

THE OUTSIDERS

by S. E Hinton

Published 2006

Rating (0 stars is the absolute worst, 10 stars is the BEST BOOK EVER)



Genre(s):



Contemporary/Realistic



Action/adventure



Science Fiction



Fantasy



Romance



Horror



Mystery



Nonfiction



Historical fiction



Other:

S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders* is a novel built around the themes of family and social division. Set in 1960s Tulsa, Oklahoma, the story follows two groups—the Greasers and the Socs—whose constant tension reflects the gap between the lower and upper classes. Their clashes create much of the conflict in the book, but Ponyboy, the narrator, also struggles with problems at home. These pressures eventually push him into a sticky situation.

In my opinion, this novel was a great read, but it didn't fully satisfy me. I loved how Hinton showed the loss of innocence and the cruelty of the world. The book basically teaches that if you don't toughen up, you're left vulnerable to falling apart under your circumstances. I also love how Hinton used the line "Nothing gold can stay" and wove it into the story, turning Johnny's last words into something amazingly symbolic. It's one of the strongest moments in the book, and it really highlights how quickly innocence can fade. Even though the story didn't completely meet my expectations, I still appreciate how honestly Hinton portrayed the struggles of growing up without a strong foundation.

I'd recommend this book to readers who enjoy stories about family and to anyone interested in the darker, more realistic side of life.

By Scarp C, 9th grade, enjoys reading literary fiction & dystopian