

6 pm, Mon., Oct. 9, 2017

Utopia

By
Thomas
More

1478-1535

*as text
subtext
&
horror*

Goodman
Center

Bolz A

149 Waubesa St.
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*A free, public lecture by
Jack Opel, Ph.D.
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*This "Humanities in Community" series continues monthly — 2nd Mondays — during
Spring-Fall semesters. Updates at www.uproar21.us/lectures*

Jack Opel

*Instructor at Madison College and colleague of Joseph Lynch.
He received his Ph.D. in English from UW-Madison.*



“THE IMPACT OF THE RECENT HORROR FILM “Get Out” reminds us of horror’s power to touch deep cultural anxieties with both shock and finesse. We sometimes refer to these connections as “text and subtext,” the social frame from which a narrative draws much of its power.

“In this presentation, we will consider Thomas More’s *Utopia* (1516), an imagined conversation with the fictitious traveler Raphael Hytholdeus and his account of the “well and wisely governed” kingdom, Utopia.



Sir Thomas More, 1478-1535

“More’s text was a critical broadside into European culture, and the ingenuity of his method clarifies how ideas like text and subtext represent a careful, reflexive way of thinking about troubling contradictions in society and opens new approaches to often intransigent problems.

“From there, we can consider the history of the horror genre, especially in the United States and especially in film, with an eye towards re-imagining classic horror formulas for the present day.”

Live Links

Horror movie “Get Out” – http://www.imdb.com/title/tt5052448/?ref=fn_tt_tt_1

Index to sections of the online book – <http://literatureproject.com/utopia/index.htm>

OR begin reading here – http://literatureproject.com/utopia/Utopia_1.htm

OR listening here (6 hours) – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UgnVOYZTFd0>

...or here (4 hours) – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYh_zF_2394

Quoting More: https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/t/thomas_more.html

On the life of Sir Thomas More see “A Man for All Seasons,” best picture, 1967 –

http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0060665/?ref=nv_sr_1

