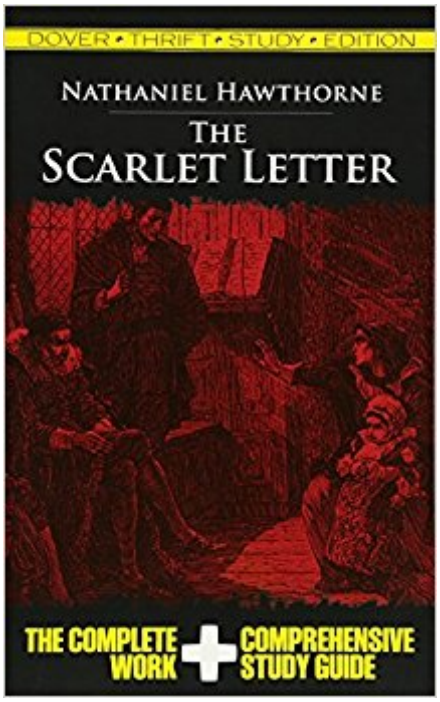
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The Scarlet Letter (Dover Thrift Study Edition)



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Synopsis

An "A" for "adultery" marks Hester Prynne as an outcast from the society of colonial Boston. Although forced by the puritanical town fathers to wear a badge of shame, Hester steadfastly resists their efforts to discover the identity of her baby’s father. Masterful in its symbolism and compelling in its character studies, Nathaniel Hawthorne’s tale of punishment and reconciliation examines the concepts of sin, guilt, and pride.The Scarlet Letter was published to immediate acclaim in 1850. Its timeless exploration of moral and spiritual issues, along with its philosophical and psychological insights, keep it ever relevant for students of American literature and lovers of fiction. A definitive survey, this Dover Thrift Study Edition offers the novel’s complete and unabridged text, plus a comprehensive study guide. Created to help readers gain a thorough understanding of the content and context of The Scarlet Letter, the guide includes:Ã¢â ¬Â¢ Chapter-by-chapter summariesÃ¢â ¬Â¢ Explanations and discussions of the plotÃ¢â ¬Â¢ Question-and-answer sectionsÃ¢â ¬Â¢ Hawthorne biographyÃ¢â ¬Â¢ List of characters and moreDover Thrift Study Editions feature everything that students need to undertake a confident reading of a classic text, as well as to prepare themselves for class discussions, essays, and exams. A selection of the Common Core State Standards Initiative.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Nathaniel Hawthorne’s The Scarlet Letter is profound piece of literature, and the characters and imagery are beautifully written. Hawthorne takes the concept of morality and adultery and just descripts the struggles from the effected parties extremely well. The one thing that stood out most

for me was just how well written all the characters were, you can’t help to feel their pain and understand what they are going through.Hester Prynne, the bearer of the Scarlet "A" on her breast, her badge of shame. Branded for adultery for everyone to see, Hester still has a desire to redeem herself. She never reveals her lover’s identity and for that she has been publically shamed.Her lover is a well respected member of the community (I won’t reveal who it is just in case people aren’t aware and don’t want a spoiler). He is faced with carrying the burden of his sin in secret, always putting his hand over his heart, an expression of the pain that is dwelling up inside him. He lives with his sin until it all begins to unravel and he breaks.Roger Chillingworth is Hester’s husband; ashamed of the betrayal, he had changed his name so no one would know. He takes up the role of the local doctor, in an attempt to find and get close to his enemy. He has asked Hester to keep his true identity a secret, while he searches for her lover and the father of Pearl.Pearl, Hester’s daughter, known as the demon child, is a devilish by nature. I have the feeling that she is very aware of what’s going on and knows who her father is, and she is just baiting them all to reveal the truth. I always thought of Pearl as the-demon-on-the-shoulder type character.Each character is simply amazing and with the judging townsfolk, the struggle feels so real and you can’t help but feel for the characters. I found this book more enjoyable after I finished reading it and began reflecting on it. The Scarlet Letter did at times feel drawn out but overall it was well worth reading.

I have a different take on the theme of this book. Yes, it’s about guilt, shame, sin, blah blah blah. However, for me, it was mainly about how one action can affect so many around you. This one act of passion deteriorates all four main characters spiritually, mentally and physically: Hester due to unrequited love; Dimmesdale due to cowardice; Chillingworth due to vengeance and even Pearl due to loneliness and having to live with her mother’s slow deterioration.Please read this book to not get some grand vision on life but to just enjoy a great story about the lives of four people.

The "Puritans" were those who wanted to to rid -- "purify" -- the Church of England of any and all Roman Catholic -- "papist" -- practices. Persecuted by members of the Church of England, many Puritans emigrated to New England and settled throughout. They brought with them their beliefs and practices, many of which were extremely austere and severe.Nathaniel Hawthorne’s "The Scarlet Letter" is set in the late 1600’s and early 1700’s in "Puritan" Boston. The story is about fornication and adultery and the consequences those acts -- "sins" -- have on the lives of four people. The story goes into some very dark places of the mind. However, in the end, "light and love" prevail over "darkness and evil".All-in-all I think the story has a happy ending. I loved it!

"The Scarlet Letter" is an amazing book on so many levels, I don't think I can do it justice. Having barely read it in ninth grade, I re-visited it recently for a class and was immediately fascinated and enthralled by the power of Hawthorne's prose. This edition is nice because it gives the noviciate ideas as to theme, history, the life of Hawthorne, and some pretty interesting study questions for further exploration. A class of twenty- year olds who "had" to take The American Novel were very taken with it and could have discussed it endlessly. The conflict explored by Hawthorne, civic responsibility vs. individual freedom, resonates today.

A book full of symbolism that shows the sufferers of a woman in a world of men and their ludicrous rules. Sometimes difficult to read (the unabridged version) is a good testament of what happened in the dark ages (I'm not sure that's really finished, just take a look over the Middle East right now and see how women are living in present time). A great story, a good ending.

I find Hawthorne descriptive to the point of tedious. I believe writers got paid by the word in his day, and it certainly seemed soin the beginning of the book. I found myself actually falling asleep over my kindle at times as the pace of the book became painfully slow.Only toward the end of the book, did the pace pick up and the story became more dimensional. I found this true with his other novel,"The House of Seven Gables".

This is a review for not the novel itself but the various Franklin Library editions available.The Franklin Library issued a number of different editions of the Scarlet Letter. Some of them are leather bound collector's items and others faux-leather bound. However, Marketplace vendors are cross-listing indiscriminately. How to tell them apart?Franklin Library - The 100 Greatest Masterpieces of American Literature, a limited edition collection, 1976: Leather binding (deep blood-red with gold detailing in the form of nested rectangular wreaths [...]. Rounded spine with 4 raised bands. Copper brown moire endpaper and matching silk/satin ribbon marker. Illustration by Bernard Fuchs.Franklin Library - 1979: FAUX leather binding (bright scarlet red with gold detailing in the form of 7 diamond shapes within a fringed rectangular border [...]. Flattened spine with 3 raised bands. Brown patterned endpaper. No ribbon marker. Illustration by Chris Duke.Hope this helps.

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