or in other words, **when writers describe something by comparing it to something else that is unusual, shocking, or funny to paint a picture in the reader's mind.**

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE is composed of many types of figures of speech, such as similes, metaphors, personification, symbolism, alliteration, hyperbole, onomatopoeias, idioms, and allusions.

Fahrenheit 451 is packed with three main types of figures of speech, SIMILES, METAPHORS, and PERSONIFICATION.

Definitions:

1. Simile: _____

Non-book Example:

Fahrenheit 451 Example:

2. Metaphor: _____

Non-book Example:

Fahrenheit 451 Example:

3. Personification: _____

Non-book Example:

Fahrenheit 451 Example:

Figurative Language Practice

Directions: Read each example of figurative language. Rewrite each example of figurative language into the category where it belongs.

1. The car engine coughed and sputtered when it started.
2. I am a rainbow of emotion.
3. The rain kissed my cheeks as it fell.
4. That guy is a dog.
5. She is as brave as a lion.
6. Her cheeks are polished apples.
7. The microwave timer told me to turn the food over.
8. The clouds are angry with storm clouds..
9. The ocean gently kissed my toes as I waded into the waves.
10. Life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you may get..
11. The snow whispered as it fell to the ground.
12. The moon is a beautiful silver balloon.

SIMILES	METAPHORS	PERSONIFICATION

Figurative Language in *Fahrenheit 451*

Directions: Read each quote from Part Two of *Fahrenheit 451*. Look at the underlined example of figurative language in the sentence, then decide what type of figure of speech is being used.

BEWARE...THESE ARE GOING TO FORCE YOU TO THINK

1. "“Each page becomes a black butterfly. Beautiful, eh? Light the third page from the second and so on, chain smoking, chapter by chapter” ...There sat Beatty, perspiring gently, the floor littered with swarms of black moths that had died in a single storm.”

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

2. “She was beginning to shriek now, sitting there like a wax doll melting in its own heat.”

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

3. “There were people on the suction train but he held the book in his hands and the silly thought came to him, if you read fast and read all, maybe some of the sand will stay in the sieve.”

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

4. “The train radio vomited upon Montag, in retaliation, a great tonload of music made of tin, copper, silver, chromium, and brass.”

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

5. “The night I kicked the pill bottle in the dark, like kicking a buried mine.”

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

More Figurative Language: Symbolism

We already learned that figurative language is *speech that contains images*, or in other words, **when writers describe something by comparing it to something else that is unusual, shocking, or funny to paint a picture in the reader's mind..** And, we saw how Ray Bradbury used TONS of examples of simile, metaphor, and personification in *Fahrenheit 451*.

Another common figure of speech that is seen throughout the book is **SYMBOLISM**.

Definition:

1. Symbolism: _____

Non-book Example:

Fahrenheit 451 Examples:

Symbol: **"The Hearth and the Salamander"**

Explanation: The hearth, or fireplace, is a traditional symbol of the home, which the firemen burn; the salamander is one of the official symbols of the firemen, as well as the name they give to their trucks. The salamander is associated with ancient beliefs that it can live in fire and is unaffected by flames.

Symbol: **"The Sieve and the Sand"**

Explanation: The title of the second part of *Fahrenheit 451*, "The Sieve and the Sand," is taken from Montag's childhood memory of trying to fill a sieve with sand on the beach to get a dime from a mischievous cousin and crying at the impossibility of the task. He compares this memory to his attempt to read the whole Bible as quickly as possible on the subway in the hope that, if he reads fast enough, some of the material will stay in his memory.

Simply put, the sand is a symbol of the tangible truth Montag seeks, and the sieve the human mind seeking a truth that remains elusive and, the metaphor suggests, impossible to grasp in any permanent way.

Symbol: **Mirrors**

Explanation: At the very end of the novel, Granger says they must build a mirror factory to take a long look at themselves; this remark recalls Montag's description of Clarisse as a mirror in "The Hearth and the Salamander." Mirrors here are symbols of self-understanding, of seeing oneself clearly.

Symbolism in *Fahrenheit 451*: Activity

Group 1

Directions: Ray Bradbury uses many figures of speech and allusions great to tell his story. The following quotes relate to four different symbols used in the book. Read the following quotes, decide what **figure of speech** the author is using, and what the figurative language is supposed to mean. Then, fill in the chart by writing what the symbol means, how it changes, and why the author used this symbol. You will present this information back to your group.

SYMBOL: Birds/Wings

Quote #1: "He wanted, above all, like the old joke, to shove a marshmallow on a stick in the furnace, while the flapping pigeon-winged books died on the porch and lawn of the house" (3).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

Quote #2: "Old Montag wanted to fly near the Sun and now that he's burnt his damn wings, he wonders why" (113).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

Quote #3: "There was a silly damn bird called a Phoenix back before Christ, every few hundred years he built a pyre and burnt himself up. He must have been first cousin to Man. But every time he burnt himself, up he sprang out of the ashes, he got himself born all over again" (163).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

	SYMBOL: BIRDS/WINGS
Overall meaning	
How it changed	
Why the author used it	

Symbolism in *Fahrenheit 451*: Activity

Group 2

Directions: Ray Bradbury uses many figures of speech and allusions great to tell his story. The following quotes relate to four different symbols used in the book. Read the following quotes, decide what **figure of speech** the author is using, and what the figurative language is supposed to mean. Then, fill in the chart by writing what the symbol means, how it changes, and why the author used this symbol. You will present this information back to your group.

SYMBOL: Reptiles

Quote #1: "With the brass nozzle in his fists, with this great python spitting its venomous kerosene upon the world, the blood pounded in his head" (3).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

Quote #2: "One of them slid down into your stomach like a black cobra...Did it suck out all of the poisons accumulated with the years?"(14).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

Quote #3: "To see the firehouses burn across the land, destroyed as hotbeds of treason. The salamander devours his tail!"(86).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

	SYMBOL: REPTILES
Overall meaning	
How it changed	
Why the author used it	

Symbolism in *Fahrenheit 451*: Activity

Group 3

Directions: Ray Bradbury uses many figures of speech and allusions great to tell his story. The following quotes relate to four different symbols used in the book. Read the following quotes, decide what **figure of speech** the author is using, and what the figurative language is supposed to mean. Then, fill in the chart by writing what the symbol means, how it changes, and why the author used this symbol. You will present this information back to your group.

SYMBOL: Fire

Quote #1: "It was a special pleasure to see things eaten, to see things blackened and *changed*" (3).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

Quote #2: "And fire will lift you off my shoulders, clean, quick, sure; nothing to rot later; nothing to rot later" (115).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

Quote #3: "The fire was gone, then back again like a winking eye" (145).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

SYMBOL: FIRE	
Overall meaning	
How it changed	
Why the author used it	

Symbolism in *Fahrenheit 451*: Activity

Group 4

Directions: Ray Bradbury uses many figures of speech and allusions great to tell his story. The following quotes relate to four different symbols used in the book. Read the following quotes, decide what **figure of speech** the author is using, and what the figurative language is supposed to mean. Then, fill in the chart by writing what the symbol means, how it changes, and why the author used this symbol. You will present this information back to your group.

SYMBOL: Faces

Quote #1: "He wore his happiness like a mask and the girl had run off across the lawn with the mask and there was no way of going to knock on her door and ask for it back" (12).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

Quote #2: "Her face was like a snow-covered island" (13).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

Quote #3: "They show the pores in the face of life. The comfortable people want only wax moon faces, poreless, hairless, expressionless" (83).

Type: _____

Figurative meaning: _____

SYMBOL: FACES	
Overall meaning	
How it changed	
Why the author used it	

The 411 on *Fahrenheit 451*

Imagine a world where everything is sped up, where bill boards are five times bigger than ours because the speed limit is so high, where everything you see from a car is a blur, where pedestrians don't exist. A future populated by non-readers and non-thinkers, people with no sense of their history, where a totalitarian government has banned the writing and reading. This is a story about how dangerous and meaningless life becomes when people stop THINKING and only EXIST.

THE BASICS:

Author: Ray Bradbury

Originally Published in: 1953 - It was written right after WWII

Genre: Science Fiction

Setting: A large city, sometime in the future (24th Century, which is the 2300s)

Purpose: The United States of America was created by people who were once oppressed back in their home country. Ever since its creation, the United States has remained a place where the people - citizens - control the government and the government works for the people.

However, throughout history, some people have feared that the United States may turn into a totalitarian country - a country with a dictator, where the government takes away the free will of the people.

Fahrenheit 451 was written to show people how important it is to think, gain knowledge, and learn from the past and from others - not just for oneself, but in order to keep the government in check. *Fahrenheit 451* is about learning to THINK and LIVE FULLY, not just live in a routine, meaningless, thoughtless life.

Many people believe the world in *Fahrenheit 451* is scarily similar to the way we live life now in the 21st century and that we need to use the lessons in Ray Bradbury's book to prevent the ruin of our culture and free society.

Similarities with our society:

The society Bradbury describes in *Fahrenheit 451* is, in many ways, like the one we are living in right now: a technologically advanced and violent society, a busy and fast-paced world. Clarisse notices how fast people drive:

"...don't know what grass is, or flowers because they never see them slowly. If you showed a driver a green blur, Oh yes! He'd say, that 's grass! A pink blur! That's a rose garden! White blurs are houses. Brown blurs are cows. My uncle drove slowly on a highway once. He drove forty miles an hour and they jailed him for two days." (p. 9)

In *Fahrenheit 451* young people are violent. Clarisse tells Montag she is:

"...afraid of children my own age. They kill each other...Six of my friends have been shot in the last year alone. Ten of them died in car wrecks. I'm afraid of them and they don't like me because I'm afraid." (p.30)

One needs only think of the Columbine High School massacre to note the presence of violence in our society.

Like *Fahrenheit 451*'s firemen, Hitler was burning books in Germany. We should ask ourselves: how far are we from this fictional world? *Fahrenheit 451* is disturbing precisely because it is plausible.



WHY F451 Is Important TODAY

Article #1

Many authors and scholars have explained why *Fahrenheit 451* is such an important book, even though it was written over fifty years ago. The following articles will help explain WHY it is so important and why it should matter to YOU.

Fahrenheit 451: More Relevant Now than Ever

By: Caleb Nico

I truly believe that reading is becoming out of date as time goes by; Fahrenheit 451 put that belief into perspective. The deeply allegorical book that was originally published in the 1950's for *Playboy Magazine* was set in the time frame of the early 1990's. This classic novel presents us with a world where people have chosen to give up reading, lives of substance, and peace for a world of hedonism, high minimum speed limits, and illiteracy. As I read this incredible book I was almost crying at the end because it was just so good. It made me think, reflect, and realize that literature is the most important part of a meaningful, scholarly, and thoughtful society. This behemoth dystopian masterpiece taught me the power of books and reflective thought, just as Ray Bradbury intended it to teach.

Understandably, Bradbury could not have known what a great book he was writing at the time. The purpose of this book was to teach people to leave the television and the families' people had created on the screens and go back to reading classic literature. As he says "There are worse crimes than burning books. One of them is not reading them". He also said that television is a thoughtless activity and as every one of those quarter second clips goes by on the screen we forget to think, all the fast pictures going by makes us think we're thinking. Books are not the opposite of televisions as they do not teach us how to think, but they are the catalyst for individually developing our minds in a good way. The main character Guy Montag brings up a story from his youth about how his older roguish cousin paid him to fill a sieve with sand at the beach. He continually tries and tries to fill it up, but the sand always sifts through. This is how books work with our minds, they never stick around for too long, but you have to keep trying because putting something worthwhile into your brain continuously is better than nothing at all. If no one ever put any literature, books, or truth into their minds, the world would turn into an awful place.

My version of what the word dystopian means is that the world has come out the opposite of what we wanted it to be like. I know that's kind of a crude description, but I've grown a love of dystopian style art. Movies like Idiocracy, Pleasantville, and Brazil show artist renderings of what they think the world will be like as we continue on our current course of action. Books like Fahrenheit 451, 1984, and Brave New World have much in common with the movies I mentioned earlier, but the one central idea that all anti-utopian media outlets possess is that mankind has become a wasteland of human thought.

The big difference that gives Fahrenheit 451 the edge over all the others of its genre is that it gives a logical and feasible reason to the breakdown of the mind, the choice to quit reading. Is today the same as Bradbury's depiction of the future? No, we aren't even close, colleges are still teaching liberal arts to young minds, English classes can still give reading assignments, and bookstores are still legal. Are we heading down the same path as the book? My unfortunate instinctual answer is yes, websites like Wikipedia, Sparknotes and Cliffnotes.com are shortening books so that whole works of literature can be read in under an hour. Movies like The Bourne Ultimatum, Moulin Rouge, and Sin City give us no time to stop and think about what's going on while we watch them. And I've heard too many of my friends say they only read when they have to.

To conclude, reading is a blessing of the people that writers give to us. Although our fast-paced lifestyle is fun and a part of our culture, I think that we need to begin reading more to add texture to our lives. As Professor Faber says "Do you know why books such as this are so important? Because they have quality." And what does the word quality mean? To me it means texture. This book has pores." (Faber, 83) If we could add texture to our lives and still appreciate roller coasters, violent video games, and high-speed action movies, I think the world would be a better place. That would define the paradise of having your cake and eating it too.

WHY F451 Is Important TODAY

Article #2

In Praise of Banned Books

By: Rebecca [bookladyblog]

It's only fitting to wrap up Banned Books Week by celebrating the book that is the ultimate warning against censorship and its implications for society. Ray Bradbury's classic *Fahrenheit 451* was the first book I read in a high school English class (with the awesome Mr. Hunsley from yesterday's post), and it set the stage for what would become a deep love and appreciation for literature and the power it has to expand our minds and our world. It was a pleasure to re-read this classic and to fall in love all over again with books and reading.

Written in 1953 and still frighteningly relevant today, *Fahrenheit 451* takes place in a dystopian future in which books are forbidden and firemen do not put out fires but set them to the homes in which books are found. Guy Montag is one such firefighter, but he is struggling with the temptation to secretly take and hide books, to read them and discover what is so powerful and forbidden. After burning down a house whose owner chose to be burned with it rather than go on living without her books, he wonders:

There must be something in books, things we can't imagine, to make a woman stay in a burning house; there must be something there. You don't stay for nothing.

When Montag is traumatized by this event and is unable to go to work, his boss, Captain Beatty, visits his home and tells him the history of how books became forbidden. We learn that the ban on books grew out of movements in which citizens chose to stop reading because it emphasized the differences between them and seemed to cause more problems than it solved. Eventually, the government got involved, endorsing the idea that it was best for citizens not to think too much. Just tell me this paragraph wasn't a prophetic prediction of what American society would become:

If the government is inefficient, top-heavy, and tax-mad, better it be all those than that people worry over it...Give the people contests they win by remembering the words to more popular songs or the names of state capitals or how much corn Iowa grew last year. Cram them full of noncombustible data, chock them so damned full of 'facts' they feel stuffed, but absolutely 'brilliant' with information. Then they'll feel they're thinking, they'll get a *sense* of motion without moving. And they'll be happy, because facts of that sort don't change. Don't give them any slippery stuff like philosophy or sociology to tie things up with. That way lies melancholy.

Fahrenheit 451 (the hypothetical temperature at which books burn) was hugely controversial upon its original publication and it continues to ruffle feathers today. In 2007, individuals in Texas complained that the book's references to drinking, smoking, and "dirty talk" (whatever that is), and its discussion of the Bible went against their "religious beliefs."

I find it so ironic that a book about censorship should be challenged and banned, but I suppose that's what happens when authors present the idea that banning books is dangerous—the people who want the power to control what we read and who are afraid of having their ideas challenged get upset and want to remove the offending material. *Fahrenheit 451* is one of the books on my "required reading for life" list. It's too important to be ignored.

Book Quotes

Read them. Wonder about them. THINK about them.

The following quotations are all important quotes from Fahrenheit 451. We will discuss these quotes in class and in our THINK TANKS and you will find one or more of these quotes on your final Fahrenheit 451 Unit Exam.

"The good writers touch life often. The mediocre ones run a quick hand over her. The bad ones rape her and leave her for the flies." (83)

"Most of us can't rush around, talk to everyone, know all the cities of the world, we haven't time, money or that many friends. The things you're looking for, Montag, are in the world, but the only way the average chap will ever see ninety-nine per cent of them is in a book." (86)

"Go home and think of your first husband divorced and your second husband killed in a jet and your third husband blowing his brains out, go home and think of the dozen abortions you've had, go home and think of that and your damn Caesarian sections, too, and your children who hate your guts! Go home and think how it all happened and what did you ever do to stop it?" (101)

"You're afraid of making mistakes. *Don't* be. Mistakes can be profited from...If you hide your ignorance, no one will hit you and you'll never learn." (104)

"Everyone must leave something behind when he dies...something your hand touched some way so your soul has somewhere to go when you die...It doesn't matter what you do...so long as you change something from the way it was before you touched it into something that's like you were after you take your hands away." (156)

