

028: ECONOMIST

ECONOMISS

Welcome to The Economist book club. Let's talk about tonight's books. First up: "The Bombing of Hiroshima."

ECONOMISTER

I hated it. It focused on the 146,000 people who were killed and I was just like, "Okay, but what about the good side?"

ECONOMISS

I mean, take the bomb. It probably had good intentions. But is it presented as such? Noooo...

ECONOMISTER

You never hear about the bomb's feelings. Next up, "History of the Black Plague."

ECONOMISS

I hated it. It's all doom and gloom, but what about the number of people who *didn't* die in purulent heaps?

ECONOMISTER

Or how about the fact that the plague killed peasants in particular?

ECONOMISS

Right, it cleared up overpopulation *and* reduced poverty, which is actually pretty heroic.

ECONOMISTER

Now our final book, entitled "The Absolute Horror of Human Slavery, that Awful Thing that We All Agree is Awful."

BOTH

I loved it!

ECONOMISS

I saw myself in the characters and it's great to be recognised.

ECONOMISTER

Only thing I'd change is the title, which frankly misses the point. Look: the heroes made a lot of money. No one I care about was harmed. All in all, a perfect book.

ECONOMISS

A utopia!

ECONOMISTER

We at The Economist give slavery:

BOTH

Two thumbs up!