

## **Book Review**

**Title** : Moonfleet

**Author** : J. Meade Falkner

### **Introduction :**

I read Moonfleet because I like traditional adventure novels with mystery, smugglers and buried treasure. The book's fame as an exciting adventure of bravery and treachery drew my attention. At first, I was convinced that in Moonfleet I was getting a simple pirate adventure and then I found out to my dismay that Moonfleet is about moral dilemmas, friendship, and the initiation of a boy. Moonfleet village was creepy, the myth of Blackbeard's lost diamond increased my anticipation and I was dying to find out which turns and twists the story would take.

### **Summary :**

Moonfleet is a 1936 novel set in 18th century England, in rural village Moonfleet, where village orphan John Trenchard, a young boy, lives. John is enchanted by the legend of Blackbeard's lost diamond and finds out that his neighbours are conducting a secret smuggling ring. Elzevir Block, a retired innkeeper, draws John into the company and in short time John is entangled in a game of chicanery, treachery, and pursuit.

Imprisonment, shipwrecks, and moments of victory and defeat come at them while John and Elzevir set off on their perilous quest for the diamond. There are overtones of loyalty, greed and destiny in the book, and the suspense is very strong. Central to the story is the battle between law and crime and John finding out the hard way that not everything is as it appears to be black and white. Or will fate and fortune side with him and will he escape his risky path?

Moonfleet is one of the strongest aspects for its atmospheric narrative. As Falkner describes the storm-tossed sea and black crypts and bleak village, it breathes and lives. The suspense builds relentlessly and is hard to put down. The plot was unpredictable in general and, particularly, the thrilling getaway scenes when John was thrown into prison.

## **Analysis and Evaluation :**

The author describes the village beautifully. John grows from a curious boy to a responsible man. His friendship with Elzevir is heart warming. As the book is written 1980s some words are difficult to understand. But, overall the book is very interesting and We feel curious to know about what's going to be happened in the next.

## **Critical Perspective :**

This novel teaches us important lessons about doing right and wrong, taking right decisions at right time. It tells that sometimes the sacrifice is worth. It also shows how harsh was the life of smugglers in those days. The emotions and characters make it a classic.

## **Conclusion :**

Moonfleet is a thrilling, mysterious and meaningful story. It gives the value of life and friendship. More than that it gives the lesson to learn from mistakes. It shows how one wrong decision can destroy one's life. The story is still enjoyable and worth reading.