

## Book review of Kenneth Grahame's 'The Wind in the Willows'

Kenneth Grahame's 'The Wind in the Willows' is a novel aimed at youngsters. The plot, itself, is not American humor, but that of Great Britain. In terms of sarcasm, and British-related jokes. The novel illustrates a fair mix of the relationships between the human-like animals, and wildlife. The narrative acts as an important milestone in post-Victorian children's literature.

The characters featured in this book are Mole, Rat, Toad, Badger, & Otter. Toad showing big-headed & childlike traits. Mole shows traits of reasoning and sensible behavior patterns. Badger shows traits of kindness and hospitality. Otter possesses traits of intelligence. All these characters participate equally in the narrative of both thrilling and neo-noir.

Body "When are you going to be sensible, and think of your friends, and try and be a credit to them?" One of the problems with Toad is that he enjoys crashing motor vehicles. As a result, Rat tries to talk some sense into him. Though, this doesn't work. Toad is illustrated as a child stuck in an adult's body. Furthermore, Rat always re-enforces the act of growing up onto Toad, and not to be careless for others.

As a result of Toad's motorcar crimes, he is sent to a deepest, darkest dungeon to pay for his crimes. "Toad Hall ... is an eligible self-contained gentleman's residence ... replete with every modern convenience." Toad, being the character showing the most affluence owns his own manner house. Having regained his big-headedness. During his sentence, he started to boast about this mansion and great wealth. While being chained to a black weight. Furthermore, surviving on a diet of bobilit and squeak.

"Now then, follow me! Mole first, 'cos I'm very pleased with him; Rat next; Toad last." Badger starts an invasion at Toad Hall. With this in mind, Mole begins to show traits of maturity. As a result of this invasion, Toad's behavior illustrates the opposite of Mole. His ordeal is going back to the dungeon, like a child being anxious about going to their bedroom for misbehaving.

"For it has roused a longing in me that is a pain." While in search of a missing infant otter, Rat becomes faced with noise coming from a piper. The quote focuses on the main idea of the author's intention in writing the novel. The focuses being: The reasons which cause life to be worthwhile. The sounds travel through Rat likes blades. With this in mind, the focus is intended to be answered between the lines.

Conclusion The characters having a variety of different personalities and views of the world. Their human-like features are included with their animal-like traits. In terms of Mole has a good sense of smell. The book is aimed at showing animals living British-life, in the summer-time. The animals have a justice system, hence Toad was sent to pay for his motor-car crimes. The mansion was invaded by the other animals while Toad was imprisoned and during his escape. Toad's behavior is terrible and affects the rest of the animals.

The story plays an important part in historical children's literature. In modern-day, it is still read by children. The story features human-like animals who all have their own ordeals. Mole and Rat being the kindest animals featured in the story, as Toad being the most immature and self-observed. Making this story amusing and eye-opening to a young audience. With British humor and an excellent narrative, it is definitely worth a read, even to a grown-up audience.

**Citations:** Kenneth Grahame, "The Wind in the Willows, June 15, 1908.

### **Book Review of Dr. John's 'Pollution'**

Dr. John's 'Pollution' consists of 3 major parts. The first part is all about the polluted ocean. The second being about the pollution of the sky. The third part is an in-depth study of how humans can resolve these issues. The book is a piece of non-fiction that focuses on modern-day pollution ordeals faced by both animals and humans on Planet Earth. It also focuses on climate change, being the result of the global pollution ordeal.

"A new island has formed in the ocean, entirely out of trash. It is bad news for the fish." This quote from Dr. John illustrated the tidal currents in the middle of the Pacific ocean where a floating island has emerged. It is entirely made from the garbage and waste that has been dumped in the sea over the decades. The location is where all tidal currents meet in the Pacific ocean. This implies that the marine-life has been widely affected in the surrounding area of this vast trash island. Thus, pollution in the sea has gone literally out of control.

"The deep blue sea is now the deep dark sea. Fish and other sea creatures are dying in numbers." This quote implies that the ocean was once a vast blue giant body of water, full of life. Now, it is a horror story. It is full of trash and pollution. Fish are being killed with the most minor of trash. Some species of fish are becoming extinct. This includes the dolphin - which is not a fish. But, it is a sea-creature of the verge of extinction if humans do nothing about their habits which cause pollution for these poor animals.

"The darkest place on Earth is now the ocean. With oil leakages poisoning the immaculate blue waters." This quote implies that the spillages of oil reserves and oil rigs are a growing problem causing harm to all kinds of marine life. The sea is becoming blackened with oil naturally staining the immaculate, crystal clear waters. He then talks about the Middle Eastern oil spillages. "The seas of the Middle East are the most cause for concern." In which, most of the Arabian Gulf is smothered in black oil stains.

In the second part of the book, Dr. John begins to talk about pollution in the sky. "The number of aircrafts in the sky is growing every day. This is also a growing concern." Dr. John is implying that the rising number of commercial flights is polluting the sky. Thus, both plants and animals are affected. With mass chemtrails, the air on the planet's surface is slowly becoming contaminated

with poisonous fumes and harmful gases. These things are not good for humans, wildlife, and plants.

“With the rise of factories, the air is sometimes hard to breathe.” The writer is implying that pollution from nuclear power stations is also a rising problem. It is making the air polluted in an extreme way, more than commercial flights. “In a Nepalese city, they wear masks. Because the air is very misty with fumes.” implying the air is completely polluted to the extent that the general population is required to wear facial masks in order not to be exposed to the extreme amounts of poisonous fumes and pollution. It also implies the air is all full of visible poisonous gases and fumes, making vision difficult in these areas.

“Bird fall out of the sky.” This quote is the most heartbreaking to read. It has gotten to the extent where mass amounts of birds fall from the sky. This tragedy is a common occurrence in the most polluted cities in the United States, as well as Asia and all over the world. If nothing is done the birds could become completely extinct. Thus, seeds would not spread so easily, and many flowers and different types of plants will cease to spread.

The third part is the solution. As Dr. John states “We need to change our ways, completely and urgently.” Implies that we are the answer to our prayers. All we are required to do is make some minor changes to our lifestyles, reduce the number of commercial flights and factories, shut down all nuclear power stations and switch to eco-friendly methods.

In conclusion, Dr. John’s book titled ‘Pollution’ is a true eye-opener for anyone. Some things are not reported as often as they should be. The pollution in the sea is a growing problem, with vast amounts of sea-life becoming extinct every decade. The same goes for land, and this applies to all animals. Including us. We are the answer to our prayers, all we have to do is change our ways - before we destroy this planet. The author implies that we only have one Earth, let's look after it. The book is definitely worth a read to any audience.

**Citations:** Dr. John, “Pollution”, April 23, 2019