



# Welcome to the Monkey House

*By Kurt Vonnegut*

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## Welcome to the Monkey House By Kurt Vonnegut

This short-story collection *Welcome to the Monkey House* (1968) incorporates almost completely Vonnegut's 1961 "Canary in a Cathouse," which appeared within a few months of *Slaughterhouse-Five* and capitalized upon that breakthrough novel and the enormous attention it suddenly brought.

Drawn from both specialized science fiction magazines and the big-circulation general magazines (*Saturday Evening Post*, *Colliers*, etc.) which Vonnegut had been one of the few science writers to sell, the collection includes some of his most accomplished work. The title story may be his most famous--a diabolical government asserts control through compulsory technology removing orgasm from sex--but Vonnegut's bitterness and wit, not in his earlier work as poisonous or unshielded as it later became, is well demonstrated.

Two early stories from *Galaxy* science fiction magazine and one from *Fantasy & Science Fiction* (the famous "Harrison Bergeron") show Vonnegut's careful command of a genre about which he was always ambivalent, stories like "More Stately Mansions" or "The Foster Portfolio" the confines and formula of a popular fiction of which he was always suspicious. Vonnegut's affection for humanity and bewilderment as its corruption are manifest in these early works.

Several of these stories (those which appeared in *Collier's*) were commissioned by Vonnegut's Cornell classmate and great supporter Knox Burger, also born in 1922.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kurt Vonnegut (1922-2007) is one of the most beloved American writers of the twentieth century. Vonnegut's audience increased steadily since his first five pieces in the 1950s and grew from there. His 1968 novel *Slaughterhouse-Five* has become a canonic war novel with Joseph Heller's *Catch-22* to form the truest and darkest of what came from World War II.

Vonnegut began his career as a science fiction writer, and his early novels--*Player Piano* and *The Sirens of Titan*--were categorized as such even as they appealed to an audience far beyond the reach of the category. In the 1960s, Vonnegut became closely associated with the Baby Boomer generation, a writer

on that side, so to speak.

Now that Vonnegut's work has been studied as a large body of work, it has been more deeply understood and unified. There is a consistency to his satirical insight, humor and anger which makes his work so synergistic. It seems clear that the more of Vonnegut's work you read, the more it resonates and the more you wish to read. Scholars believe that Vonnegut's reputation (like Mark Twain's) will grow steadily through the decades as his work continues to increase in relevance and new connections are formed, new insights made.

#### ABOUT THE SERIES

Author Kurt Vonnegut is considered by most to be one of the most important writers of the twentieth century. His books Slaughterhouse-Five (named after Vonnegut's World War II POW experience) and Cat's Cradle are considered among his top works. RosettaBooks offers here a complete range of Vonnegut's work, including his first novel (Player Piano, 1952) for readers familiar with Vonnegut's work as well as newcomers.

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### **Welcome to the Monkey House By Kurt Vonnegut Bibliography**

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

*Starred Review.* Listeners are in for a treat as a masterful cast animates many of Vonnegut's finest short pieces. Vonnegut colors his oft-wondrous works with memorable characters, fantastic realities, pitch-perfect dialogue and heapings of satire and humor—a tall order for any audio actor. But this group of narrators are veterans of screen and stage, each with a unique voice as malleable as clay. It's hard to find fault with this production. Occasionally, Tucci and Irwin oversoften their voices, and listeners may find themselves reaching for the volume. Otherwise, there are very few blemishes. Baker is outstanding in "All the King's Horses" and "The Hyannis Port Story." Strathairn shines on "Tom Edison's Shaggy Dog" and "The Lie." Tucci handles with ease the predominantly male pieces "Go Back to Your Precious Wife and Son" and "Manned Missiles." Irwin inhabits every character. The robust Roberts is both commanding and wry. Given the fertile material and the collective talent of the cast, listeners should expect nothing less than excellence here. They won't be disappointed. *Available in paperback from Dell. (June)*

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Review

"He strips the flesh from bone and makes you laugh while he does it. . . . There are twenty-five stories here, and each hits a nerve ending."—*Charlotte Observer*

"Vonnegut is George Orwell, Dr. Caligari and Flash Gordon compounded into one writer . . . a zany but moral mad scientist."—*Time*

"A great artist."—*Cincinnati Enquirer*

From the Publisher

7 1.5-hour cassettes

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Hans Diaz:**

This Welcome to the Monkey House book is absolutely not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book is actually information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper anyone read a lot of information you will get. This kind of Welcome to the Monkey House without we know teach the one who looking at it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry Welcome to the Monkey House can bring once you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even cell phone. This Welcome to the Monkey House having very good arrangement in word and layout, so you will not truly feel uninterested in reading.

**Linda Haag:**

This Welcome to the Monkey House usually are reliable for you who want to be considered a successful

person, why. The key reason why of this Welcome to the Monkey House can be on the list of great books you must have will be giving you more than just simple examining food but feed you with information that perhaps will shock your preceding knowledge. This book is usually handy, you can bring it everywhere and whenever your conditions both in e-book and printed types. Beside that this Welcome to the Monkey House forcing you to have an enormous of experience for example rich vocabulary, giving you test of critical thinking that we realize it useful in your day pastime. So , let's have it and luxuriate in reading.

#### **Ann Bland:**

As a university student exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher inquired them to go to the library or to make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's heart or real their passion. They just do what the trainer want, like asked to go to the library. They go to generally there but nothing reading seriously. Any students feel that reading is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful pictures on there. Yeah, it is to get complicated. Book is very important for yourself. As we know that on this period of time, many ways to get whatever we want. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this Welcome to the Monkey House can make you experience more interested to read.

#### **Ryan Maggard:**

Reading a book make you to get more knowledge as a result. You can take knowledge and information from the book. Book is composed or printed or illustrated from each source this filled update of news. In this modern era like currently, many ways to get information are available for you actually. From media social similar to newspaper, magazines, science book, encyclopedia, reference book, book and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Ready to spend your spare time to spread out your book? Or just in search of the Welcome to the Monkey House when you desired it?

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