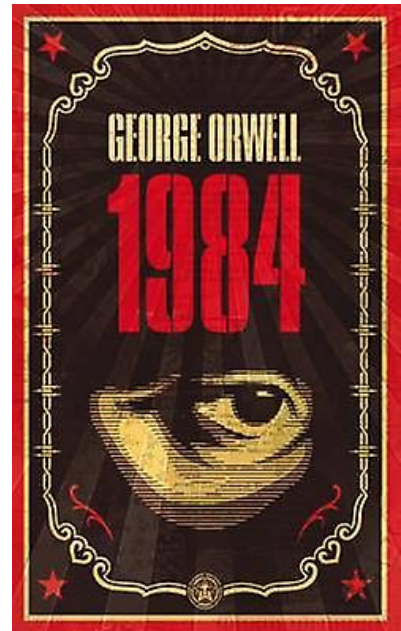


Nineteen Eighty Four by George Orwell

How vulnerable is our civilised all free thinking government?

If you want a warning on totalitarianism in a society, this book is certainly made to be engraved into someone's mind. Modern and social abuses are graphically portrayed in this 1984 brainwashed society governed by the controlive party into unthinking obedience to its leader, The Big Brother, in Oceania. They control a new dialect of speech aimed to limit free thought and promote the leaders doctrines, as we can see in slogans like 'freedom is slavery' or 'Ignorance is strength'. Which is nuts to say the least, and logically thinking we know it's impossible to control the human race into having each individual being so thoroughly influenced. Which is where our main character Winston Smith comes in.



Working with the outer party, his job is to rewrite history in the ministry of truth, so basically censoring all information into the current political thinking. Winston wants the real truth, the real desire and the freedom to be curious, passionate and free. He has a forbidden affair, becomes more and more determined to join the rebels all the unknowingly being more and more watched by the authorities.

He is eventually caught and sent to re-education camp which is where personally I was the most horrified and disgusted by what I read. People were being locked up for their thoughts and being tortured both physically and mentally to lose themselves to the party, with the use of their worst nightmares. The worst part of the entire book for me is the gradual speciation I witnessed while reading how humans were capable of breaking a man so thoroughly that Winston thought that something so simple as $2+2=5$ and not 4...

I see that the author's grim novel brought an abrupt end to seeking out the positives of Nazism and Stalinism, when it was being re-discussed at being brought back. For daring to think differently, people like North Korean citizens, are rewarded with torture, governments are held responsible for their inhumane actions and propaganda runs free. I implore to read this book or the following to appreciate the freedom that we have been given with the interesting alternative realities we could have possibly faced.

Other books by George Orwell:

- *Homage to Catalonia*
- *Animal Farm*
- *Down and Out in Paris and London*

Books similar to Nineteen Eighty-Four:

- *All the Birds in the Sky by Charlie Jane Anders*
- *The Sheep Look Up by John Brunner*
- *Parable of the Talents by Octavia E. Butler*
- *Panther in the Hive by Olivia Cole*
- *Vox by Christina Dalcher*
- *Brown Girl in the Ring by Nalo Hopkinson*
- *Anthem by Ayn Rand*
- *The Shore of Women by Pamela Sargent*