

The Hunger Games

Back story

Books are always better than the movie adaptation, given I read the trilogy prior to watching the series. In my interpretation, The Hunger Games is about a government regulated society that ostracizes their citizens into 12 Districts (originally 13) that each have a primary industry, trade or capability that ultimately funds the Capitol. The Capitol is the hub for prosperity, entertainment, jobs, etc., in comparison to the other Districts which live a life of poverty. Their law enforcers are called 'Peacekeepers' which I find ironic given they initiate violence against its citizens whether there is a slight suggestion of rebellion or not. There is no sense of security or hope living in Panem, but the worse is yet to come.

There is an annual 'game' orchestrated as a reminder to every citizen that they have no power against the Capitol. Every year, a boy and girl aged 12-18 from each district are randomly selected from a reaping to compete and fight to the death. Out of the 24 tributes, one victor who has managed to stay alive throughout the game will be allowed to return to their district and live a luxurious lifestyle, never having to participate in the ritual again. This is known as 'The Hunger Games'.

Experience

Recently, I rewatched the series, however I would like to shed light on book three, movie four: Mockingjay: Part 2. One particular scene stood out that could not have been captivated merely by just reading. It was towards the end after all the rebellion had ceased and a new era had dawned. The protagonist Katniss was sitting with her newborn telling him "there are much worse games to play". During this ordeal, a song played in the background that encapsulated all the emotions that happened throughout the series. Her statement suggested that the former may have dissolved, but the post-traumatic experience will haunt them forever.