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Radio Play Review

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Radio Play Review

Houston, Houston, Do You Read is a short story written by Alice Sheldon through James Tiptree's name (Tiptree, 1976). The story was played on BBC radio in 1990. Furthermore, the story has won several awards, including the Nebula in 1976 and Hugo Award in 1977. Moreover, the plays focused on explaining four themes, including feminism, religion, male violence, and environmentalism. Nevertheless, it provides a perspective of the society and how future I can hold in the future where women have dominated and uses technology to save their population as men become extinct.

Houston, Houston, Do You Read begins with the earth's three astronauts in space; the three astronauts, namely Lorimer, Bud, and Dave, are on a mission and happen to meet unacquainted spacecraft. The men managed to speak with the inhabitants through the radio and realized that they had dived 300 years into the future (Tiptree, 1976). Therefore. The inhabitants convinced the men to join them because they ran out of gas in the spacecraft and were going in the opposite direction. The men eager to survive decided to join the spaceship, and before embarkment to the ship, they listened that female voices were more than for males. Upon entering the ship, they found only one male called Andy, which made them perplexed. A virus reduced the fertility of the earth individuals making men die, and women remain. Several women unintentionally realized the secret for the survival of their race and created clones. Out of 11000 original women, they were cloned to generate two million others (Tiptree, 1976). Therefore, Andy is also a woman who is treated with male hormones since she was young. Bud tried to rape a woman and was collected his sperm and killed him, Dave wanted to save them because women cannot lead them, and he was dead. Lorimer accepted to take poison because he had no place in society.

The play provided substantial information that will make the audience understand inequality and encourage women's rights. Although this cannot dictate the actual situation, men are naturally violent because mind-altering substances influence them. For instance, Dave and Bud indicated more hatred for women because they have strong masculine identities, and thus, they believe they are sent to the future to accomplish women's lives. The play indicates that women cannot run a society successfully based on Dave and Bud. Although Lorimer fights with virility, space suggests how every man discriminates against a woman in varying ways.

Women are consistently more peaceful than men because men are allowed by culture to present their emotions and aggression. Nevertheless, women are socially censured and considered crazy. The play has given male violence; for instance, Bud rape violence when trying to rape Judy. The women in the ship could not allow the men to live because they will pose a significant risk in their society. Cloning has made women have everything they want in the community and making men useless. Therefore, since men work is to reproduce and protect women from other men, modern genetics can end this in the future. On the other hand, it is challenging if Tiptree disapproves of extreme feminism, or she wanted to inform the audience that discriminating against one gender is wrong. The effects of undesirable stereotypes or she presented to women how the future without men would look like.

Reference

Tiptree, J. (1976). *Houston, Houston, do you read?*. Doubleday Book & Music Clubs.

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