

Reflection on utopia, cataract and fahrenheit 451

[Literature](#), [Russian Literature](#)



Utopia Thomas More's utopia which was the predecessor for the concept continues to be appropriated into a range of cultures and contexts.

Increasingly however, these are Utopias are dyspepsia. A utopia is defined as an imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect. The word was first used in the book Utopia (1516) by Sir Thomas More. The opposite of utopia is a dyspepsia, an imagined place or state in which everything is unpleasant or bad, typically a totalitarian or environmentally degraded one.

The themes present in the texts Utopia, Cataract, Fahrenheit 451 and the Pedestrian whether they are a Utopia or a Dyspepsia intertwine and give us a sense that the slightest push in any direction for our society could result in a catastrophic dyspepsia. In Ray Bursary's The Pedestrian, the idea of technology taking over and the decline of human feelings and interactions are strongly represented. In The Pedestrian Bradbury has used a futuristic setting of society to critique it. He presents the undesired characteristics lying within our society and enhances and pronounces them in The Pedestrian.

He conveys the alienation and lack of emotions that is beginning to show in our society and presents them in his text a possible future for humanity if we were to go down that path. The way Bradbury represents technology in his short story is as if it is evil and tearing humanity apart. So devoid of emotion is the environment and surroundings of the main character that it creates a giant contrast to the main character to who is, to the audience symbolizes as us, an average person. All of the techniques such as metaphors and similes are used to enhance the alienation of the main character representing us from the environment and everything else.

In the text *Cataract*, the main themes are, like the pedestrian, the taking over of technology and loss of humanity. In *Cataract*, it is in the future and every child is made and selected through a far more advanced form of IVF where the best genes are extracted from the parent's and then implanted back in the mother. The hair and eye color and sex are chosen, any possibility for diseased genes is removed and as the characters are told "the children are still you, simply the best of you".

The story centers on Vincent, a child who was conceived naturally and suffered immensely because of the new way to discriminate, through inferior genes. The way the world in *Cataract* is presented to the audience, with employees checking into work by having their fingers pricked to test their blood and how strictly business like and devoid of emotion it is works to present a possible dyspepsia for our society through *Cataract*. Science and technology is key, there is no time nor place for emotion, this is what *Cataract* represents.

Fahrenheit 451 is another dyspepsia text that presents the themes of lacking emotion and the taking over of technology. In this text, everything we know in our society has been twisted and stretched to the extreme to resemble something we barely recognize. Firemen are now employed to burn all books, starting fires instead of putting them out. The characters in this text are shadows, seemingly without a purpose or many emotions.

The concept of talking to each other and enjoying the environment is alien to them, their only form of enjoyment a four wall TV that surrounds like a room, further cutting them off from emotion, humanity and enclosing them in

technology as such. These Dyspepsia are all conceived from the original Utopia written by Sir Thomas More, and are used like More did, to critique the society the authors live or lived in. The extreme elements in each of these Utopias could be possible and that is what the authors wanted to present, almost like a warning to us. Emily Newman