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Red badge of courage questions and answers

Enriched Classics offer accessible literature with helpful notes and commentary. Henry Fleming joins the Union army, but soon finds himself in a battle against Confederate soldiers. Terrified, he deserts his comrades. After returning to his regiment, Henry struggles with shame and tries to redeem himself. Stephen Crane's The Red Badge of Courage is notable for its realism, despite Crane never experiencing battle personally. He drew inspiration from Century Magazine and criticized their lack of emotional depth, leading him to write a war novel. The manuscript was serialized in December 1894 and earned international acclaim before his death at age 28. Crane was an American novelist, poet, and journalist, best known for The Red Badge of Courage. His striking prose combined impressionism, naturalism, and symbolism. He died at age 28 in Badenweiler, Germany. Some readers may find the book boring or unengaging, while others appreciate its portrayal of war. The novel focuses on Henry Fleming, a naive farm boy from New York State who joins the Union Army during the American Civil War. Fleming is deeply affected by the brutal war, witnessing the chaotic scenes of rebels charging into battle and his comrades fleeing in terror. As he encounters wounded soldiers, including his close friend who succumbs to their injuries, Fleming becomes consumed by fear and anxiety. Seeking refuge in a nearby forest, he attempts to escape the carnage but is soon confronted by a Union soldier who recognizes him as a deserter. Despite his desperation, Fleming is hit by a rifle butt, leading him back to his regiment. Upon returning home, Fleming is met with kindness from an unknown soldier who has helped him recover from his "war wound." As he reflects on his experience, Fleming begins to develop a sense of camaraderie with his fellow soldiers, transforming into a confident and courageous individual. He leads the charge, no longer held back by fear or anxiety. Reviews: Thomas, a college student, praises The Red Badge of Courage for its thought-provoking exploration of war's psychological effects on individuals. However, he criticizes the author's lack of personal experience with combat, leading to what he perceives as juvenile and simplistic characterizations. A retired general finds the book overly verbose and lacking in substance, labeling it a "celebration of cowardice." Despite this, he acknowledges that Crane conveys some truths about soldiers in combat. March 29, 2022: Diving into dark corners can awaken hidden ferocity in individuals. I revisited Stephen Crane's works for a high school project over 30 years ago and my recollection is that his stories often boil down to two themes: humanity's struggle against an uncaring universe and their battle against malevolent forces. The Red Badge of Courage, set during the Civil War, tells the story of Henry Fleming, a young soldier grappling with his first battle. Throughout this narrative, the traditional hero's journey is cleverly subverted as we witness Henry's inner turmoil. His initial naivety turns into desperation and cowardice, causing him to abandon an injured comrade. In contrast to modern war stories, which often focus on grand causes or brutal violence, The Red Badge of Courage humanizes the soldiers by depicting their struggles as chaotic and uncertain. They fight not for abstract ideals but for each other's sake. Today, this portrayal might seem even more realistic, with greater disillusionment and graphic depictions of war. Despite being written over a century ago, The Red Badge of Courage remains an influential work in modern American literature, predating the likes of Catch-22 and Full Metal Jacket. It is indeed ahead of its time, offering a gripping story that continues to resonate with readers even today. Recommended for its raw honesty and timeless portrayal of war's horrors. The resources wasted on war could have been utilized to better humanity instead of fueling violence. Years ago, I read "The Red Badge of Courage" in high school but forgot most of it until re-reading it later. This experience was more impactful than expected, especially when viewed through the lens of adulthood. Most war novels focus on broad themes, but Stephen Crane takes a different approach by delving into the individual's emotional and psychological journey. Crane skillfully portrays the fine line between bravery and cowardice that exists within every person. This American classic has never been out of print, making it an enduring testament to its significance. I read this book before joining the US Army and found it helped me understand that courage can manifest in various ways at different times. If you know someone entering military service, consider recommending this book - they will appreciate its timeless lessons. This novel is a visceral experience that can be easily ruined by overthinking or excessive analysis. Crane masterfully weaves symbolism into the narrative without overwhelming the reader. To truly appreciate the story and imagery, one must approach it with an open mind, allowing themselves to become immersed in the tale. I wouldn't recommend teaching this book in a classroom but rather mention it as a personal favorite and leave it for readers to discover on their own. The Red Badge of Courage is a war novel by American author Stephen Crane that takes place during the American Civil War. The story follows Henry Fleming, a young Union Army private who flees from battle due to shame and cowardice. He longs for a wound, or "red badge of courage," to counteract his perceived lack of bravery. When his regiment faces the enemy once more, Henry acts as standard-bearer, carrying a flag. This novel is considered an American classic and has maintained its popularity over time. It's been translated into numerous languages and remains widely read today. One critic noted that Crane was unusual for writing about war without having experienced it firsthand, suggesting that his imagination and research were sufficient to create a believable narrative. However, not everyone agrees with this assessment, as some have found the book dull and lacking in character development. I recently read The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane, which I found to be a disappointing novel that focuses more on the protagonist's psyche than the actual war itself. Despite my initial reluctance, I decided to finish the book, but I must admit that I didn't care for the characters or the battles. The only scene that caught my attention was when Henry Fleming witnesses Jim Conklin struggling to continue marching after being wounded in battle. This moment made me realize just how brutal war can be, but it wasn't enough to save the book from its overall lack of impact. I feel sorry for high school students who are assigned this book and wonder why their teachers chose it. Interestingly, I think reading The Red Badge of Courage as an adult was more rewarding than when I studied it in school during my American Civil War studies. It's a beautifully written novel that captures the psychological turmoil of Henry Fleming at such a young age. I also appreciate Ernest Hemingway's quote about Stephen Crane's writing style, which sums up the book nicely. Crane wrote The Red Badge of Courage as a young man with little experience of battle, which gives the story elements of both realism and impressionism. The novel is well-written, with stylish prose and good dialogue, but it may not evoke much emotion in modern readers. I can imagine Stephen Crane's youthful energy and ambition behind the writing, and his skill in crafting a compelling narrative. I think you can hear influences from Hemingway and Steinbeck in this work, which was ahead of its time. Given text here This book has stood the test of time since its publication in 1893 and remains remarkably modern. Its influence can be seen in authors like Pérez-Reverte, who drew inspiration from this work. The story revolves around a Union soldier's experiences during the American Civil War. We witness his transformation throughout the chaos of battle, from his initial fear to his eventual composure amidst the bullets whirring all around him. The novel's strength lies in its focus on the soldier's emotions rather than the events unfolding in the battle or war itself. This made it a groundbreaking work in its time, catapulting the young author to fame despite his untimely death at 21 from tuberculosis. However, as a literary experience, it is quite challenging due to its chaotic nature—neither the protagonist nor the reader can fully grasp what's happening. Marches, counter-marches, advances, and retreats fill the narrative, with artillery attacks adding to the confusion. A true war novel effectively conveys the feelings of those involved, providing a vivid representation of the era. This book deconstructs the romanticism surrounding war, exposing its harsh realities: fear, valor, courage, disorientation, honor, and patriotism. It explores what drives a young man to face death and overcome his most primal survival instincts. This is an essential read for those who enjoy the military genre, offering a glimpse into the heart of battle. Despite its shortcomings as a literary experience, it remains a powerful portrayal of war's brutal truth. I thoroughly dislike this book. I genuinely believe there's something missing - a depth of emotion, dimension or complexity that eluded me. Perhaps I'm missing out on some insight, but for now, I'll accept it for what it is. My only consolation was its quick reading pace. April 22, 2022. The 240th book of 2022. Stephen Crane lived a short life of just 28 years and is most famous for this novella, The Red Badge of Courage. It follows Henry Fleming, a young soldier fighting with the Union during the American Civil War. I must admit, my initial skepticism towards it was unwarranted. The writing is indeed sharp, comparable to Hemingway's style. However, Crane's spare and deliberate prose can make for slow reading. I've highlighted several passages that showcased Crane's skill: "But awake he had regarded battles as crimson blotches on the pages of the past." "In the eastern sky there was a yellow patch like a rug laid for the feet of the coming sun" "The liquid stillness of the night enveloping him made him feel vast pity for himself" Some of the scenes were hauntingly beautiful, much like Tolstoy's War and Peace. The way Crane captures the realism of war is impressive. I particularly liked when Henry Fleming had an irrational fear about his gun not being loaded, a moment reminiscent of Rostov in War and Peace. The novel does take its time to get through, but it's also very introspective. Despite the war, the writing feels modern and beautifully crafted. It was only when exposed to those who despised him that his poverty became apparent to others, a secret he had kept hidden from his friends and acquaintances.His thoughts on death were quite different; he viewed it as an escape to a place of eternal rest, and this realization filled him with a momentary sense of wonder at why he had made such a commotion over the mere idea of dying. He would die, but he believed he would find peace in a new realm. January 30, 2023Revisiting this classic novel for the first time since childhood. I found it just as compelling as ever during my research for a writing project. The author's narrative still holds up today, and I was pleased to rekindle my connection with the story.September 23, 2013When Henry Flemming embarked on his war journey, he lacked a clear understanding of what lay ahead or the implications of his decision. Like many young men before him, he envisioned himself returning as a hero, but he may not have considered the hardships and difficulties of battle. Eventually, his conscience took hold, and he began to question his decisions. A series of events led him back to the battlefield, where he struggled to prove himself.Having re-read this war novel, I believe its true power lies not in the story itself but in the author's masterful prose and character development. Stephen Crane's writing is exquisite, capturing the internal turmoil of the protagonist in a beautiful and evocative language that makes this complex and nuanced novel truly worthy of reading.August 27, 2022Stephen Crane was born in 1871 and grew up listening to war stories from Civil War veterans, which greatly influenced his depiction of battle experiences. Like many young men of his generation, he romanticized these accounts and sought to emulate their courage. As the bloodiest war in U.S. history had recently ended, he often wondered if his own bravery would be equal to the standards set by these heroes. Crane's feelings on death coexisted with a strong anti-war sentiment expressed in his poem "War Is Kind," which provides insight into his complex thoughts on masculinity and conflict. Published in 1894-95, Short classic novel explores concerns and doubts through protagonist Henry Fleming, a surrogate for author Crane himself. On one level, it can be seen as coming-of-age story, with Henry's age unclear but likely in the range of 18-20. As a non-fan of Civil War fiction, I was surprised by Red Badge's unique approach, focusing on lead-up to and aftermath of a single battle from Henry's limited perspective. No specifics about the battle are given, nor is the focus on debating moral or political merits of the contesting sides. Instead, Crane concentrates on putting readers inside Henry's head to experience his perceptions his feelings as they change and oscillate wildly during combat. This aspect Crane executes well. In my third and definitive read of this book, I sought to understand the messages Crane conveys through a close reading of the text itself. My quest was partly inspired by doubts about Raymond St John's criticism in American Literature For Christian Schools. However, I agree with St John that Crane sees both apparent cowardice and heroism as greatly influenced by circumstances and natural instincts of survival and pride, rather than reasoned responses to ideological appeals or settled traits of character. Crane also skillfully brings to life our human tendency to try to appear good to ourselves, an enterprise many of us are practiced in. The writing style of Stephen Crane's The Red Badge of Courage can be compared to the artistic technique of French Impressionist painters, where many small details and impressions are blended together into a unified picture. The novel focuses on Henry's moment-by-moment consciousness, with sentences often broken and unconventional similes and metaphors used. Crane coins words at times, which can be distracting due to differences in serialized and book publications. The battle scenes are graphic and gruesome, making it a challenging but psychologically perceptive read. Despite its literary achievement, the novel is not a smooth or feel-good read. Crane's work deserves four or five stars for psychological perception and stylistic achievement, but personally, I would give it three stars due to its grim and disturbing content. The book has been largely overlooked by academic circles in favor of other American classics like Hemingway and Melville, despite its innovative and original prose. Rereading the novel, I am struck by how modern the writing feels, despite being written over a century ago. His private soldier's eye view of battle has become a staple in war scenes, often overshadowing Crane's innovative approach to filming and the protagonist's inner thoughts. This method revolutionized the American novel with its first, great impressionistic style. I gave this book two stars, mainly because it took me over a month to read due to our slow pace in class ➡. However, the excessive descriptive passages made it challenging for me to understand at times ☹️. The plot was virtually non-existent, and I felt like I was reading the same chapter repeatedly ☹️. On the other hand, I enjoyed listening to it on audiobook and pretending to have read it in class ☺️. The protagonist's motivations and fears were well-exposed through Crane's unique writing style. Nevertheless, I struggled with the realistic dialogue between characters, which sometimes clashed with the author's poetic prose. As someone who prefers to skip battle scenes due to my sensitivity towards violence and gore ☹️, this book didn't quite resonate with me. Overall, it was a mediocre experience with 2.25 stars ☹️. The author was thoroughly unimpressed with Stephen Crane's "The Red Badge Of Courage", a classic novel that explores the American Civil War. The book made up about 80% of the content that wasn't battle scenes or related to it, which were the only parts that held any interest for the reader. Unfortunately, these fight scenes caused discomfort and boredom, leaving no desire to re-read this particular classic. The Red Badge of Courage is a complex novel that weaves together intense battle scenes, symbolism rooted in nature and color, and a portrayal of Fleming's emotional life. Subtitled "An Episode of the American Civil War," the book defies traditional war narratives by omitting explicit references to the war's underlying reasons or motivations. Instead, it focuses on universal themes such as the human struggle with fear, purpose, and identity. The characters in the novel are often nameless, instead identified by descriptions, which adds to the impressionistic and allegorical nature of the story. The author's use of symbolism and imagery creates a sense of ambiguity, making it challenging to discern a clear moral or message. At its core, the Red Badge of Courage explores the inner turmoil and growth of its protagonist, Henry, as he navigates the psychological challenges of war. Through his experiences, the novel delves into the complexities of human nature, particularly in regards to fear, courage, and the search for purpose. One of the most striking aspects of the book is its portrayal of the relationship between individual struggle and the broader context of human activity, whether in war or beyond. The author's deliberate ambiguity leaves room for interpretation, inviting readers to draw their own conclusions about Henry's journey towards self-discovery and growth. Ultimately, the Red Badge of Courage can be seen as a story of coming-of-age, where Henry must confront his fears and limitations in order to find his place in the world. The novel "The Red Badge of Courage" by Stephen Crane presents a nuanced portrayal of human life and the horrors of war. Unlike some readers who view it as an indictment of war's futility and butchery, others see it as a serious exploration of the effects of conflict on individuals. The protagonist, Henry, is portrayed as someone who lacks emotional maturity, enlisting in the Civil War not out of patriotic duty, but due to boredom with farm life. His experiences on the battlefield reveal his own psychological struggles, as he grapples with fear and self-doubt. Through vivid descriptions of nature, Crane masterfully evokes a sense of atmosphere and mood, drawing readers into the world of the novel. The book is not just a commentary on war, but also a deeply personal exploration of identity and what it means to be human. The novel portrays human actions as insignificant amidst the backdrop of war. The subtitle hints at an episode from the American Civil War, but no specific battle or context is provided, making the conflict seem aimless and brutal. Characters are not detailed, with most being nameless soldiers speaking in a repetitive, informal dialect that's almost comical. However, the story revolves around Henry, who undergoes a significant transformation as he evolves from a self-absorbed individual to someone grappling with shame and guilt. His journey raises questions about true bravery, cowardice, and personal growth, leaving room for debate among readers. Given article text here The book, few can deny it is a pleasure to read. The prose is quite accessible to all readers, but is far from a journeyman effort. Stephen Crane wrote this at the tender age of barely more than a boy, and had never even experienced battle first-hand himself. But like many young folks who think they know it all, he felt the historical reportage on the events of the Civil War lacked emotional depth. He set out to do better, and you know what? He did create one of the timeless masterpieces of American literature. Mezzo a una Natura indifferente, le scene sembrano allucinazioni della mente di chi le osserva dall'esterno o le vive in prima persona. Era una cieca e disperata corsa fatta da un accozzaglia di uomini rivestiti di un blu polveroso e shrindellato, sopra un terreno verde e sotto un cielo di zaffiro, verso uno steccato offuscato dal fumo. I crudeli fucili del nemico vomitavano fuoco. Ancor più della morte, il giovane soldato nordista teme la paura. "Se arriva il momento di scegliere se essere ucciso o fare una brutta cosa," dice, "penso solo a fare quel ch'è giusto." Il segno rosso del coraggio è un capolavoro d'immaginazione (Joseph Conrad). La giovane guardia disperata ha la mente divisa tra le scene di guerra e i pensieri sulla vita pacifica che sta lasciando. Era una corsa frenetica verso lo steccato, con fumo ovunque e il cielo coperto di nuvole nere. Il giovane soldato teme non solo la morte ma anche la paura e l'incertezza del futuro. Non è sicuro se sarà in grado di far fronte a ciò che gli accadrà nella guerra. La sua mente è divisa tra le fantasie di gloria e la realtà della battaglia imminente. La descrizione dell'accampamento militare sembra un quadro di disperazione e confusione. L'immagine dei soldati in marcia verso lo steccato, con i fucili del nemico che spiano dall'altra parte, è una scena di orrore e disperazione. Il giovane soldato non crede ai racconti dei veterani sui combattimenti crudeli e selvaggi. Non vuole credere che la guerra sia un gioco pericoloso e che i soldati siano solo preda dei reclute. Il suo cuore è diviso tra la paura della battaglia e il desiderio di fare qualcosa di significativo. La descrizione della scena finale, con le colonne di uomini in marcia verso lo steccato, è un quadro di disperazione e confusione. La giovane guardia sembra essere separata dagli altri soldati e non sa cosa aspettarsi dalla battaglia imminente. La descrizione della scena è carica di simbolismo e allude alla paura e al caos che si stanno diffondendo tra i soldati. La giovane guardia sembra essere isolata dagli altri, come se non fosse in grado di comprendere il loro punto di vista. • Original text doesn't provide clear information that it's written about specific characters in Henry, therefore we can't determine some of the details provided like "Hatred" how does the youth feel about the lieutenant or other similar answers •Original text does not specify which regiment is being discussed as well, so we cannot find if there is a difference between it and veteran regiment. •Original text doesn't provide enough information to make comparisons such as what kind of chiefs heavy guns are like or what kind of flowers exploding shells are compared to.