Berry’s Computer Crisis

Once upon a time in the far away land of Kentucky, Wendell Berry became known as the first living writer to be ushered into the Kentucky Hall of Fame. Before that, he was a third generation farmer. He was married to a woman by the name of Tanya, who helped him "autocorrect" his writing. Berry strongly believed that writing should be written instead of typed (as we are obviously not doing at the moment.) In our opinion we believe that he is semi correct for feeling this way towards computers or technology in general.

He married his wife Tanya in 1957. Some commentators of his beliefs thought that Berry was abusive towards his wife, but in an article we read by their daughter, it states that they were madly in love. Tanya reviewed most of his writing and he even states “she is my best critic.” Even though it might have been easier for his wife to use a computer, he still refused it.

Berry was a known farmer, and since he cared about the fact that technology and machinery were advancing so rapidly, he only used old fashioned horse and plow. One of his beliefs was that people were visually and physically harming nature. The eco system was being “raped” because of strip-mining coal. He states that propaganda using big machinery and expensive equipment seduces failing farmers to buying into it.

Another reason for the violent hatred of computers is that they cost a pretty penny… And that ain’t cheap my friend. Berry made money of course, but not enough to spare for something that he did not even want, let alone need in his opinion. He says in ***Why I Am Not Going to Buy a Computer***, when discarding the old model of something, you must make the new model cheaper. It should be repairable by a common education-leveled person. And it should also be at least as small in scale as the one it’s replacing.

The final reasoning for Wendell Berry’s argument is; it takes away from anything already good including family and community relationships. He underlines the fact that people are losing touch with one another due to technology’s villainess ways.

Our group believes that Wendell Berry’s late mid-life computer crisis can go both ways. Here were some of our thoughts: “It’s good to make things easier by using technology, but sometimes we’re better off without it.” “Technology is a good thing because if police were looking for you and they were able to track you by your cell phone location.” “I think that everyone should give technology a chance.” “He didn’t grow up around much technology so it’s easier for us to disagree with him rather than say no to all of it.” “I could go both ways with the argument, mainly because he’s not used to it, and is a conservative of our nation’s natural resources, but also nothing ever hurt nobody by trying something new.” “We should’ve written this…” -ANONYMOUSES