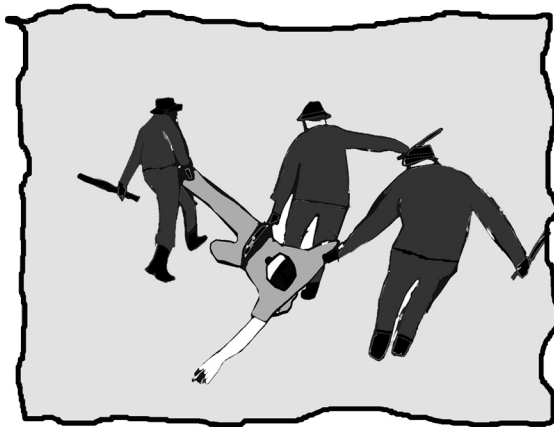
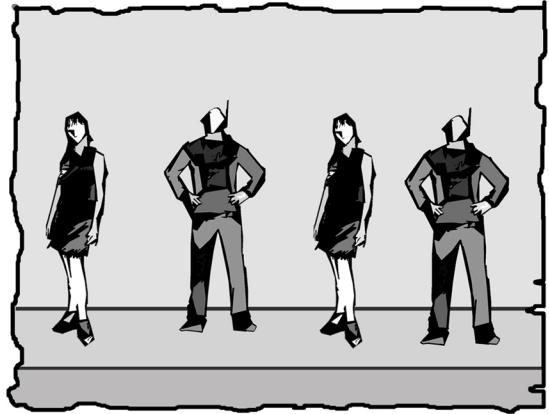


# HARRISON BERGERON (1961)

Recreated by Robert Bannasch

Everyone was finally equal. They weren't only equal before God and the law. They were equal in every which way.



The equality police took George and Hazel Bergeron's fourteen year old son Harrison. It was tragic but George couldn't think about it because of his thought distractor and Hazel was just too dumb.

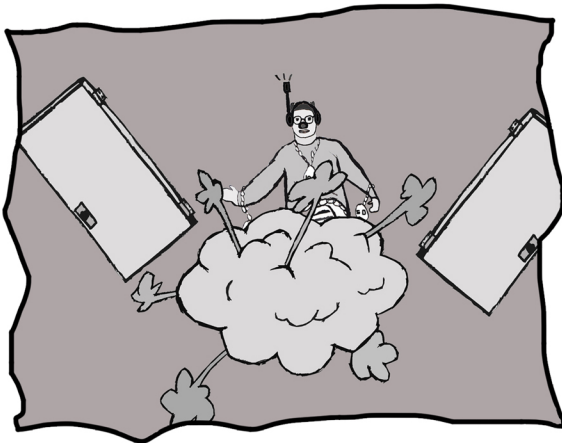
"That dance it was nice," said Hazel. They weren't really very good, no better than anybody else would have been anyway.



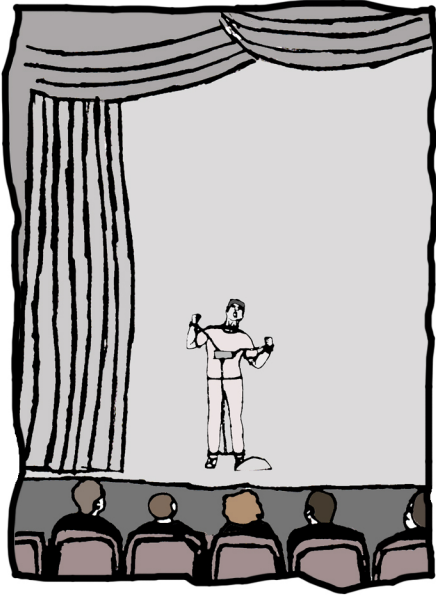


The program was interrupted for a news bulletin. A ballerina read the bulletin. She must have been beautiful because the mask she wore was hideous.

"Harrison Bergeron, age 14," she said in a grackle squawk, "has just escaped from jail. He is a genius and is under handicapped. If you see this boy, do not try to reason with him."

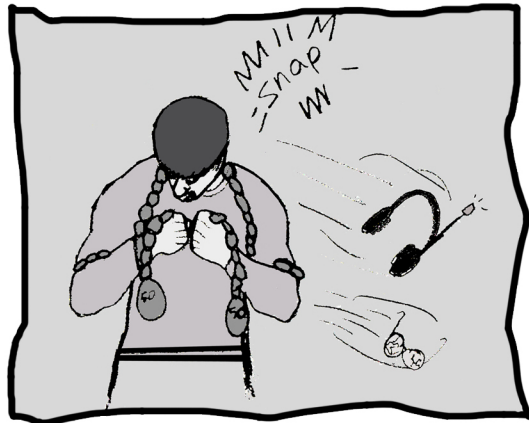


There was a shriek of the door being thrown from its hinges. A living, breathing Harrison filled the TV screen.



"Even as I stand here crippled, I am a greater ruler than any man who ever lived! Now watch what I can become!" Exclaimed Harrison

Harrison's handicaps crashed to the floor. Harrison flung his headphones and smashed his spectacles.

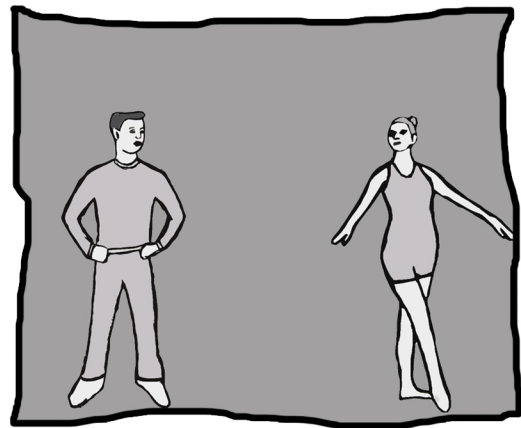


"I shall now select my Empress! Let the first who rises to her feet claim her mate and her throne!" said Harrison.

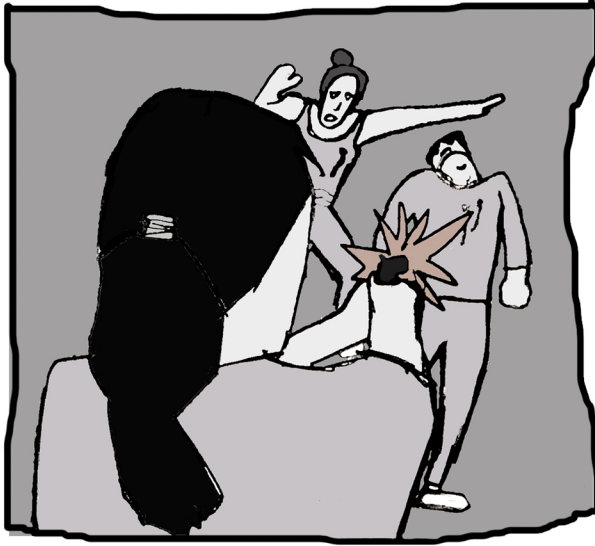


A moment passed, and then he helped a ballerina who was struggling to get up.

Harrison plucked all of her handicaps revealing a beautiful woman. Then he threatened the band to play their best. "Now, let us show them the meaning of the word dance!"



Harrison placed his hands on her waist and then they sprang into the air with joy and grace. With the laws of the land abandoned, they were free to swivel, spin, and gambol as they pleased.



Diana Moon Glampers the Handicapper General, came into the studio with a gun. She fired at the Emperor and the Empress. They were dead before they hit the floor.

The Bergerons' television blacked out and Hazel was crying. "Why are you crying?" George asked. "I saw something sad on TV." Hazel said. George looked at her and said, "Forget sad things Hazel." She responded, "I always do."



**THE END**