Humberto: The Fire Next Time

John David Fournie, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Document Type
Thesis

Degree
Master of Fine Arts

Major
Creative Writing

Date of Defense
8-4-2016

Graduate Advisor
John Dalton, MFA

Committee
Troy, Mary
Sanow, Anne

Abstract
“The Fire Next Time” is the opening section of a novel, Humberto, that tells the story of a group of people working at a biomedical engineering firm in St. Louis. The section follows Charles, a well-respected employee and leader whose marriage is slowly disintegrating. In the first chapter, a larger-than-life employee, the Priest, joins the company. He befriends Charles while working closely with him. The Priest, however, begins an affair with Charles' wife, Linda. Charles is put in a difficult position: how should he work with a man he both hates and admires? As Charles struggles with this dilemma, a mysterious and rapidly growing lump, christened "Humberto" by Charles' fellow employees, has appeared on his boss' neck. As a result, Mr. Samuels, the boss, has begun acting more and more erratically. Charles, too, feels himself being pulled down a darker and unpredictable path. This novel explores themes of loneliness and loss, anxiety and absurdity. It is also a cross-genre piece, demonstrating realism, satire, surrealism and the fantastic.

OCLC Number
986790268

Recommended Citation
https://irl.umsl.edu/thesis/103

HURRICANE Humberto's winds has whipped into Bermuda on its path to the UK, where it will bring torrential rain and fierce winds. "Humberto is expected to be a large and powerful extratropical cyclone for a couple of days before it is absorbed by another extratropical low-pressure area over the North Atlantic Ocean," Nasa added . 3. On September 19, this satellite image was taken of HumbertoCredit: NASA. 3. Widespread rain is expected on Tuesday with some very heavy rain possible, bringing some disruption from flooding, says the Met OfficeCredit: Met Office. Is Hurricane Humberto heading to the UK? “The Fire Next Time” is the opening section of a novel, Humberto, that tells the story of a group of people working at a biomedical engineering firm in St. Louis. The section follows Charles, a well-respected employee and leader whose marriage is slowly disintegrating. In the first chapter, a larger-than-life employee, the Priest, joins the company. He befriends Charles while working closely with him. The Priest, however, begins an affair with Charles' wife, Linda. Charles is put in a difficult position: how should he work with a man he both hates and admires? As Charles struggles with this dilemma, a mysterious and rapidly growing lump, christened "Humberto" by Charles' fellow employees, has appeared on his boss' neck. As a result, Mr. Samuels, the boss, has begun acting more and more erratically. Charles, too, feels himself being pulled down a darker and unpredictable path. This novel explores themes of loneliness and loss, anxiety and absurdity. It is also a cross-genre piece, demonstrating realism, satire, surrealism and the fantastic.

Tropical storm Humberto will be the next named storm coming from the Atlantic Ocean, possibly forming from a tropical wave near the Caribbean or a new system near Florida and the Bahamas. Tropical storm Humberto could be the next storm following in Hurricane Dorian. A tropical wave heading toward the Caribbean in the next five days could form into a storm. The National Hurricane Center believes the threat of a tropical depression could jump to 20 percent in the next few days. Another possibility is a system that emerged near Florida and the Bahamas. By Lauren Edmonds For Dailymail.com. James Baldwin. "Published in the United States by Vintage Books, a division of Random House LLC, a Penguin Random House Company, New York, and distributed in Canada by Random House of Canada Limited, Toronto. Origin...