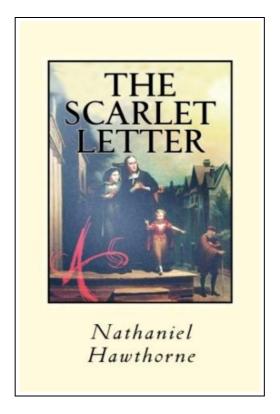
The Scarlet Letter: [Illustrated Edition] (Paperback)



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Reviews

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THE SCARLET LETTER: [ILLUSTRATED EDITION] (PAPERBACK)



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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Mary Hallock Foote, L S Ipsen (illustrator). Illustrated. Language: English . Brand New Book ****** Print on Demand ******. The Scarlet Letter is an 1850 romantic work of fiction in a historical setting, written by Nathaniel Hawthorne, and is considered to be his magnum opus. Set in 17th-century Puritan Boston, Massachusetts, during the years 1642 to 1649, it tells the story of Hester Prynne, who conceives a daughter through an affair and struggles to create a new life of repentance and dignity. Throughout the book, Hawthorne explores themes of legalism, sin, and guilt. The experience of Hester and Dimmesdale recalls the story of Adam and Eve because, in both cases, sin results in expulsion and suffering. But it also results in knowledge - specifically, in knowledge of what it means to be immoral. For Hester, the Scarlet Letter is a physical manifestation of her sin and reminder of her painful solitude. She contemplates casting it off to obtain her freedom from an oppressive society and a checkered past as well as the absence of God. Because the society excludes her, she considers the possibility that many of the traditions held up by the Puritan culture are untrue and are not designed to bring her happiness. As for Dimmesdale, the cheating minister, his sin gives him sympathies so intimate with the sinful brotherhood of mankind, so that his chest vibrate[s] in unison with theirs. His eloquent and powerful sermons derive from this sense of empathy. The narrative of the Reverend Arthur Dimmesdale is quite in keeping with the oldest and most fully authorized principles in Christian thought. His Fall is a descent from apparent grace to his own damnation; he appears to begin in purity but he ends in corruption. The subtlety is that...



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