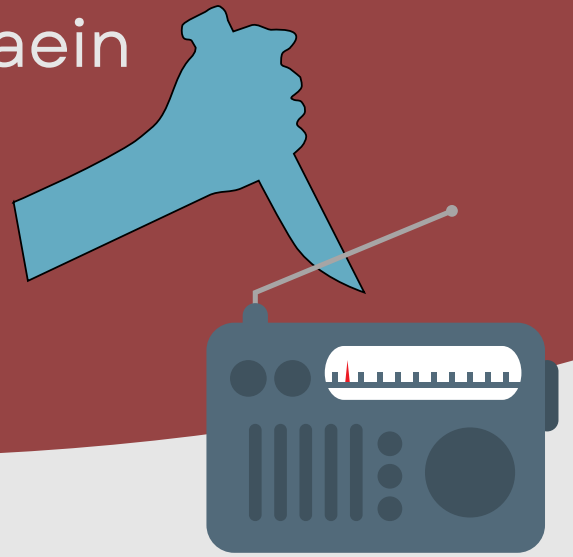


THE MURDERER

By : Helia Behaein



The very idea of these things, the practical uses, was wonderful. They were almost toys, to be played with, but the people got too involved, went too far, and got wrapped up in a pattern of social behavior and couldn't get out, couldn't admit they were in, even.

(Bradbury, 5)

1

INTRODUCTION

In a prison for the mentally ill, a psychiatrist is walking to an interrogation room and interacts with multiple communication devices. The walk is filled with noises from technology up until he reaches the one room where it is quiet with no technology, the room Brock, "the murderer", is in.



INITIATING INCIDENT

Brock and his actions against technology is initially what sets everything in place. He first "murdered" a telephone by shoving it into the kitchen Insinkerator. He was scared of it as a child and never grew comfortable with it, he explains to the psychiatrist.

2

3

RISING ACTION

As Brock continued his way of destroying technology, it was growing on him. He disliked the noise, "Mauled and massaged and pounded by FM voices." (Bradbury, 3). He "murdered" his next victims: the television set, wrist radio, car radio transmitter, etc. And so he went on to enjoy the silence, "It's a big bolt of the nicest, softest flannel ever made. Silence. A whole hour of it." (Bradbury, 3)

4

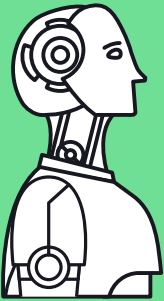
CLIMAX

In addition to his quest for silence, Brock got the idea to take a portable diathermy machine on the bus which is what led to his confinement despite his efforts to rid himself of technology. He was seized by the police, reprimanded, fined, and taken home.

5

FALLING ACTION

After such events, Brock went wild. He laid plans to murder his house and he did. He destroyed the front door, the stove, telephone, and the tv. Shortly later his wife and the police arrived. He was taken to prison, thus presently meeting the psychiatrist and telling him his story of hate against technology.



CONCLUSION

Brock regrets nothing about what he's done. "I would do it all over again, so help me God." (Bradbury, 4). He's determined that his revolt is only the beginning and leaves to go to his cell. The psychiatrist gives him the diagnosis of being disoriented and confused but happy and unable to accept the realities of the world and live among side them.

6

7

THEME

The theme of this story is the negative and positive impacts of technology and its progress on society. The author, Ray Bradbury wants us to think about these impacts and question whether one outweighs the other or if they balance out.

