Application and Creative Thinking Models

Application:

Orwell utilizes the Party philosophy that Big Brother represents the omnipotence of the government. In this power order, Big Brother is not specifically a figurehead whose eyes follow the citizen throughout the city. The utter intrusion into the everyday life is evident. While there may be no laws, according to the government, this also means that there are no specific punishments. The randomness of what the thought police might bring forth for any contrary thought only gives the perception of total intrusion. The reality, as seen through Winston and Julia, who ironically seek a leader in their own rebellion, has diminished the power of the individual. The control is complete, for even their reading of Goldman’s “The Theory And Practice of Oligarchical Collectivism” calls for anarchy, they are still looking for some one to direct their actions. In some ways, this text becomes a post-script to Voltaire’s discussion of Foreign Policy.

In many ways, Winston and Julia are look for a force that will dismantle the force that restricts their intimacy, that will give them some greater purpose than the motions of the every day life they lead as party members, despite their sexual, political revolt. Even when Winston and Julia formalize their revolt with O’Brien, they toast “to the past,” to the former construction of life, which paradoxically comes with its own power structures (146).

This past, not unlike the present, does have its actions of war. However, the fact that the switching of enemies begins immediately after their pact with O’Brien, only makes the statement that Big Brother’s power brokers can do what ever they want. Ironically, Big Brother does threaten the “obliteration of the Self” (162). Ultimately, for Winston, the ultimate rebellion is to belief that “there was truth and there was untruth and if you clung to truth even against the whole world, you were not mad” (179). However, this rebellion will be tested when Winston meets O’Brien “in the place where there is no darkness” (147), when Winston must face the consequences of his rebellion in Room 101 where there are no laws.

Creative Thinking

Are the Proles the ultimate victors in the novel? Perhaps Orwell posits them as the only hope against the obliteration of the Self. They only truth that Winston can cling to are the memories of his mother, a moment when he had the will to fight, to battle, to be egocentric. Winston gives up this self: “he had won the victory over himself, he loved Big Brother” (245). For the Proles, they serve as the only hope for the keeping of the remnants of the past and for the lack of expectation that they are worthy to love Big Brother. In many ways, because their lives are relatively ignored, even to the fact that they are bombed randomly to keep up the impression of war, they are left alone. They do not have to wear the mantle of party member or inner party member. It is in their songs, in their actions, in their world outside the party block apartments, the last holdings of a past remain in the actions of the individual lives.