Nathan Taylor

Mr. LaBelle

English

Human Nature

If you had the chance to change society would you embrace it or would you lose interest and let the chance slip through your fingers? Julia is the latter of the two. George Orwell’s novel 1984 depicts Julia as a person uninterested in her own beliefs through her lack of motivation, feigned interest, and her one track mind. 1984 explains human nature by explaining that some humans lack motivation to complete their goals, feign interest to get what they want, and that some people are simple minded.

Julia is depicted as an uninterested person who lacks conviction in her own ideas. She says that she wants to take down the party, but her actions do not match up with her words. For example when Winston obtains Goldstein’s book he gets ready to read it with Julia but she just lies on the bed, closes her eyes, and tells him to read the book out loud because she understands better that way. Nevertheless she fell asleep. Now why would someone that is convicted in taking down an organization, or anything for that matter, not read and not even have the will to stay up and listen to the very source that can help you achieve your goal? Julia either lacks motivation or is feigning interest in taking down the party. At times it seems that Julia gets her kicks from breaking the rules and not getting caught for it, this makes it seem like she doesn’t want to take Big Brother down but sneak around him. It seems that Julia is more interested in sneaking around Big Brother’s eyes rather than taking them out permanently. This makes Julia look like she would rather be rebellious and break the rules then change the rules and live in a free world with less risks and more freedom.

Winston and Julia obviously have similarities, they both hate Big Brother, they both love each other and wouldn’t betray the other (at the time they said it, turns out that they can), and they both feign interest in liking the party when they are being watched. While they have similarities they also have many differences, you could say that Julia is the opposite of Winston and vice versa. Winston is actually a good citizen despite his hatred for Big Brother. He goes to work, comes home, helps his neighbors, does his early morning exercises, and keeps his thoughts to himself for fear of being vaporized. Winston did not even think of any rebellious behavior until like 30 odd years later. Julia on the other hand has the appearance of a good citizen but she is not. She goes to work, does extra work for the party, and really participates in the two minutes hate, but that’s all a show. Julia actually has relations with party members to get what she wants and buys illegal items from the black market. Julia even told Winston she is “corrupt to the bone” (Orwell 125). Winston and Julia are also different in their rebellious behavior towards the party. Winston is actually committed and very serious about taking down the party and changing Oceania and the world. Julia however is not interested in taking down the party and if she is she either lacks the motivation or open-mindedness to do so. Julia and Winston are similar in some ways but they also have many differences, but opposites attract.

Julia is willing to rebel against the party because she wants to be with Winston forever, she is doing it out of love. It is also this one track mindset that limits her motivation. I t limits her motivation because when she is with Winston she doesn’t care too much about taking down the party because she is where she wants to be, with him. Julia is limited to the small picture; she doesn’t see the big picture which contains a free world with only truth, no fear. And best of all freedom. George Orwell actually depicts the vast majority of citizens as simple minded people who believe anything they hear, even if they were told the complete opposite a day or two ago. It seems like George Orwell uses Julia and these other simple minded characters as examples of humans in today’s society that believe anything they are told and don’t think for themselves. I also think that Julia just naturally likes rebelling and that can also be a reason why she likes to rebel against the party.

1984 is a novel that not only provided an intriguing story but also explains human nature. It explains that some people believe in a goal but lack the motivation to go through with it, some people feign interest in a belief just get what they want, and some people are simple minded and believe whatever they are told. With his novel 1984, George Orwell depicts Julia as person uninterested in her own beliefs through her lack of motivation, feigned interest, and her one track mind. Would you change the world if you had the chance or would you let the chance slip away?