Climax

1. The climax of the Breakfast of Champions is split into two different parts. On one hand Dwayne Hover the mad man is taking on the “robots” that were programmed for his amusement. The second conflict which is the actual one is Dwayne Hoover who fights to keep his sanity. Dwayne eventually loses his sanity and creates the climax deep inside himself.

Theme

1. The theme takes many forms in Breakfast of Champions but one of the main ones are art, subjectivity and absurdity. The book follows Kilgore Trout, the theme is best described as a form of anti-art, a creative artistic expression that questions and rejects the traditional form and function of art. Giving it a different type of form than the current creative impactful art stemming from a different root. The theme portrays a different kind of art that most artists can’t see.

Theme

1. Breakfast of Champions is like the difference between humanity and robots. Which is why the theme is humans and machines. Dwayne Hover builds literal “robots” that were programmed for his amusement. He uses them for entertainment until he loses control.The machines are generally unable to fight their programming due to its limiting restrictions, but the robots still have a part of free will that they can use to their advantage.

Theme

1. Mental insanity can lead some people down a dark path for Dwayne Hoover. That path was one of them. Dwayne Hoover spired into crippling depression due to the stress of his wife’s death and his homosexual son coming out to him. Dwayne in addition with the robots providing entertainment for him. Dwayne desperately wants to find an answer to make life sufferable and transform the planet into a “virgin planet.” Dwayne Hoover takes his insanity out on the world and his homosexual son.

Theme

1. Vonnegut has a way with playing around with themes and scattering his beliefs throughout his work with one of them centering around human connection.Human connection is a bond built on trust making you feel heard and not alone. In Breakfast of Champions, Vonnegut displays in the character Trout about a certain thing called free will. Vonnegut has expressed in many of his other books that there is no such thing as free will, but in this book it is different. Trout’s work submits to the individual that there is only one person with free will while everyone else is a robot. Such beliefs and thoughts discourage the thought of empathy or compassion towards others.

Theme

1. People in this world can develop a strange behavior stemming from something called mental illness. In this story Breakfast of Champions, Dwayne Hoover has exactly that. Dwayne Hoover has had his wife Celia commit suicide by drinking a drain cleaning chemical which causes Hoover to struggle with his mental health. To add to this his son turns out to be homosexual and he is really a woman. And from that point on Dwayne Hoover finally loses his marbles and goes into complete insanity. Dwayne starts attacking everyone from his employers, his coworkers and especially his son Bunny.

Experience

1. People have many experiences in their life stemming from normal to completely bizarre. For Kilgore Trout he has a pretty bizarre experience. Trout believes that he is an unknown writer. Trout accepts an invitation to Midland City Art Festival but is instead beat up by an anonymous group. Trout then starts hopping from ride to ride and plot session later Kilgore Trout meets Dwayne Hoover at a cocktail lounge in Holiday Inn. Hoover explains how he is there because of his gay homosexual son Bunny who is playing the piano. Hoover goes on a violent rampage because of Trout’s white shirt glowing vibrantly in the dark. Hoover interprets Trout’s message in the wrong way thinking only one person has free will and the rest are robots and starts attacking people believing everyone is a robot. Hoover during his rampage attacks everyone including Pefko, Bunny and Trout.

Literary Uniqueness

1. Every book serves some sort of contribution to the literary world with Breakfast of Champions giving a great contribution to the world. Breakfast of Champions has a kind of uniqueness that other books don’t have. The Breakfast of Champions uses metafiction to play with the story and give it some structure to make it his. Vonnegut shares how he sees the world and how he shapes it, giving the book a whole new meaning than other books.

8/8 detailed notes

+40/40