

Harrison Bergeron Plot Diagram

Climax

Harrison says, "I am the emperor," barging into the studio and frees himself from handicaps. He makes a ballerina his empress. He and his empress kiss the ceiling as they dance.

One of the ballerinas interrupts the TV program for a news bulletin warning that Harrison has escaped from jail and that he is very dangerous.

George thinks a little about his son, but a gun sound pops in his head, leaving him white and trembling. Two of the ballerinas are also afflicted with the same noise.

George has great intelligence, but he cannot use it because of the mental handicaps he is forced to wear.

Exposition

Setting: 2081, United States, Bergeron Home - Society is completely equal due the 211, 212, 213 Amendments to the Constitution.

Main characters:

- George & Hazel Bergeron,
- Harrison Bergeron
 - Handsome, Athletic, Strong, Brave, Rebellious, Idealistic
- Handicapper General
 - Agents of this office strictly enforce the equality laws.

Rising Actions

Inciting Incident

In April, 14-year-old Harrison was taken away from George and Hazel for plotting to overthrow the government.

- Man vs. Society
- Harrison vs. Society (Government)

Point of View: Third Person Limited Omniscient (narrator shows the actions of the characters as well as what George is thinking in his head.)
Mood: subdued (restrained)

Falling Actions

The Handicapper General comes into the studio and emotionlessly kills Harrison and the ballerina.

Resolution: Society returns to normal; no dent is made, and George and Hazel cannot even remember what happened.

Theme:

The theme of this story is that total equality is not worth striving for. It can have dangerous outcomes such as those in the story.