

APPENDICES

SYNOPSIS OF GOD BLESS YOU MR. ROSEWATER

God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater is a satirical story of a millionaire called Eliot Rosewater, who suffers from total love for humanity. Eliot Rosewater is a member of a rich family and the son of a Republican senator. After serving in the Second World War, Eliot is hospitalized for “combat fatigue” in Paris, where he meets Sylvia, who becomes his wife. He finishes up his law degree at Harvard and goes on to get a doctorate in international law.

Upon his graduation he is given the presidency of the Rosewater Foundation and the responsibility to oversee \$87,000,000. However, he is allowed only to give or take a few hundred dollars from it, but overall he has a complete and total control of the money until he either dies or is proven insane.

Eliot Rosewater has a passion for running volunteer fire departments and helping people who cannot help themselves. So, he decides to go his own way and moves with his money to Rosewater, Indiana, where he becomes a volunteer fireman, which is one of his obsessions, and opens an office where he helps people who need help. A lot of people, however, do not approve of Eliot's action because he uses this position to do everything he can to help the poor. This charity giving is socially unacceptable to the wealthy, particularly Eliot's father, Senator

Lister Ames Rosewater. Some of the wealthy people even look for a way to deprive Eliot Rosewater of his presidential post and, thus, to save the money from being spent on poor people. Therefore, Norman Mushari, a young lawyer tries to prove that Eliot is insane.

Fortunately, the attempt fails. Finally, Eliot adopts all the children in Rosewater County and gives his fortunes to them. He hopes that the poverty will vanish from the Rosewater County and also to prevent the foundation with all its wealth fall into another hand.

BIOGRAPHY OF KURT VONNEGUT

Prophetically, one of this century's great American pacifists was born on Armistice Day. Born on November 11, 1922, in Indianapolis, Vonnegut was born into a well-to-do family that was hit very hard by the Depression. Vonnegut went to public high school, unlike his two older siblings, and there gained early writing experience writing for the high school's daily paper. He enrolled at Cornell University in 1940, and, under pressure from his father and older brother, studied chemistry and biology. He had little real love for the subjects, and his performance was poor. He did, however, enjoy a position working for the Cornell Daily Sun. In 1942, Vonnegut left Cornell; at the time, the university was preparing to ask him to leave due to poor academic performance. He enrolled at the Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie-Mellon) in 1943. He studied there only briefly before enlisting in the army. His mother killed herself in May of 1944.

On December 14, 1944, Vonnegut was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was held as a POW in Dresden, a beautiful German city with no major industries or military presence. The bombing of Dresden was unexpected. Vonnegut and the other POWs were some of the only survivors. They waited out the bombing in a meat cellar deep under the slaughterhouse.

Vonnegut was repatriated in May of 1945. He returned to the U.S. and married Jane Marie Cox. He studied anthropology at the University of Chicago, but the department unanimously rejected his M.A. thesis. (Under the rules of the university, a high-quality piece of writing could be substituted for a dissertation. Twenty years later, Vonnegut showed the department Cat's Cradle, and he finally

got his degree in 1971.) Vonnegut worked various jobs during his time at the University of Chicago and throughout the fifties.

1950 saw the publication of Vonnegut's first short story, "Report on the Barnhouse Effect." Vonnegut has expressed some dissatisfaction with his short stories, saying that he mostly wrote them for money while working on his novels, which are more important to him. But some of his stories are accomplished works; many readers have their first exposure to Vonnegut through these stories, which combine in condensed form Vonnegut's trademark humor, fantasy, and social commentary. The fifties saw the publication of dozens of Vonnegut's short stories and two novels.

During the sixties, Vonnegut published a collection of short stories and four more novels, including his sixth and greatest novel, Slaughterhouse Five. He has continued to write prolifically; his most recent novel in 1997's Timequake. (http://www.gradesaver.com/ClassicNotes/Authors/about_kurt_vonnegut.html)