



The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
Reviewed by Ariella



The Outsiders is a standalone novel.

Give a summary without spoilers!

The Outsiders is about two rival groups of teenagers, the Greasers and the Socs, which are divided by social class in a small town. We read the story through the eyes of Ponyboy, a Greaser, as he struggles with loyalty, friendship, and identity in such a divided world. When a violent event arises and causes tensions between the Socs and the Greasers, Ponyboy and his friends are forced to make choices that forever change their lives. The Outsiders touches upon themes of belonging, family, and the search for middle ground in between divides.

What drew you to this book?

The Outsiders draws readers in with its realistic portrayal of teenage life and how teenagers deal with social struggles. Conveying the chosen themes through the perspective of a young character makes the book even more relatable to young adults/teenagers. The writing style is another factor that may draw someone in as well. Hinton's writing style captures the emotions and dilemmas of being a teenager, adding another relatable similarity between the readers and characters in the book.

Did it remind you of something that you've previously read?

The Outsiders shares many similarities with "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. Both books deal with issues of social class, prejudice, and moral growth. Additionally, The Outsiders also shares some similarities with "Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger, as they both deal with inner conflicts of teenage life.

To whom would you recommend this book?

The Outsiders would be an amazing read for readers who are drawn to stories about "underdogs" and readers who enjoy exploring the dynamics of loyalty and friendship. In particular, it is appealing to readers who enjoy narratives that are authentic and have depth. The Outsiders will also provide knowledge on social divisions and the bonds that help people persevere through difficult times.

Overall, did you like it and would you recommend it to others? Why or why not?

The Outsider was such a good book that I had to try and watch the movie to see if it lived up to how good the book was (it did). The Outsiders is an amazing book to read when you are a younger teenager. It prepares you for things that you may read when you are an older teenager and also helps you grasp the concept of social divisions and how they can be destructive.

Anything else that you would like to add to this review? What made you choose it? Did you like the cover? Was it recommended to you? Did you find it at the library?

The Outsiders was a requirement that we had to read in English, but it was one of the few books that I actually enjoyed reading in school. I have always enjoyed seeing how different authors portray social divides, and The Outsiders did a perfect job with this. Additionally, it is an amazing portrayal of how teens balance life and other factors that may create conflict within their lives.