Book Reviews

Author’s Name

[Institutional Affiliation(s)]

# Book Review *1984*

The novel *1984* by George Orwell was published in 1949. It is a novel based on the life of Winston Smith. He was a man who was unsatisfied by the ubiquitous judgments of the party, and it's ruling leader Big Brother. Smith was a low ranking member of the party. Big Brother was a government party that rule over people and the party was a threat throughout the story. In this story, the author warned the people regarding the totalitarian government and the rulers. Big Brother has invented an etymology named *Newspeak* and is intended to stop people from rebellious activities (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). The party was intended to stop people from following themselves and to follow the party. The party stops people from disobeying or defying as they control them in all aspects by observing them (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). This paper will review the novel *1984* written by George Orwell and analysis of the book will be described by Winston Smith, the character of the story.

# Summary of the Book

Winston is an unimportant person in the Party. However, Winston is officially an associate of the party but low ranking members and his life were under the influence of the Party’s political control (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). In the apartment, a telescreen was always switched on. The telescreen was always portraying the propagandas and publicities of the party. Ministry of Truth was viewed from his window, the place where he was working as an officer changing records of histories to compare with official versions of the party and past occasions (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). He was a propaganda officer in the Ministry of Truth. This ministry was working for the peace and war situation of the country (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). Winston has purchased a diary from a market in which he used to write things related to the party and particularly the rebellious activities.

The author has effectively discovered controls of mass media refrains and totalitarianism of government. Orwell has explored surveillance of government and manipulation of the ways of the dictator and how they are controlling the history and lives of people (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). The story of Smith has explored the ways by which a dictator can control people. No one can easily escape from the party and are under influenced by totalitarianism. For example, every morning, Winston used to take the stairs as the lift was always out of service and seldom works. (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). People of his rank were living in this condition and were not able to avoid or escape from the party (*1984.pdf*, n.d.).

He started documenting his diary, though he considered it a rebellious act against the party. The diary started with a movie he watched that night and described the girl he hated the most. The dark-haired lady was working in the Ministry of Truth in the fiction department (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). He described a man named O'Brien whom he considered a serious threat to the party (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). Two Minutes Hates was an assembly to which Party speakers lash the population into a turmoil of abhorrence in contradiction of the opponents of Oceania (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). He hated the party very much and has seen the same hatred in the eyes of O’Brien.

# Analysis and Review of the Book

The starting chapters I and II of *1984* are dedicated to presenting the main typescripts and refrains of the novel. These episodes familiarize the reader with the harsh and cruel reality and domineering sphere in which the novel's character Smith was surviving. The novel has highlighted several issues that people have faced due to these dictators (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). The novel has explored the totalitarianism of the government by which one solitary class of the rulers has influenced the people. The controlling and ruling activities of the oppressive government was described by the witness Smith, the novel’s character (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). These chapters explored the imaginary world of his life in which he has developed a profound love for that dark-haired girl. The sex and affair of the character were defined in a way that it was only an enjoyable affair. He was in a position that he cannot trust people around him including the dark-haired girl. The novel character, Winston Smith is a citizen of Oceania. Winston is a member of the party that rules Oceania under the ingsoc principles. Under the hierarchical rule, Oceania is an oligarchy. The party is consists of regulatory and inner-party members. The regulatory party members are ruling elite whereas regulatory members of the party consist of Oceania citizens. The leader of the party is Big Brother. The main character of this novel is Winston. He lives in a country where only Big Brother is allowed to decide and reason and individuals' thoughts are banned. Winston because of his natural need for critical analysis and reflection starts questioning the Big Brother Wisdom and hopefully moves towards his liberalization. But he stands alone in his continuous struggle for emancipation.

The book aimed to portray the picture of the dictators and politicians with the help of narration. The developments are completed in such a way that they can only benefit politicians, not people. The Big Brother made the developments and matched the documents with the histories as Big Brother would never be wrong even in a situation when people are forcefully allowed to live in poverty. Chapter four of the book is about the novel's character, Winston's working period. He used to work at the Ministry of Truth (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). The powerless and impoverished people were considered as harmless for the party as they were all considered as insignificant (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). However, the powerless and insignificant people were living in freedom and away from the politicians.

Chapters five and six are about Winston's documentation and lunch with a man named Syme. An exuberant message was delivered announcing production increase reflecting the increase in the chocolate ration by 20 grams. Winston suddenly thought he has been watched and saw the dark-haired girl watching him as she was the agent of the party (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). The ultimate action of his rebellious activities which he seems to observe in sex though he desperately wants to have it with an enjoyable affair. He mentioned in the diary that the prostitute was ugly though he enjoyed it in any way.

The ending chapters have explored the way how the government controls and depicts his annoying actions and rules over people to control them (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). The author has explored that rebellion activities are watched by the government and they observe people in various ways. However, Winston Smith started a subtle revolution against the party by his thoughts preserved in his diary. He started a fight for freedom and justice with his lover Julia (*1984.pdf*, n.d.). He stated that at the time of *1984*, the controlling and influencing people under control was agreeable. The novel has significantly highlighted the importance of oppression and mass control and the nature of the totalitarianism government. Therefore, Orwell's novel *1984* was a warning for the human race and was a depiction of the government and its activities for ruling over the people. The paper has reviewed the novel *1984* written by George Orwell and analysis of the book was described in a way to portray the picture of politicians.

**References**

*1984.pdf*. (n.d.). Retrieved from https://www.planetebook.com/free-ebooks/1984.pdf