



### **SAMPLE CITATION AND ANNOTATION**

Way, Brian, "Formal Experiment and Social Discontent: Joseph Heller's *Catch-22*," *Journal of American Studies*, vol. 2, no. 2, 1968, pp. 253-270. Brian Way, a scholar from the University

College of Swansea in the '60s, argues that Heller's work, while new and improved with its rhetoric, is still obviously radical, anti-militarist and anti-capitalist in its message and preaches the necessity for justice and freedom. He posits that simply taking scenes and testing them on a radical or not radical basis will almost always lead one to the conclusion that the scene is radical in its views; this "testing" of scenes is an interesting aspect that sets this article apart from other critical examinations of Heller's work. Way also notes that while Heller is inventive when it comes to creating comedic scenarios, he fails at creating moments of emotion; he refers to how love is portrayed as non-serious as proof for this failure. He finally concludes that Heller should stick to comedy, rather than emotion; this conclusion though is problematic, though, as it is founded on a poor premise. This work would be helpful for setting up issues with the reception of Joseph Heller and to examine Heller's first work, *Catch-22*, with uncommon methods.