



The Scarlet Letter: Extended Annotated & Illustrated Edition

Nathaniel Hawthorne

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This is the extended annotated edition including a rare and extensive biographical essay on the author, two detailed literary reviews, as well as an introductory to the book written by George Parsons Lathrop.

Like all of Hawthorne's novels, "The Scarlet Letter" has but a slender plot and but few characters with an influence on the development of the story. Its great dramatic force depends entirely on the mental states of the actors and their relations to one another, —relations of conscience, — relations between wronged and wrongers. Its great burden is the weight of unacknowledged sin as seen in the remorse and cowardice and suffering of the Rev. Arthur Dimmesdale. Contrasted with his concealed agony is the constant confession, conveyed by the letter, which is forced upon Hester, and has a double effect, — a healthful one, working beneficently, and making her helpful and benevolent, tolerant and thoughtful ; and an unhealthful one, which by the great emphasis placed on her transgression, the keeping her forever under its ban and isolating her from her fellows, prepares her to break away from the long repression and lapse again into sin when she plans her flight. Roger Chillingworth is an embodiment of subtle and refined revenge. The most striking situation is perhaps "The Minister's Vigil," in chapter xii. The book, though corresponding in its tone and burden to some of the shorter stories, had a more startling and dramatic character, and a strangeness, which at once took hold of a larger public than any of those had attracted. Though imperfectly comprehended, and even misunderstood in some quarters, it was seen to have a new and unique quality; and Hawthorne's reputation became national.

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From reader reviews:

Julia Hayes:

Typically the book The Scarlet Letter: Extended Annotated & Illustrated Edition has a lot associated with on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of help. The book was published by the very famous author. The writer makes some research ahead of write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you can obtain the point easily after looking over this book.

William Fiscus:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, classifieds, book, and soon. You can observe that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. The book that recommended to your account is The Scarlet Letter: Extended Annotated & Illustrated Edition this book consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented how do the world has grown up. The words styles that writer use to explain it is easy to understand. Typically the writer made some exploration when he makes this book. Honestly, that is why this book ideal all of you.

Phillip Permenter:

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Dianne Haire:

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