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English 250H

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Summary of “Shooting Guns: It’s Rather Fun, Actually”

In “Shooting Guns: It’s Rather Fun, Actually,” D.K. argues that recreational gun shooting is unrelated to gun violence and that hobbyists have similar values as gun control activists. They introduce the reader to the topic with a moment-to-moment recount of their experience at a shooting range (D.K. 544).

First, D.K. acknowledges the deadliness and horror of guns in America, quoting that almost 33,000 people are killed with firearms yearly. D.K. explains how Europeans and liberal Americans find it unthinkable that people enjoy using these deadly devices.

However, they describe their experience at the shooting range which “closely resembled the golf driving range that my father took me to” (D.K. 544). Noting the conventional shooting-related equipment and gear, D.K. compares the shooting range to the typical sporting goods store. They emphasize the presence of a black woman who was teaching their “heavily supervised” child how to shoot. D.K. again restates the resemblance to a driving range: “people hitting targets for fun” (D.K. 545).

Next, D.K. shares that gun violence seemed to be nearly non-existent in the shooting range. They introduce their feelings about the NRA, about how it is “an extremely nasty organization” (D.K. 545). Included is an advert from the NRA, illustrating how the author believes that the NRA twists facts and pits constituents against each other. D.K. concludes that the NRA is not the voice of most gun owners, but gains support by seeding false information within gun owners (D.K. 545).