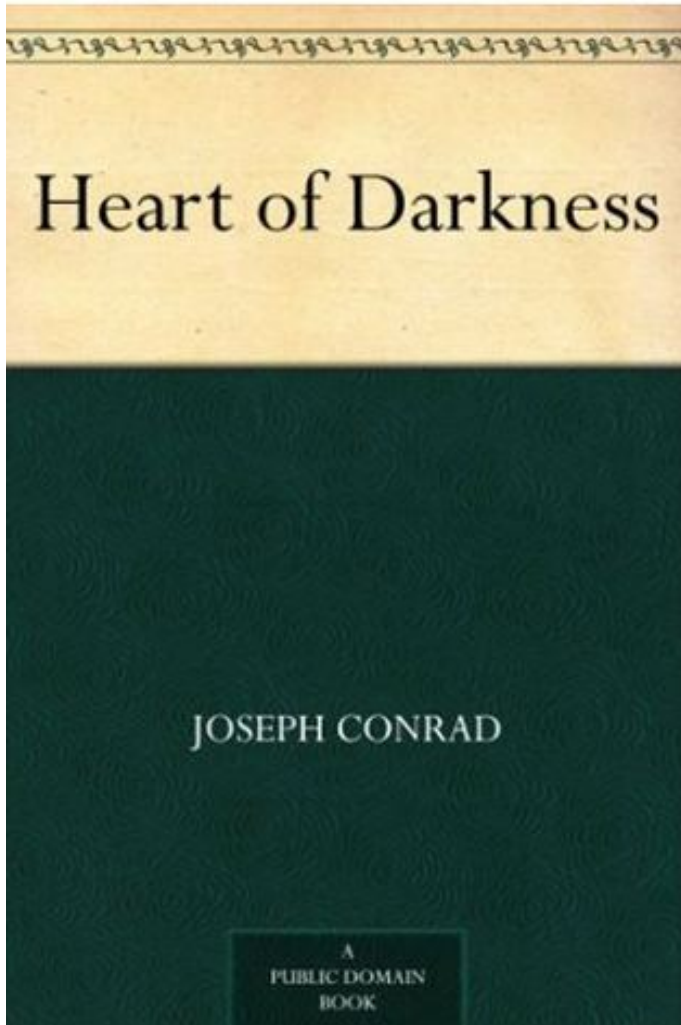

Joseph Conrad

Heart of Darkness



Title: Heart of Darkness

Author: Joseph Conrad

Format: Kindle Edition

Language: English

Pages: 118

Publisher: Public Domain Books,
1136764800

ISBN:

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 6.7 MB

Download: allowed

Description

Dark allegory describes the narrator's journey up the Congo River and his meeting with, and fascination by, Mr. Kurtz, a mysterious personage who dominates the unruly inhabitants of the region. Masterly blend of adventure, character development, psychological penetration. Considered by many Conrad's finest, most enigmatic story.

Insightful reviews

Richard Reviles Censorship Always in All Ways: **Book Circle Reads 19**

Rating: 3* of five

The Publisher Says More than a century after its publication (1899), *Heart of Darkness* remains an indisputably classic text and arguably Conrad's finest work.

This extensively revised Norton Critical Edition includes new materials that convey nineteenth-century attitudes toward imperialism as well as the concerns of Conrad's contemporaries about King Leopold's exploitation of his African domain. New to the Fourth Edition are excerpts from Adam Hochschild's recent book, *King Leopold's Ghost*, and from Sir Roger Casement's influential "Congo Report" on Leopold's atrocities. "Backgrounds and Contexts" also provides readers with a collection of photographs and a map that bring the Congo Free State to life.

A new section, "Nineteenth-Century Attitudes toward Race," includes writings by, among others, Hegel, Darwin, and Sir Francis Galton. New essays by Patrick Brantlinger, Marianna Torgovnik, Edward W. Said, Hunt Hawkins, Anthony Fothergill, and Paul Armstrong debate Chinua Achebe's controversial indictment of the novel's depiction of Africans and offer differing views about whether Conrad's beliefs about race were progressive or retrograde.

A rich selection of writings by Conrad on his life in the Congo is accompanied by extensive excerpts from his essays about art and literature. "Criticism" presents a wealth of new materials on *Heart of Darkness*, including contemporary responses by Henry James, E.M. Forster, Ford Madox Ford, and Virginia Woolf. Recent critical assessments by Peter Brooks, Jeremy Hawthorn, Daphna Erdinast-Vulcan, Andrew Michael Roberts, J. Hillis Miller, and Lissa Schneider cover a range of topics, from narrative theory to philosophy and sexuality. Also new to the Fourth Edition is a selection of writings on the connections between the novel and the film *Apocalypse Now*.

This Norton Critical Edition is again based on Robert Kimbrough's meticulously re-edited text of the novel. An expanded Textual Appendix allows the reader to follow Conrad's revisions at different stages of the creative process. A Chronology has been added, and the Selected Bibliography has been revised and updated.

My Review Had I not read the critical edition of this book, I wouldn't have given it three stars. It's dense and chewy prose. It's a bleak story. It's Conrad's most famous and most lasting work

because it's so astounding that a man of his era could be this perceptive and say so publicly! Oh, there was much tut-tutting at the time about the awfulness of Congo Free State's condition, but it was disingenuous at best and cynically political at worst. Conrad wrote a human response to a human horror, and he did so by making a White Man out to be Wrong!!!!

Cue gasps! And start the applause.

But it is a slog to read, short though it might be. Simply put, Conrad spoke English as a third, yes THIRD language. He did an extraordinary thing, writing in his third language, but to me it felt like it was his third about half the time.

Still and all, I am quite pleased to have read the Norton Critical Edition, and to have a real sense of the book's revolutionary place. Quite a good use of my limited number of eyeblinks.



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Jenny Zhang: This guy's message is so subtle: Africans are depraved/we are all depraved/since I don't care about black people I'm going to let them serve as a metaphor for the depravity of human existence/I like writing sentences that yawn with the utter boredom of pretension, pomp, and waste/I have no heart/that's why I had to put the word heart in the title, etc, etc, etc.

Where's the negative one million stars option, again?

Charlene: In an effort to class up the joint, I listened to this audio book performed by Kenneth Branagh.

I say performed, because it wasn't just a plain reading of the story. He added depth to the observations and took what I might have found to be a boring story and breathed life into it.

I enjoyed this quite a bit and would recommend this audio version to anyone interested in this classic tale.

Dave: i am definite there are numerous redeeming features and philosophies to be absorbed from this book. However, it truly is the totally so much uninteresting learn i've got ever tried to undertake. I should still most likely provide it one other probability sooner than condemning it to two stars...but, this ebook heavily made my brain float away to unrelated locations and subject matters extra usually than the other ebook i will be able to remember. i'd virtually fairly learn Shakespeare backwards on a rollercoaster than decide this one up again.

Paul Bryant: big name loss of life fit evaluation for around 2**"Anything imminent the swap that came to visit his good points i have not obvious before, and wish by no means to work out again. It used to be as if a veil have been rent. I observed on that hairy visage the expression of

somber pride, of ruthless power, of craven terror — of an extreme and hopeless despair. He cried in a whisper at a few image, at a few vision—he cried out twice, a cry that used to be not more than a breath—“The honey! The honey!” I blew the candle out and left the cabin. The pilgrims have been eating within the messroom, and that I took my position contrary the manager, who lifted his eyes to offer me a wondering glance, which I effectively ignored. He leaned back, serene, with that unusual smile of his sealing the unexpressed depths of his meanness. a continuing bathe of small flies streamed upon the lamp, upon the cloth, upon our fingers and faces. all of sudden the manager's boy positioned his insolent black head within the doorway, and stated in a tone of scathing contempt:“Winnie Pooh - he dead.”

Kim: once more i alter my brain a couple of publication i did not like greatly the 1st time I learn it greater than thirty-five years ago. Even then I liked that it used to be a significant literary work, yet i did not reply to it emotionally. If anything, it struck me as a dull. This time around, my response used to be particularly different. i did not locate it boring at all. Rather, i discovered the event very powerful, either intellectually and emotionally. a part of that could be when you consider that through the years i have skilled - if simply moment hand - much more of the grotesque issues humans do to every other. However, my extra confident response to the paintings in this celebration can also be simply because I listened to the audiobook version narrated through Kenneth Branagh. whereas i believe Branagh is maybe a greater degree actor than he's a movie actor, because the narrator of this novella, he's easily brilliant. each voice, even tone is perfect. Branagh's voice drew me correct into the narrative and made me fairly concentrate on Conrad's remarkable use of language. Conrad's prose and the subjects he explores are a part of what makes the paintings a permanent classic. there are many degrees on which it may be read, yet what struck me such a lot is the trenchant feedback of colonialism and the definitely corrupting impact of power. Conrad has been accused of racism as a result of the method he defined Africans during this work. whereas i will see how such an accusation may be made, i do not trust it. Conrad may perhaps were a guy of his time, yet claiming that he was once a racist isn't quite in keeping with the overt critique of eu colonial practices in Africa which permeates the work. The undeniable fact that Conrad wrote in English - his 3rd language after Polish and French and a language within which he didn't in attaining fluency until eventually he used to be in his twenties - makes this novel much more extraordinary. i am in awe of Conrad and i am blissful that i made a decision to take on his writing again. 4 stars for the paintings itself and one other one for Branagh's remarkable narration.

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