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## APPENDIX

### A. Synopsis of '1984'

Winston Smith is a low-ranking member of the ruling Party in London, in the nation of Oceania. Everywhere Winston goes, even his own home, the Party watches him through telescreens; everywhere he looks he sees the face of the Party's seemingly omniscient leader, a figure known only as Big Brother. The Party controls everything in Oceania, even the people's history and language. Currently, the Party is forcing the implementation of an invented language called Newspeak, which attempts to prevent political rebellion by eliminating all words related to it. Even thinking rebellious thoughts is illegal. Such thoughtcrime is, in fact, the worst of all crimes.

As the novel opens, Winston feels frustrated by the oppression and rigid control of the Party, which prohibits free thought, sex, and any expression of individuality. Winston dislikes the party and has illegally purchased a diary in which to write his criminal thoughts. He has also become fixated on a powerful Party member named O'Brien, whom Winston believes is a secret member of the Brotherhood—the mysterious, legendary group that works to overthrow the Party.

Winston works in the Ministry of Truth, where he alters historical records to fit the needs of the Party. He notices a coworker, a beautiful dark-haired girl, staring at him, and worries that she is an informant who will turn him in for his thoughtcrime. He is troubled by the Party's control of history: the Party claims that Oceania has always been allied with Eastasia in a war against Eurasia, but Winston seems to recall a time when this was not true. The Party also claims that Emmanuel Goldstein, the alleged leader of the Brotherhood, is the most dangerous man alive, but this does not seem plausible to Winston. Winston spends his evenings wandering through the

poorest neighborhoods in London, where the proletarians, or proles, live squalid lives, relatively free of Party monitoring.

One day, Winston receives a note from the dark-haired girl that reads “I love you.” She tells him her name, Julia, and they begin a covert affair, always on the lookout for signs of Party monitoring. Eventually they rent a room above the secondhand store in the prole district where Winston bought the diary. This relationship lasts for some time. Winston is sure that they will be caught and punished sooner or later (the fatalistic Winston knows that he has been doomed since he wrote his first diary entry), while Julia is more pragmatic and optimistic. As Winston’s affair with Julia progresses, his hatred for the Party grows more and more intense. At last, he receives the message that he has been waiting for: O’Brien wants to see him.

Winston and Julia travel to O’Brien’s luxurious apartment. As a member of the powerful Inner Party (Winston belongs to the Outer Party), O’Brien leads a life of luxury that Winston can only imagine. O’Brien confirms to Winston and Julia that, like them, he hates the Party, and says that he works against it as a member of the Brotherhood. He indoctrinates Winston and Julia into the Brotherhood, and gives Winston a copy of Emmanuel Goldstein’s book, the manifesto of the Brotherhood. Winston reads the book—an amalgam of several forms of class-based twentieth-century social theory—to Julia in the room above the store. Suddenly, soldiers barge in and seize them. Mr. Charrington, the proprietor of the store, is revealed as having been a member of the Thought Police all along.

Torn away from Julia and taken to a place called the Ministry of Love, Winston finds that O’Brien, too, is a Party spy who simply pretended to be a member of the Brotherhood in order to trap Winston into committing an open act of rebellion against

the Party. O'Brien spends months torturing and brainwashing Winston, who struggles to resist. At last, O'Brien sends him to the dreaded Room 101, the final destination for anyone who opposes the Party. Here, O'Brien tells Winston that he will be forced to confront his worst fear. Throughout the novel, Winston has had recurring nightmares about rats; O'Brien now straps a cage full of rats onto Winston's head and prepares to allow the rats to eat his face. Winston snaps, pleading with O'Brien to do it to Julia, not to him.

Giving up Julia is what O'Brien wanted from Winston all along. His spirit broken, Winston is released to the outside world. He meets Julia but no longer feels anything for her. He has accepted the Party entirely and has learned to love Big Brother.

## **B. Author's Biography**

Eric Arthur Blair in (Collins, 2021: 1) also known as George Orwell was born on June 25, 1903 in Motihari, Bengal, India and died on January 21, 1950 in London, England. He is English novelist, essayist, and critic famous for his novels *Animal Farm* (1945) and *Nineteen Eighty-four* (1949), the latter which gave a premonition about how scary a totalitarian rule can be.

His father was a minor British official in the Indian civil service; his mother, of French extraction, was the daughter of an unsuccessful teak merchant in Burma, Myanmar. He was sent to a boarding school in 1911, after returning back to England. There he would then pour all of his experience into an essay, *Such, Such Were the Joys* (1953).

In 1922, George Orwell went to Burma as an assistant district superintendent in the Indian Imperial Police. He felt ashamed of his role as a colonial police officer when he saw how the Burmese was against their will when they were ruled by the British. He then later told this emotion that he was feeling into his novel, *Burmese Days* and in two autobiographical sketches, *Shooting an Elephant* and *A Hanging*.

In 1927 Orwell, on leave to England, decided not to return to Burma, and on January 1, 1928, he took the decisive step of resigning from the imperial police. Already in the autumn of 1927, he had started on a course of action that shaped his character as a writer. He felt guilty when he cannot do anything to the Burmese, so he thought he could relieve some of his guilt by living the life of the poor. This experience gave Orwell the material to write *Down and Out in Paris and London*.

It can be seen from his first novel that Orwell has this pattern where he would portray a sensitive, conscientious, and emotionally isolated individual who is at odds against the oppressive or dishonest social environment. The main character in *Burmese Days* (1934) is a minor administrator who seeks to escape his narrow-minded British fellow, but he ended up in a foreseen personal tragedy. In *A Clergyman's Daughter* (1935) the protagonist is an unhappy spinster who achieves a brief and accidental liberation in her experiences among some agricultural laborers. His novel *Keep the Aspidistra Flying* (1936) is about a literarily inclined bookseller's assistant who despised the empty commercialism and materialism but, in the end, he is reconciled to the rich because of his forced marriage to the girl he loves.

*The Road to Wigan Pier* (1937) was Orwell first socialist book, it is filled with his experience when he went living with unemployed miners of northern England, even though it ends with sharp criticism from existing socialist movement at that time. Later in May 1937, after having fought in Barcelona against communists who were trying to suppress their political opponents, he was forced to flee Spain in fear of his life. This experience would later then be expressed in his book, *Homage to Catalonia* (1938). Returning to England, Orwell wrote *Coming Up for Air* (1939), in which he uses the nostalgic recollections of a middle-aged man to examine the decency of a past England and express his fears about a future threatened by war and fascism.

In 1944 *Animal Farm*, Orwell's political fable was complete. The novel is based on the Russian revolution and the betrayal of Joseph Stalin. All of the characters in the novel is played by animals. Even though this was one of Orwell's finest works, it would soon be overshadowed by *Nineteen-Eighty Four* or would later be known for '1984' (1949). This is a novel that he wrote after experiencing both the Nazism and Stalinism. The novel itself set in an imaginary future, where the main character, Winston Smith had to take on a totalitarian government led by a figure called Big Brother. After all the things he endured, in the end, he succumbed to the government. This novel brought a lot of impact in totalitarianism study, such as the phrases "2+2=5", "newspeak", and "doublethink". Orwell wrote the last pages of '1984' while suffering from tuberculosis, of which he died in London hospital in 1950.