

## **Kidnapped – Robert Louis Stevenson**

### **Introduction:**

Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson is a historical action-adventure novel set in 18th-century Scotland. Published in 1886, the novel is full of danger, betrayal, and happy coincidences. The novel is a mix of real historical events and fiction, giving the reader a fast-moving tale of survival and friendship. It's a suspenseful coming-of-age tale that not only thrills but gives the reader a glimpse into Scottish history and politics during a time of crisis.

### **Why Did You Choose This Book:**

I chose this book because I had interest in the story, which contains a mix of adventure, thrill, crime and betrayal.

### **Summary:**

The story is narrated by young David Balfour, a boy in his early teenage years, whose parents have died and he travels to claim his inheritance from his evil and mysterious uncle Ebenezer. David gets cheated and abducted and sold as a slave on a ship traveling towards the Carolinas. En route, he meets Alan Breck Stewart, who was a Jacobite Scottish rebel. Together, the two escape a shipwreck and become close friends. The two journey on through the Scottish Highlands, meeting soldiers, clansmen, and countless extreme situations. David seeks justice and his rightful inheritance, while Alan continues to seek exile from political enemies. The novel is one of loyalty, justice, and searching for identity in a fragmented Scotland. Historical occurrences, such as the Appin murder, are subtly introduced into the tale, so the narrative is interesting. The contrast between practical David and charismatic Alan provides humor and tension and makes the narrative very exciting.

### **Analysis and Opinion:**

Kidnapped is not only an action novel; it is also a novel about the need for personal development and finding one's place in the world. David's development from an innocent boy to a self-assured young man is a theme of maturity and perseverance. Alan's character serves as a contrast and demonstrates how different values can exist side by side through friendship. Stevenson satirically criticizes the class system and political tensions of the era. I liked the way the book maintained suspense throughout but still provided opportunities for the development of the characters. It's a thrilling yet reflective book, and I liked the contrast between historical context and action story.

### **Conclusion:**

Overall, Kidnapped is an ageless book that continues to be relevant in the present because of its widespread appeal to elements of courage, justice, and friendship. Its pace, elaborate descriptions, and strong character relations make it an enjoyable read by children and adults alike. The author's work is concise yet thick with sense, and the book is both informative and enjoyable. If you are a lover of Scottish history or just looking for a thrilling experience, Kidnapped is a must try for anyone who enjoys historical fiction, or old stories of survival and bravery.