



“ And I say to Sam now: 'Sam-here's the book.' It's so short and jumbled and jangled, Sam, because there is nothing intelligent to say about a massacre. Everybody is supposed to be dead, to never say anything or want anything ever again. Everything is supposed to be very quiet after a massacre, and it always is, except for the birds. And what do the birds say? All there is to say about a massacre, things like 'Poo-tee-weet?' ”

Critics have often called Kurt Vonnegut's novel *Slaughterhouse Five* one of the greatest anti-war novels ever written. Is this the case?

In an essay of roughly 750-1000 words, please address this central question. As you do so, please ensure that you do the following:

- _____ Include clear statement of what you believe his message is.
- _____ Discuss the development of at least one of the novel's many themes as it relates to this message.
- _____ Examine how the events of the novel help to illustrate this theme.
- _____ Include a discussion of at least one motif.
 - Hint: How does the motif help to strengthen the theme?
- _____ Show the reader what you believe about Vonnegut's work through thorough and complete textual references and citations.