

## **FAHRENHEIT 451: The temperature at which book-paper catches fire and burns.**

### **Part I – Clarisse McClellan and Guy Montag**

A fireman with a salamander and phoenix in the chest met on the pavement. He is about 30 and the girl is around 17. She asked two or three questions relating to his work as a fireman and told him about how her uncle got jailed for driving slowly and the billboards being hundred feet long. Her wife's name is Mildred.

She took a large quantity of sleeping tablets, so he took her to the two machines – one sucks up the stomach and the other one cleans the blood. She woke up hungry and was reading a script when Montag saw her in the kitchen. There was a machine which growls unusually at Montag, and it guarantees the demise of its enemies. Every day Clarisse walked him to the corner. She told him about the moon, and the old times. One day she did not come to the sidewalks. He asked the history of fireman to his colleagues who showed them the history of the first fireman, Franklin Benjamin. Then they heard an alarm and went to the house of an old lady reported by her neighbors. They burnt all her books, but Montag stole a book from his armpit. She refused to come out of her house and frightened the firemen with a match. When he got back home, he asked his wife if she remembered where they first met. And she did not remember it.

He felt sick that his wife did not care about the speeding and the earpiece. He asked his wife about the next-door girl named Classie, and she told him that she was run over by a car. He asked his wife to call Captain Beatty and told him that he wanted sick leave. She refused but a few minutes later, Captain Beatty himself came to his house and talked to him. He was afraid that they would discover the stolen book under his pillow. Beatty was saying how it is common to feel an itch during the lifetime of a fireman, when Mildred found the book under his pillow. Beatty did not notice it, Montag asked what will happen to a fireman who took a book from the burnt house. He replied that he did not burn the book within twenty hours, they will burn it for him. After Beatty went out, Montag showed his wife, Mildred, hidden books behind the walls which frightened her a lot. He reminded Mildred that we are together in this, no matter if you like it or not, and promised her that he would burn all the books after finishing those books. Then, he started reading one after one.

## **PART II - THE SIEVE AND THE SAND**

He phoned professor Faber to ask about books. Prof Faber answered that he knew nothing. So, Montag went to see him in-person. They met and he handed a bible to him. He went back home. Then, two women came visiting his house along with Mildred. They talked about cesarean section and having kids and voting by look. It angers Montag and makes him buy a poetry book. Mildred told them that a fireman is allowed to bring a book home every year to show his family how silly they are. He read them a poem named "Sea of Faith". One of the women cried and said books hurt her. Montag kicked them out and they replied not to visit his crazy house again. Montag heard Faber's talking in his ears from time to time. He then went to the fire station and met with Captain Betty, playing poker. The captain harangued about the disgusting things about books and said that it was good that fever was gone from Montag. Then, they heard an alarm, and the machine gave out an address. They rushed to the house, and Montag found out that it was his house.

## **PART III - BURNING BRIGHT**

His house was burning with orange flames. Mildred came from the door dejected. Captain Betty asked them to shoot flamethrowers. Montag shot at everything once he called home, the books burnt like roasted birds. The captain said Montag was under arrest. Then, he told Montag that his friends and his wife, Mildred, had turned the alarm on. And kept hitting and needling him. Then, Betty found out that he was listening to Faber with a green bullet. Montag shot the fire thrower at him, burning him to death. When he turned around, he saw the mechanical hound, shot the fire thrower at the hound while it was biting his leg. He limped and hopped and dug the four books near his garden out and ran. When he put the seashell, he heard that he is the enemy of the state and declared as fugitive. He was instinctively running towards Faber's house. He rested and washed in a gas station and heard that a war had been declared. He was nearly caught by a beetle, but falling flat at the last minute saved him. He reached Mr. Faber's house. Then, he heard that a mechanical hound, which never fails, was on the way. Mr. Faber advised him to reach the river and follow the rail tracks, where he might find old scholars from Harvard and Stanford. To lose scents of him, Faber took some measures and Montag left. While he was running, the hound reached Faber's home and went back to the alley. When he put

on the seashell, he learnt that it has been ordered to everyone to open their doors, windows, and looked for him after the count to ten. Fortunately he reaches the river, and is swept away into the darkness.

The hound reaches the river but turns back to the city. He slept in a barn resting with the smell of nature. Then, he walked along the old rail track and found five old, clean bearded men, who gave him a drink to change the chemical index of perspiration to lose the hound. They had an old TV set, where they saw the state staging a dramatic arrest of a stranger, naming him Montag. Then, the old man Granger asked him if he has something to offer. Montag said he has Ecclesia and Revelations in his head. They told him that it is good and we must pass down the knowledge from generations to generations, and remembering is the safest thing. Then, they saw the war started and finished in an instant. Montag was worried about his wife and Faber and Classie. When the war was over, they cooked bacon with a fire in the morning sun. Then, Montag remembered a paragraph but saved it for noon when they reached the city.

Summary written by "Thura Htoo" on 28.5.2024.