SRF Play SRF Audio

Nietzsche konstatiert den Nihilismus

Wenn Nietzsche den «Tod Gottes» diagnostiziert, dann meint er damit unter anderem ein soziologisches Phänomen: Die Menschen haben Gott durch ihre Lebensführung vernichtet und niemand hat es bemerkt.

Kurz gesagt: Nietzsche konstatiert den Nihilismus als Zustand der damaligen Zeit. Das ist der zentrale Nerv von Nietzsches Argumentation: Er wehrt sich gegen die nihilistische, gegen die verneinende Kultur, die er auch im Christentum und Werten wie Milde, Nächstenliebe oder Demut am Werk sieht.

1. Translate the excerpt from SRF (Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen) into English and take a stance on whether they have interpreted Nietzsche's quote correctly.

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"Nihilism negates all values and moral concepts, denies the existence of God and denies the possibility of knowledge itself. It teaches the absolute meaninglessness of life."

2. Discuss: - the Quote above. Do you think that Nihilism is a good way of conducting one's own life?

   Previously Nietzsche has been put into the school of the "Nihilists", however after much reevaluation of his works, he is regarded today as one of the forerunners of a new philosophical school – "the philosophy of life".

3. How do you think the culture in Huxley's World State compares to our current culture? Why did John find the World State to be an empty society?

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4. The publishing house **HarperCollins** has asked you to design a new book art cover for Brave New World. Feel free to use *paint* or some other editing tool and send your product as a pdf./scan to your teacher. You may also use an A4 blotter paper 160. (inspiration at the back of the dossier)

5. Reflect upon your own behavior on the internet or social media. In what ways are we (maybe) controlled and conditioned? In what ways are we the “consumer” and the “product” at the same time?

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6. What are the main conflicts in the novel? What types of conflict (physical, moral, intellectual, or emotional) did you take note of? Make a list and give an example.

- → E.g.,_____
- → E.g.,_____
- → E.g.,_____
- → E.g.,_____

7. How do you feel about the use of the drug soma in the novel? Would you take soma if it were available? Are there similar performance enhancing drugs on the market today?

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8. What are some <u>themes</u> in the story? How do they relate to the <u>plot</u> and characters?

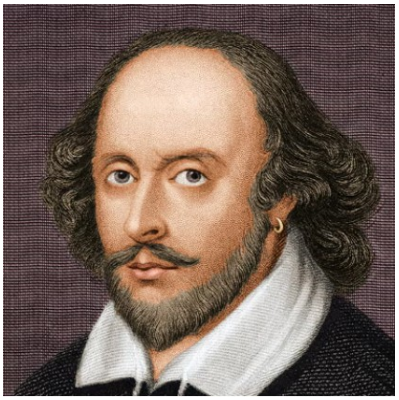


Draw your own picture.

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9. What are some <u>symbols</u> in "Brave New World"? How do they relate to the <u>plot</u> and characters?

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10. Do you find the characters likable? Are the characters people you would want to meet? Elaborate.

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11. Does the story end the way you expected it would? What led you to this conclusion?

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12. What is the central or primary purpose of the story? Is the purpose important or meaningful? Explain your answer.

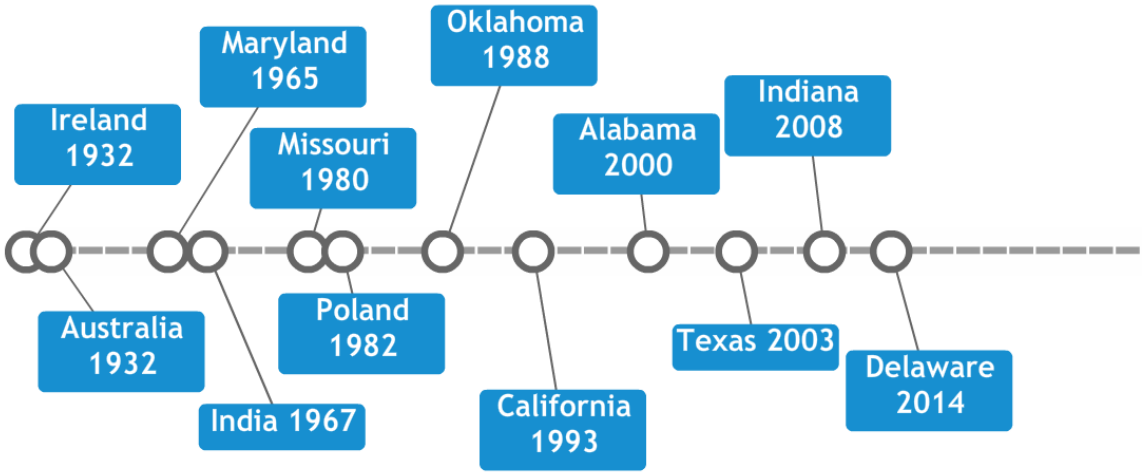
13. How essential is setting to the story? Could the story have taken place anywhere else?





14. Why has the book been controversial? Think + research…





Timeline of Censorship Cases

15. Is "Brave New World" believable? Do you think its main events could really take place?

_____

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16. What is the role of women in the text? How are mothers represented? What about single/independent women?

Promotional Poster of the TV series Brave New World loosely based on the classic novel by Aldous Huxley (2020)

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17. Do you think "Brave New World" exhibits feminist ideas?

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18. Remember, the book was published in 1932. How did feminism back then differ from modern feminism? Also try and give a definition for *feminism*.





Definition:

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Differentiation:

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Slogan: "Everyone belongs to everyone else".

19. What does the slogan imply? What are your personal thoughts on it?

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A picture of the main Characters of the TV series.

20. Look at the picture above. Could you guess who is who? Describe and explain.

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21. Discuss: Do you think the World Society has actually achieved the racial and gender equality it claims to have? Why or why not?



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22. What do you think of the roles of *freemartins* in the World State? Are they an oppressed group? Also give a definition.

Role of "freemartins":

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Definition:

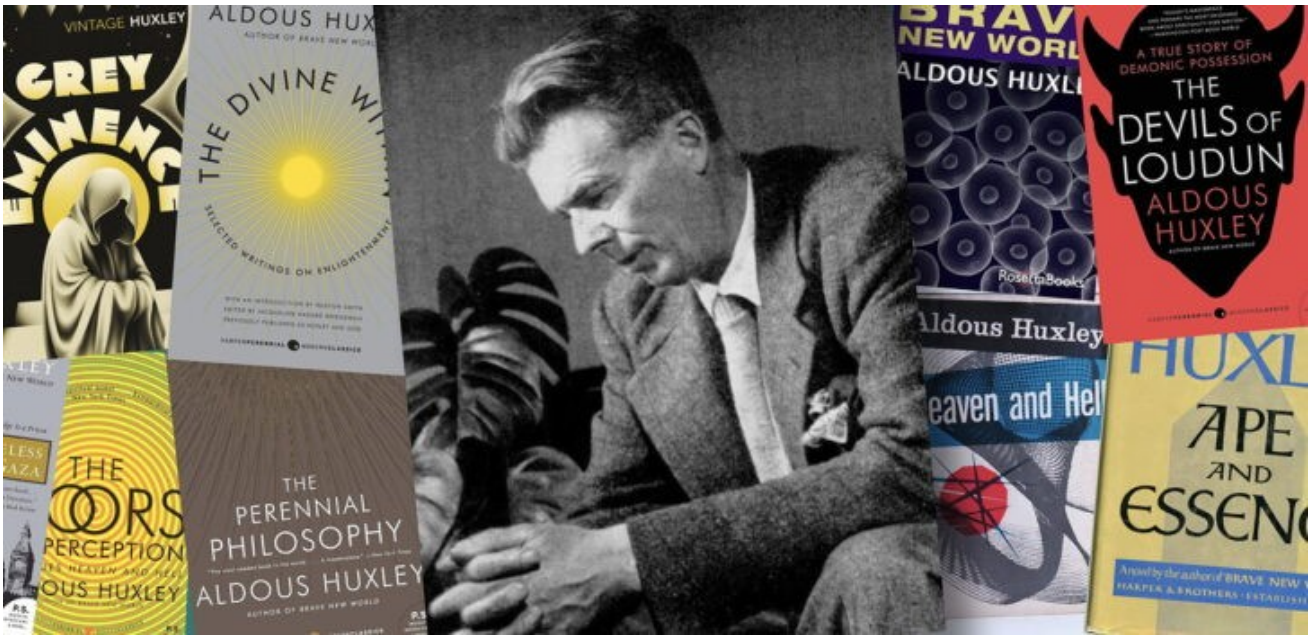
23. Write a short, personal Review about the graphic novel (max. ½ A4 page). What did you like/dislike about the book?



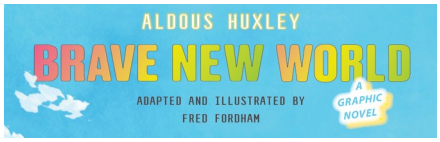
_____

24. Would you recommend this novel to a friend? Why/why not?

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Supplementary material + external links



Graphic Novel (pdf.)

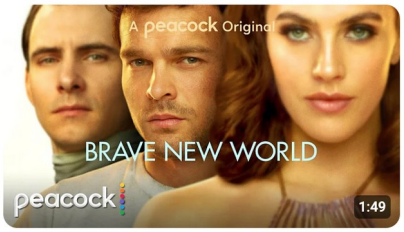


Wikipedia: Aldous Huxley



Movie: Brave New World (1980) part 1





Movie: Brave New World (1980) part 2

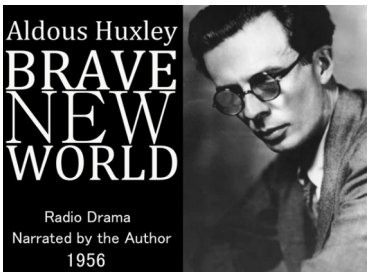
Trailer: Brave New World TV series (2020)





Podcast

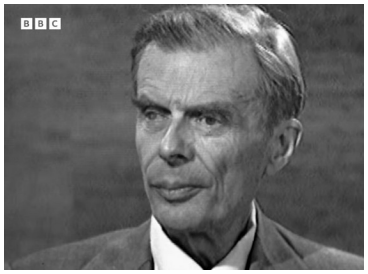
(iTunes): Brave new World



The Censorship Files: B.N.W. Controversy



Radio Drama: Narrated by the author 1956

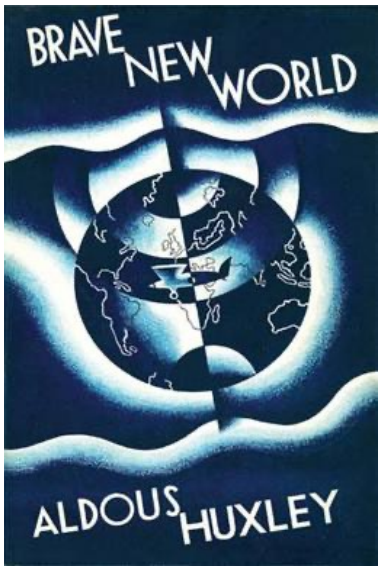


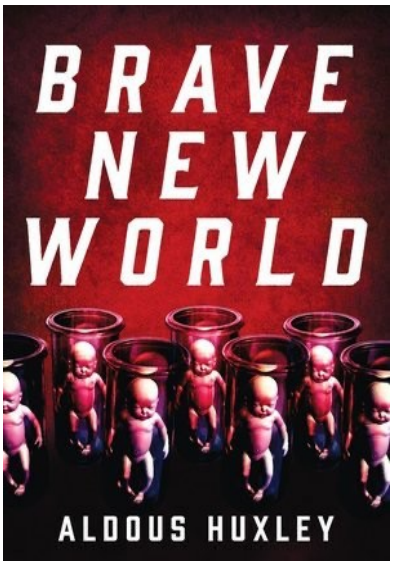
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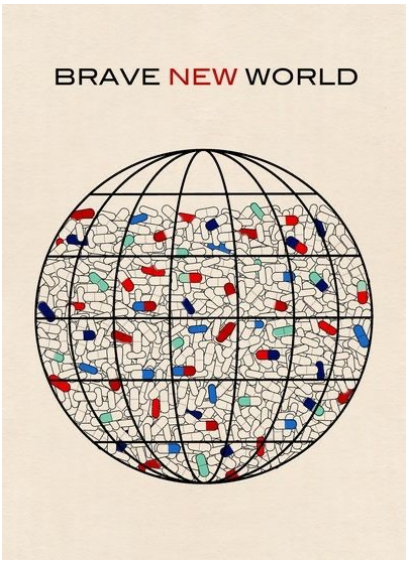
Aldous Huxley interviewed by Mike Wallace 1958



BBC Archive: Aldous Huxley
on the power of TECHNOLOGY! 1961



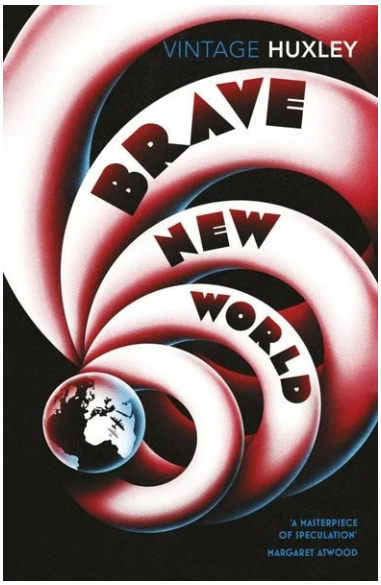


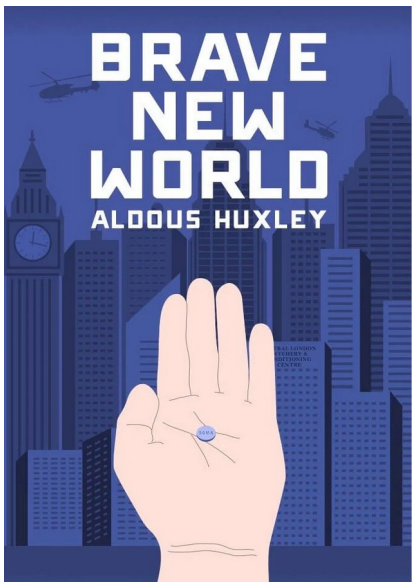


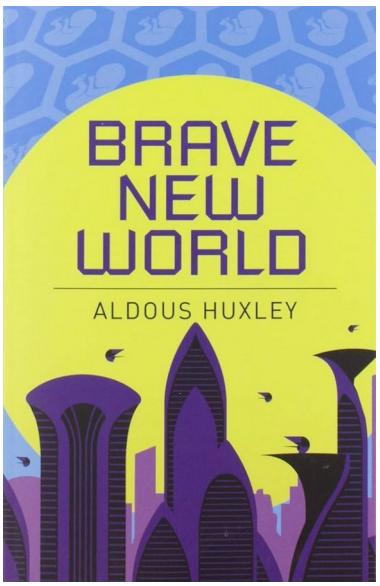
Aldous Huxley - The Ultimate Revolution
'Brave New World' (Berkeley Speech 1962)

SparkNotes: Aldous Huxley's Brave New World summary



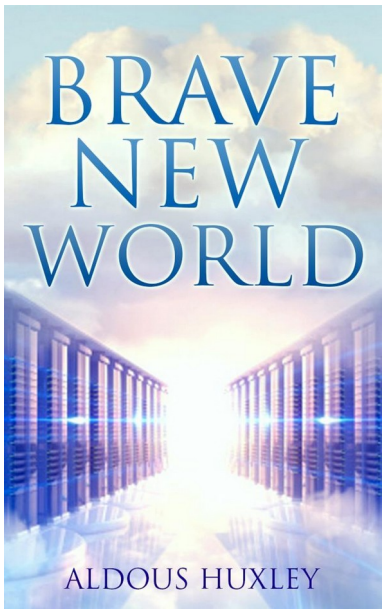

VINTAGE HUXLEY
BRAVE NEW WORLD
'A MASTERPIECE OF SPECULATION'
MARGARET ATWOOD


BRAVE NEW WORLD
ALDOUS HUXLEY


BRAVE NEW WORLD
ALDOUS HUXLEY


HUXLEY
BRAVE NEW WORLD


BRAVE NEW WORLD
ALDOUS HUXLEY


BRAVE NEW WORLD
ALDOUS HUXLEY



ALDOUS
HUXLEY
CENTRE
ZURICH