

ETCLAB BOOK REVIEW

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Book: A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

A CHRISTMAS CAROL - Charles Dickens

Introduction:

The book I chose was A Christmas Carol as it is a tale which teaches a good virtue. It seemed like a sentimental Christmas story and one that I was interested in reading to see how Dickens wrote about redemption and with as much kindness as possible. One of the reasons for choosing this book was I heard from a friend that it was a very good book with real emotional social issues ~~and~~ which could even be happening today.

Summary:

A Christmas Carol tells a story of the transformation of Ebenezer Scrooge, a stingy, greedy, Christ-hating businessman who hates Christmas and denies the very right to compassion. The Ghost of Christmas past shows him the life he could have had, while that of Jacob Marley visits him on Christmas eve and warns him of the consequences of his selfish ways. This is followed by the visits of three spirits - the Ghost of Christmas past, present and Yet to come to Scrooge himself. The spirits lead him on a life journey through time and space to which they ~~show~~ ~~show~~ ~~show~~ ~~show~~ show him the life he could've had and all the happiness he has missed out on and the tough fate that awaits him if he continues along his current path.

Other topics include these themes such as redemption, generosity and the ~~consequence~~ serious consequences of our actions. With these visits Scrooge has a change of mind and finally accept the true meaning of Christmas and becomes a better man.

Analysis and Opinion:

A Christmas Carol is undoubtedly the one of the favourites of authors, due to its well-developed and considered characters with moral depth and meaning. The character of Scrooge who goes through self-examination, changes in ways we might even envision normal individuals changing. His experience feels authentic, honest, and rich with emotional implication. While Tiny Tim is a secondary character, he signifies innocence, hope and family. One of the most touching lines in the text is when Scrooge states, "I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year." Lord knows, even this single line captures heart of this transformation. ~~One of the most touching lines in the text~~

One of the most powerful parts of Dickens' writing is the contrast between Scrooge's lonely, dark life and the warm, loving life of the Cratchit family. There were times the old-fashioned language made it difficult reading at times, but ultimately, the level of the implied message and level of emotion it draw out was worth it.

Personal Connection:

A Christmas Carol taught me to be compassionate and generous. This tale also shows that it is never too late for redemption, and our actions and decisions mold our future alongside all other lives we touch upon. It actually made me look at myself in the mirror in terms of how I see kindness and gratitude these days. It made me appreciate the little things, that even a small act of kindness can go a long way. For the first part I was not sure if Scrooge would actually change, but as the narrative progressed I came to the conclusion that people change their ways.

The rest of the chapters taught me not to take anyone easily. As Dickens reminds us, life is uncertain, and while we live we should repent and rejoice. Hopefully, Scrooge learnt this the hard way but redeemed himself - which reinforces that it's never too late to right the wrongs.

Conclusion:

If you like a story about redemption and personal development, I would definitely recommend a Christmas Carol for you. It works best for people who read a lot of classics and also would like a good moral with it. The lesson that Dickens diffused about abundance and kindness - (should not be limited to one season) is a message that resonates still resonates today.