

Listening Guide- Introductory Episode

"Bradbury, the Prophet" *Fahrenheit 451*

1. He died in 2012 at the age of **ninety-one**.
2. He claimed it was a fugitive **chase** disguised as literature.
3. He wrote it in nine **days** on a typewriter that he rented.
4. He was born in **middle** America, Waukegan, Illinois.
5. First of all, it was a **boom** town for Hollywood previous to World War 2.
6. Everything airplane related seems to have grown up in **Los Angeles** during this time period.
7. One out of forty **Americans** was living in Los Angeles county.
8. So, he grows up in a LA that lived in a constant never-ending state of **newness** and rapid cultural shift.
9. That leads to a lot of **detachment** and a lot of not knowing your neighbors and not having a sense of neighborhood and belonging.
10. In 1945 the statistics tell us that fewer than ten thousand people had **televisions**, but by 1950 that number had jumped to six million.
11. For example, he saw **information** go from long scripts to sound bites the way we think of Twitter or new casts or commercials.
12. Everyone lives in this fear of technological **doom**.
13. He seems to take parts of the elements of that McCarthyism but uses it to underscore the whole idea of **isolation** and disconnection.
14. He talks about this idea of getting rid of **literacy** altogether.
15. In the name of not being hateful you begin to **suppress**, slowly but surely things that people are allowed to say.
16. He wanted the setting to be immediately **personable**, intimate; he wanted it to be an atmosphere that was strange but not extravagant.
17. The conformity is not being enforced by the **government**.

18. We have these outside threats of communism, so this idea of **sameness** became very important to Americans.
19. America, at the end of the day, especially if you're going to compare us to Japan, or India or Europe, we're a **baby** as a country.
20. One of the features of homes in this book are going to be the **panels**.
21. I laugh every time I see the word "ear **thimbles**".
22. Sentence one is a short sentence: It was a **pleasure** to burn.
23. Clearly, the tone at the very beginning is **excited**; he's happy.
24. Because, they are trying to beautify the **world** by erasing our history.
25. He's comparing the burning of books to **marshmallows**; you couldn't take them less seriously.
26. This ultimately is going to be a girl; her face is **slender** with milk white in it, a kind of gentle hunger.
27. White as it relates to this little girl is going to be reflective of her **innocence**; it's also used in an archetypal way.
28. And Montag, I want to point out, is going to be a kind of "everyman"; we're not meant to **judge** him, we're meant to BE him.
29. The **firetrucks** are called salamanders because they spit kerosene.
30. The phoenix is a bird that burns and rises out of the **ashes**.
31. He's immediately confronted with this person who is very engaged in their own being, they are very engaged in their own **awareness**, and they are very engaged in the world and experience.
32. She glows, almost like she's not even a real person: She has this **angelic** quality that is unlike anybody else in that world.
33. An entire **culture** is being "gaslighted"s at this point.
34. He's twice her age almost; he's been an **adult** for a long time.
35. So, Clarisse looks at Montag and she says, "Are you **happy**?"