BOOK RESUME: 1984

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Written seventy years ago, 1984 was George Orwell’s chilling prophecy about the future. And while 1984 has come and gone, his dystopian vision of a government that will do anything to control the narrative remains a cultural touchstone.

Winston Smith toes the Party line, rewriting history to satisfy the demands of the Ministry of Truth. With each lie he writes, Winston grows to hate the Party that seeks power for its own sake and persecutes those who dare to commit thoughtcrimes. But as he starts to think for himself, Winston can’t escape the fact that Big Brother is always watching.

A startling and haunting vision of the world, 1984 is so powerful that it is completely convincing from start to finish. No one can deny the influence of this novel, its hold on the imaginations of multiple generations of readers, or the resiliency of its admonitions—a legacy that seems only to grow with the passage of time.

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- Educator Guide
- 1984, by George Orwell: On Its Enduring Relevance
- Lesson Plan: Teaching Orwell and 1984 with The New York Times
- Lesson Plan: Big Brother vs Little Brother: Updating Orwell’s 1984

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES