

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Author \_\_\_\_\_

# of pages \_\_\_\_\_

Main Characters \_\_\_\_\_

Setting \_\_\_\_\_

Introduction - How does the book begin?

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Point-of-View - The novel is written in an omniscient ("all knowing") point of view, providing only one character's thinking in a chapter. How would the three scaffold scenes be different if presented only through Roger Chillingworth's thinking?

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Conflict - What is the major conflict at the beginning of the novel? How does this conflict change with the addition of the character Roger Chillingworth?

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Conflict - What conflict develops for Arthur Dimmesdale? How does he handle it?

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Foreshadow - Several times in the novel a future event is suggested. Cite at least two examples of foreshadowing and the later events to which they relate.

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Theme - There are several themes through the novel. One theme is the effect of sin. Discuss this theme using the three major characters: Hester Prynne, Arthur Dimmesdale, and Roger Chillingworth. What is the effect of sin on each one?

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Theme - Another important theme is wisdom through suffering. Looking at the same three main characters, discuss whether or not each one has gained wisdom through suffering. Use facts from the novel to support your ideas.

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Plot - The novel uses a basic plot: the triangle of husband, wife, and lover. Why do you think that Hawthorne began the novel well after the adulterous act? What would be the purpose of beginning the novel with Hester's public humiliation?

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New Ending - The ending of the novel seems inevitable. Imagine, instead, that the ship Hester and Dimmesdale were to take sailed a few days earlier. Write a summation that shows what happens to Hester, Pearl, and Dimmesdale once they leave the town. Determine whether or not Chillingworth would become involved.

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What did you like best about this book? What did you like the least?

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Name one to three things you would change about the novel and the reasons for changing them.

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Would you consider this novel a classic that everyone should read? Support your reasons.

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