

Brave New World

1932

By Aldous Huxley

- Central London Hatchery and Conditioning Center
 - “Community, Identity, Stability”
- The D.H.C. is giving students a tour of the hatchery
 - Incubators and test tubes are seen
- Ch. 1 shows the pre-birth conditioning of the babies

Chapter 1

- Pg. 5-6 –the modern fertilizing process
 - “the operation undergone voluntarily for the good of Society, not to mention the fact that it carries a bonus amounting to six months’ salary”
 - This was the voluntary giving up of ovaries for a bonus
 - They took the eggs produced by the ovaries and threw them in a tub of sperm—voila! Fertilized eggs!

- Bokanovsky's process—one egg divides up to 96 times to mass produce children
 - Social stability
- Podsnap's technique—accelerated ripening process for the eggs
 - Pg. 8 "in other words, multiply by seventy-two—and you get an average of nearly eleven thousand brothers and sisters in a hundred and fifty batches of identical twins, all within two years of the same age."

**Alphas, Betas, Gammas, Deltas,
and Epsilons**

- Large bottles were lined with fresh sow's peritoneum (pig's skin!)
 - That similar to a woman's womb

The Bottling Room

- T= males
- O= females
- ? = freemartins

- Fertility is a nuisance
 - Only thirty percent of female embryos develop normally
 - Others get a dose of male-sex hormones (some even have beards—pretty, huh?) These are those freemartins

Social Predestination Room

How IQ is achieved...

- “But why do you want to keep the embryo below par?” (14)
 - Because--“...in Epsilons we don’t need human intelligence” (15)
 - The lower castes don’t need all of the smarts as the upper castes!
- Why shorten the period of maturation/maturity?
 - “If physical development could be speeded up till it was as quick, say, as a cow’s, what an enormous saving to the Community.” (15)
 - So far they haven’t mastered this! “They were still trying to find the ideal compromise between adults of twenty and adults of six.” (15)
- Why do they have to predestine their children?
 - They only create the people they need—this helps with the stability of society.
- They all have a certain job/role to fill
 - “Our colleagues upstairs will teach them to love it.” (15)
 - “...that is the secret of happiness and virtue—liking what you’ve got to do. All conditioning aims at that: making people like their inescapable social destiny.”