

# CHAPTER 21 HUMANISM AND THE ALLURE OF ANTIQUITY 15TH

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**What is humanism in the 15th century?** By the 15th century, humanism had spread across Europe. Humanists believed in the importance of an education in classical literature and the promotion of civic virtue, that is, realising a person's full potential both for their own good and for the good of the society in which they live.

**Where did the ideals of humanism spread to in the 14 15th and 16th centuries?** Renaissance humanism was a worldview centered on the nature and importance of humanity that emerged from the study of Classical antiquity. This first began in Italy and then spread across Western Europe in the 14th, 15th, and 16th centuries.

**How did humanism affect culture and the arts in 14th and 15th century Italy?** How did humanism affect the arts in the fourteenth and the fifteenth centuries in Italy? Humanism allowed for a rebirth of arts and literature because it was a revival of the classics and renewal of cultural freedom. The idea of humanism in itself allowed for people to believe in their own ideas in art.

**What did the humanists during the Renaissance sought to revive?** The Humanism Movement As part of this philosophy, scholars, authors, political leaders and others sought to revive the study of Greek and Latin classics.

**What is the summary of humanism?** Humanism is a progressive philosophy of life that, without theism or other supernatural beliefs, affirms our ability and responsibility to lead ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good. Humanism is a rational philosophy informed by science, inspired by art, and motivated by compassion.

**What was the ideal of early 15th century humanist?** Humanism was an intellectual movement embraced by scholars, writers, and civic leaders in 14th century Italy. Humanists reacted against the utilitarian approach to education, seeking to create a citizenry who were able to speak and write with eloquence and thus able to engage the civic life of their communities.

**What are the beliefs of humanism?** Most frequently, humanism refers to a non-theistic view centered on human agency, and a reliance on science and reason rather than revelation from a supernatural source to understand the world. Humanists tend to advocate for human rights, free speech, progressive policies, and democracy.

**What impact did the Renaissance have on the 15th and 16th centuries in Europe?** As a cultural movement, the Renaissance had a significant impact on intellectual life in Europe. There were significant advancements in the understanding of physics and biology which lead to a heightened realism and grandeur in art.

**What are the 15th and 16th centuries?** The 15th and 16th centuries refer to the time period between the years 1400 and 1599. This era witnessed significant historical events such as the Age of Exploration and major societal changes.

**What was humanism and how it impacted art in the Renaissance period?** Interest in humanism, a philosophy that emphasized the individual and the human capacity for fulfillment through reason, transformed the Renaissance artist from an anonymous craftsman to an individual practicing an intellectual pursuit.

**What contributed to the changes in early 15th century Italian culture and art?** In Italy, especially, the Renaissance was spurred by a revival of Greek and Roman learning. Works by classical authors, lost to the West for centuries, were rediscovered, and with them a new, humanistic outlook that placed man and human achievement at the center of all things.

**Who started the humanism movement in the 14th century?** During the 14th century, humanism strengthened, diversified, and spread, with Florence remaining at its epicentre. The three figures who were most critical to the rise of the humanist movement during this period were Petrarch, Boccaccio, and Salutati.

**What did humanism spread during the Renaissance?** Renaissance humanism refers to the movement that took hold in Europe from roughly the 14th-16th centuries. It started in Italy, and spread via trade and the printing press. Renaissance humanism places emphasis on the beauty, and value of a human's individual life.

**How did Renaissance humanism contribute to the Reformation?** Humanism helped lead to the Protestant Reformation by encouraging two challenges to the Catholic Church's authority: the idea that the individual should think for him or herself in matters of faith, and the idea that the Bible should be produced in the languages of laypeople.

**Which humanist idea affected Renaissance society?** One of the most significant humanist ideas that affected Renaissance society would be that "People are basically good at their core," since this was at odds with the status quo that people are inherently flawed and "sinners".

**What is the definition of humanism in the Middle Ages?** humanism, system of education and mode of inquiry that originated in northern Italy during the 13th and 14th centuries and later spread through continental Europe and England. The term is alternatively applied to a variety of Western beliefs, methods, and philosophies that place central emphasis on the human realm.

**What was the humanism in the Renaissance?** Renaissance humanists were interested in learning what it means to be a human being, and how to live a virtuous life, and participate in society. They sought the answers to these questions by studying ancient literature and art. Renaissance humanists were also interested in using language well, especially Latin.

**What is humanism in modern history?** Modern humanism draws on a rich and long intellectual legacy. 'History of humanism' looks back at this legacy, which includes Ancient Indian thought; Confucius; Greek philosophers such as Thales, Anaximander, and Anaximenes; the Roman Empire; Averroës; the Renaissance; the Enlightenment; and the last two centuries.

**What is an example of humanism?** Examples of Humanism Everything from being kind to a stranger to scuba diving could be humanistic behavior if the motivation is a

desire to live a good, authentic, and meaningful life.

### **Stories of Roasting Human Meat: A Question and Answer**

**Question 1: Is it true that humans have historically roasted human meat on spits?**

**Answer:** There is some historical evidence to suggest that roasting human meat on spits has occurred in certain cultures, particularly in the context of ritualistic practices. However, it is important to note that such practices were extremely rare and are widely considered to be highly unethical and abhorrent.

**Question 2: What evidence exists to support the claim of human meat being roasted on spits?**

**Answer:** Archaeological evidence, such as stone tools and cooking pits, has been found in some areas associated with human remains that show signs of burning and roasting. Additionally, there are historical accounts from various cultures that mention the practice of roasting human meat, although the reliability and accuracy of these accounts vary.

**Question 3: What are the ethical implications of stories about roasting human meat?**

**Answer:** The subject of roasting human meat raises significant ethical concerns. The act of consuming human flesh is considered to be cannibalism, which is universally condemned as a violation of human rights and a form of extreme violence. Even the mere suggestion of such practices is deeply offensive and traumatic for many people.

**Question 4: How do stories of human meat roasting impact our understanding of history?**

**Answer:** While the historical accuracy of such stories may be debatable, they nevertheless provide insight into the darkest aspects of human behavior. They remind us of the potential for extreme cruelty and violence, as well as the importance of respecting human dignity.

**Question 5: What should be done with stories that involve roasting human meat?**

**Answer:** Stories that depict the roasting of human meat should be critically analyzed and contextualized. They should not be dismissed outright, but rather examined in a responsible and sensitive manner. It is crucial to condemn such practices and emphasize the inherent value and sanctity of all human life.

**Transcript: Sylvia Plath, Poetry, and Co-Dependency**

**Q: What is co-dependency?**

**A:** Co-dependency is a psychological condition in which a person's sense of self-worth and well-being is dependent on another person. This can lead to unhealthy relationships, as the co-dependent person may become overly involved in the other person's life and neglect their own needs.

**Q: How is co-dependency reflected in Sylvia Plath's poetry?**

**A:** Plath's poetry often explores themes of co-dependency, particularly in her relationships with men. In poems such as "Daddy" and "Lady Lazarus," Plath expresses her anger and resentment towards her father and husband, whom she sees as oppressive figures who stifle her independence.

**Q: How does Plath's co-dependency manifest itself in her relationships?**

**A:** Plath's co-dependency is evident in her relationships with both her father and her husband. She idealizes her father, but also resents him for his domineering behavior. Similarly, she is drawn to her husband, but also feels trapped and suffocated by their relationship.

**Q: What are the consequences of Plath's co-dependency?**

**A:** Plath's co-dependency leads to her struggles with mental illness and ultimately to her suicide. She is unable to develop a healthy sense of self-worth, and she is constantly seeking validation from others. This can be seen in her poetry, which is often characterized by feelings of isolation, despair, and self-hatred.

**Q: What can be learned from Plath's experiences with co-dependency?**

**A:** Plath's experiences with co-dependency offer a valuable lesson about the importance of self-reliance and healthy relationships. It is essential to develop a strong sense of self-worth and to avoid becoming overly dependent on others. Co-dependency can lead to unhealthy relationships and detrimental consequences for one's mental and emotional well-being.

### **The Basketball Diaries and The Book of Nods: Exploring Addiction and Identity**

The Basketball Diaries, a 1978 memoir by Jim Carroll, and The Book of Nods, a 1989 screenplay written by Carroll, offer a raw and introspective account of drug addiction and the struggle for identity. Both works have left a lasting impact on literature and film, inspiring numerous adaptations and discussions about the complexities of substance abuse and its impact on individuals and communities.

**Q: What are the main themes explored in The Basketball Diaries and The Book of Nods?** **A:** Addiction, identity, friendship, isolation, and the search for meaning are central themes in both works. Carroll's first-person narrative in The Basketball Diaries provides a deeply personal account of his descent into heroin addiction, while The Book of Nods depicts the struggles of a group of drug-addicted teenagers in New York City.

**Q: How does Carroll use basketball as a metaphor for addiction?** **A:** In The Basketball Diaries, Carroll draws parallels between basketball and addiction. The thrill of the game becomes an addictive rush, while the pressures of competition and the need for approval mirror the relentless pursuit of drugs. The memoir chronicles the gradual erosion of Carroll's identity as his addiction overpowers him.

**Q: What is the significance of "the Book of Nods"?** **A:** In The Book of Nods, Carroll introduces a concept known as "the Book of Nods," a collection of photos of people nodding off on heroin. This idea serves as a poignant symbol of the isolation and detachment experienced by addicts. The screenplay explores the camaraderie and loyalty that can develop among drug users, even as it exposes the destructive nature of their addiction.

**Q: How do the characters in *The Basketball Diaries* and *The Book of Nods* confront their addiction?**

**A:** The characters in both works struggle to break free from the cycle of addiction. Carroll's depiction of his own attempts at recovery is both harrowing and hopeful, highlighting the immense difficulty and the glimmers of resilience that can emerge in the face of adversity. *The Book of Nods* depicts the characters grappling with the consequences of their addiction, including homelessness, violence, and the loss of loved ones.

**Q: What legacy have *The Basketball Diaries* and *The Book of Nods* left on literature and film?**

**A:** The works of Jim Carroll have had a profound impact on the cultural discourse surrounding drug addiction. *The Basketball Diaries* remains an essential memoir that provides a deeply personal account of the dangers of addiction. *The Book of Nods* has been adapted into a number of films, including the acclaimed 1995 adaptation starring Leonardo DiCaprio. Both works continue to be studied and discussed for their raw portrayal of the human struggle against addiction.

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