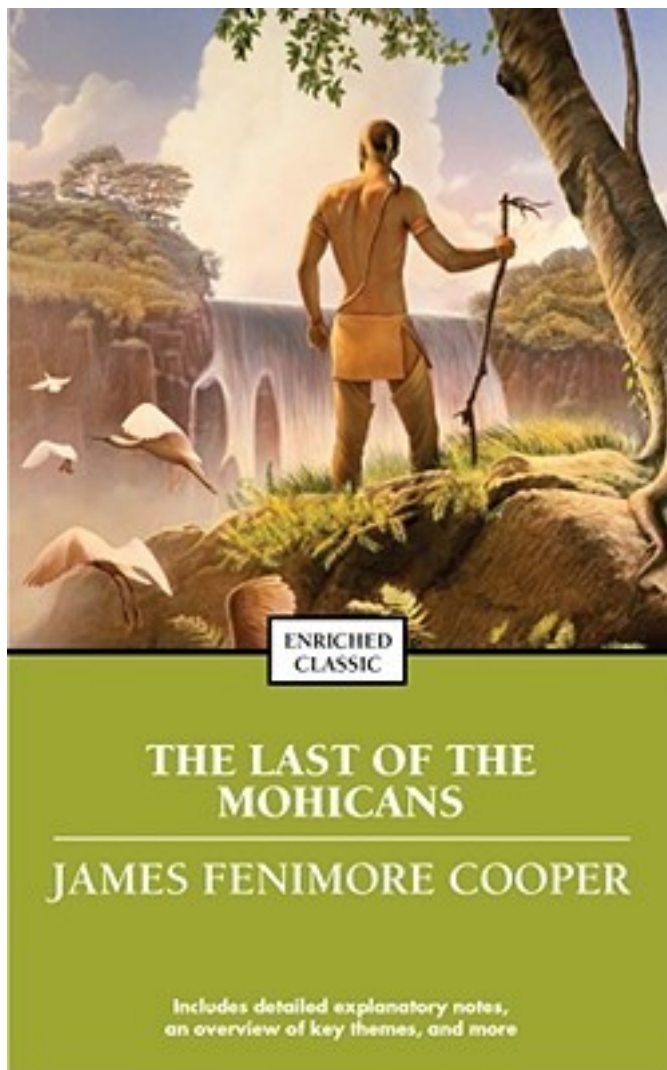

James Fenimore Cooper

The Last of the Mohicans (The Leatherstocking Tales #2)



Title: The Last of the Mohicans (The Leatherstocking Tales #2)

Author: James Fenimore Cooper

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Description

The most popular and memorable of the "Leatherstocking Tales": set in the rugged wilderness of upper New York State during the brutal French and Indian War, it tells the story of the Munro sisters, daughters of a commander in the British army.

THIS ENRICHED CLASSIC EDITION INCLUDES:

A concise introduction that gives the reader important background information
A chronology of the author's life and work
A timeline of significant events that provides the book's historical context
An outline of key themes and plot points to guide the reader's own interpretations
Detailed explanatory notes
Critical analysis, including contemporary and modern perspectives on the work
Discussion questions to promote lively classroom and book group interaction
A list of recommended related books and films to broaden the reader's experience

Insightful reviews

Josh Kotoff: Well, let me say this...very tough book to read. The author is a genius and use so much adjectives and descriptiveness. I mean, for instance, the Author spends a page and a half describing the sunset and its glory compared to their peril. Awesome book to read and is way different from the movie. A must read for hardcore readers.

Julie: While not the first, this is certainly the most well-known of the five Leatherstocking Tales written by [James Fenimore Cooper](#). Having seen the movie, I thought I would give the book a try. In addition, living in the Finger Lakes area made this book that much more interesting, because I could easily visualize the landscape behind Cooper's story. I really, really liked the characters. Prior to reading the book I had no idea that Hawkeye and Natty Bumppo were the same person... and it's still a little hard for me to accept due to the movie image - somehow Daniel Day Lewis doesn't really fit that name. :) Still, the "man without a cross" kept things interesting and added a sort of swashbuckling element to the story. All the characters are well-written - Uncas and Chingachcook, Magua, Alice, Cora, Heyward, and even Munro. It did take a while to get into this book, but it was enough to make me want to read the other four.

The biggest shock for me was that the ending is almost the complete opposite to the film, in regards to life, death and relationships. Basically, they just did whatever they wanted with the film story, threw in the names of the major characters, and slapped the book's title on their creation. I still appreciate the movie as being entertaining, but the two really don't have much to do with each other.

I am looking forward to reading the other four books, especially [The Pathfinder](#), some of which takes place at Fort Oswego and Fort Ontario. I went to college at Oswego, and toured Fort Ontario, which is still standing (although it's been rebuilt a few times since then).

Janika Puolitaival: Pyörittelin tätä käsissäni pitkään: luenko uudelleen 20 vuoden jälkeen, rakastanko tätä vain nostalgiahuurujen läpi? Viimeisen päälle toimitettu kirja (sarja), Markku

Henrikssonin esipuheella. Kyllä tämä vain kolahti edelleen, vaikka aikuisen silmin moni asia oli "niin väärin". Suuren seikkailukirjaston kuvitettu versio vei aikanaan jalat alta, nyt lukiessa sen kuvat palautuivat mieleen. Välillä kuva tosin vaihtui Daniel Day Lewisin elokuvaan ja jylhiin metsiin. On se kiva kun kirjaa lukiessa saa itse tuotetun elokuvan kaupan päälle :) Hopeanuoli-lehden artikkelit Pohjois-Amerikan intiaanikulttuureista ja tämä Cooperin tarina... seikkailin vielä teininä haaveissani preerialla...

Jason Koivu: just like the purely prostitute in town, it's totally renowned and solid enjoyable at first, yet after a time it ain't so pretty, and Jesus Christ, why will not it simply close the fuck up! Very well known in its time, The final of the Mohicans is an ancient fiction written within the 1820s and set within the 1750s throughout the French and Indian battle during which a small occasion of British colonists and their Indian publications trip throughout the upstate long island desolate tract protecting themselves from their French and Indian enemies. James Fenimore Cooper introduced perception into the lives of the local Americans in a fashion seldom noticeable at a time whilst the folk of those many new global tribes have been normally reviled as adverse savages. again while it was once released The final of the Mohicans should have appeared revolutionary. have been it tweaked into the non-fiction Cooper part appeared to be attempting to write, maybe it would've succeeded, if it is inaccuracies could've been shorn up that is. But it's a fiction and this present day its formal prose doesn't pass down simply for the trendy reader. Archaic phrases and phrasings aside, Cooper wrote like a grammar robot. He adheres to English language strictures like a foreigner dotting his I's and crossing his T's. His inflexible variety totally takes the enjoyment out of what might be a thrilling tale. And why use one notice whilst 5 are available? Wordiness digs this bad book's grave ever deeper. The different tremendous challenge I had used to be Cooper's narrative style. not just does he think the necessity to clarify away everything, he forces the reason into the mouths of his characters on the so much ridiculous of times. squaddies and scouts consistently chatter away whereas monitoring enemies or hiding from them. by means of the top it received so incredible that I discovered myself having sarcastic conversations with the characters.... "Do you spot that dastardly Huron spying on us there mayhaps rods forward in yonder verdant undergrowth?" requested Hawkeye. "The one within the trees thirty ft away which may most likely pay attention us talking? Yeah," I answered sooner than pausing to ask, "How is it you could have survived this long?" Note: for a few years now I would heard undesirable issues approximately this booklet and I am uncertain I would've learn it, yet then a person double-dog dared me. I after all scoffed on the mere double! even if they then triple-dog dared me, the fiend!... Game on... GAME... ON...

Jim: I presumed I want this outdated favourite much more than I did. I don't believe this one made the transition from the nineteenth century to the twenty first century rather well at all. The publication is set two times so long as it must be, due to wandering and bewildering dialogue. the tale itself is unlikely; Cooper could have us think that the Hurons have been tremendous lenient with their prisoners, allowing them to wander approximately unraped and untortured and letting them be rescued time and again. if you would like a e-book on torture, go this one via and decide up anything on Abu Ghraib or Guantanamo Bay. I be aware of the e-book has lengthy been thought of a classic, and Mr. Cooper exhibits a expertise for descriptive prose, yet I don't believe it matches the trendy reader rather well at all. probably I am jaded from over-exposure to specific media, yet this can be one of many only a few occasions you'll find me

claim that the motion picture used to be an development at the book.

Werner: Note: i have simply edited this overview a bit to right a chronological typo. whilst I learn this publication the 1st time, i used to be nine, now not seven years outdated --I knew, whilst I wrote the 1st draft of this review, that i used to be in 4th grade the 1st time, so i do not understand what i used to be pondering whilst I typed "seven!" This novel, set in northern ny in 1757 and regarding wasteland experience and strive against through the French and Indian War, was once my first advent to Cooper; the dates given the following have been for the second one reading, however the first used to be again whilst i used to be 9 years old. (Newly transferred to parochial school, I came across it in what handed for a faculty library: cabinets of donated books.) i did not brain the fashion (I used to be a unusual kid), and it really had much to attract a boy reader: Indians, gunfights and knife fights on land and water, chases, captures, escapes, and the attraction of a few genuine historical past thrown in. It left me with a pretty good liking for Cooper, and curiosity in studying extra through him (though i have purely scratched the outside there). Like such a lot early 19th-century authors, Cooper's acceptance suffers with smooth readers due to his diction; and the literary/critical set were relatively antagonistic to him, beginning with the Realist interval with its root-and-branch condemnation of Romanticism and all its works. Mark Twain introduced the assault with a hatchet task titled "Fenimore Cooper's Literary Offenses" (see below), and within the subsequent generation, Charles Neider's verdict was once snide and disparaging. The likelihood that Twain was once encouraged through specialist jealousy up to something else, and the truth that Neider used to be a Washington Irving partisan who observed Cooper as risky pageant for the top laurels, do not appear to have discouraged brand new critics from taking their tests because the final be aware in Cooper criticism; indeed, they pile at the extra condemnation that he held mistaken political views, which, for latest severe clerisy, is sufficient to rattling a author to everlasting literary-critical hell. (As a high-school student, I remember looking at Clifton Fadiman, the favourite 16mm conversing head of English periods of that day, sneering at this e-book as a "dead classic" --which, having truly learn it, proven my opinion of Fadiman's serious incompetence. :-) Interestingly, that wasn't the view of Cooper's contemporaries; he was once not just extremely popular with readers within the U.S., yet was once one of many few pre-1865 American writers to have a literary acceptance abroad. Balzac was once a fan, going as far as to claim of him that "had his characterizations been sharper, he could were the grasp novelist folks all." He persisted to earn excessive compliment even from numerous critical literary pundits in Twain's day (and that worthy's turn statement that none of those males had truly learn Cooper is a good pattern of Twain's substitution of ridicule and sarcasm for affordable discussion). My personal overview of Cooper, and of this paintings in particular, is not uncritical. there is not any denying that his prose style, even via the factors of his day, is especially dense, wordy and florid. this is often particularly striking in a lot of his dialogue. Even granting that during 1757 higher and middle-class speech tended to be extra formal than ours, it truly is tough to visualize someone conversing in as orotund a way as lots of the characters here, specifically in a few of these contexts. (In equity to Cooper, though, it is not precise that none of his characters have conversing styles which are unique and fairly mirror who they are; and David Gamut, the nature with, IMO, the main ridiculously fulsome speech, is to some extent meant as comedian relief.) His plotting does not delay besides to a learn via a 59-year-old as by means of a seven-year-old kid; a few of the character's judgements are foolhardy, and there are plot issues that strike me as inconceivable (though now not those that Twain cites). whereas i do not

inevitably brain authorial intrusion within the narrative, he makes use of it the following a piece too much. And this variation have benefited from the inclusion of a map. For all that, though, the positives for me outweighed the negatives. He can provide an experience yarn that is beautiful well-paced, soaking up and suspenseful. The characters are clearly-drawn, distinct, realistic, round, and complex, and evoke genuine reader reactions. real heritage is integrated into the narrative in a continuing way. The portrayal of Indians and Indian culture, whereas no longer the therapy of them as blandly homogenized, mild New Agers that smooth monolithic "multiculturalism" may prescribe, is largely a pragmatic person who derived in part from first-hand contacts, and extra a professional than such a lot white literary remedies may have been. whereas he occasionally refers to them as "savages," --and it is reasonable to notice that they're humans who, in genuine life, now and then DID torture captives and kill noncombatants-- he does not demonize them or cause them to out to be stupid, unfeeling brutes. Like whites, members might be villains, like Magua, yet different contributors may be very good; identify personality Uncas is portrayed as an admirable embodiment of masculine virtues, and the writer really contrasts Indian tradition with Anglo-European tradition to the drawback of the latter in numerous places. Critics of Romantic institution action-adventure fiction are likely to deny that it has any critical messages (partly simply because they do not are looking to see messages they do not like, or realize critical idea in a despised source), yet they are current the following nevertheless, and with regards to the above. ethical traits reminiscent of courage, honor, loyalty, kindness and self-sacrifice, generosity, and love for friends and family are either praised and provided by way of favorable example, whereas the other features are disparaged. and there is a severe name to the reader to discard prejudiced methods of humans of different races/cultures. it is no twist of fate that Uncas, an Indian depicted at a time while many of us despised Indians, is the name personality and genuine hero of the book, and that Cora, the most powerful girl personality and Cooper's transparent favorite, is usually the only with a few Negro descent on her mother's side. (In this respect, the racial attitudes here, IMO, express an strengthen in enlightenment at the a part of the maturing Cooper that may not glaring in past works just like the secret agent and The Pioneers, the 2 different Cooper novels i have read.) there is even a touch that for Cooper, the assumption of interracial romance is not a whole taboo, even though the presentation is subtle. True, Hawkeye, who evidently consists of a few emotional luggage from being disparaged via different whites for his Indian associations, stresses his un-crossed bloodlines without Indian "taint," and will not think about the assumption of intermarriage (though his bond along with his Indian associates is subversive of his culturally-conditioned racism). yet to immediately assume, as a few readers do, that Hawkeye should always converse for Cooper is, I think, a mistake. he's who he is, warts and all, and that comes with being opinionated and fallible (it's no longer likely, for instance, that his disdain for books and literacy was once shared through an writer who used to be a qualified writer!). Cooper was once a powerful Christian, and this booklet has numerous naturally-integrated references to spiritual religion and prayer, in addition to a few brief discussions of non secular belief. the kind of Christian trust Cooper unearths congenial comes throughout as one that isn't doctrinally dogmatic and slender (as against Gamut's Calvinism), and never judgmental in consigning others to hellfire and damnation. (When Hawkeye refuses to translate Colonel Munro's statement, "Tell them, that the Being all of us worship, less than assorted names, may be aware in their charity; and that the time shall no longer be far-off once we may possibly gather round his throne with out contrast of sex, rank, or color," this reader perceived Munro, now not Hawkeye, as conversing for the author!) A significant factor in my score was once the ending.

(view spoiler)[At the climax, the 2 so much confident characters within the publication are killed. This accords with the Romantic penchant for tragedy, which i do not percentage as strongly; I a lot desire satisfied endings. however the finishing here, whereas i did not like it, does appear to have an inherently fated caliber that grows obviously out of the arc of the story. (hide spoiler)] on the similar time, the final bankruptcy is without doubt one of the so much emotionally rich, evocative passages in American letters; on re-reading it, I raised my ranking by means of a star. Since Twain established so much of his assaults on Cooper at the Deerslayer (which i would like to learn eventually), it sort of feels larger to reply to his essay intimately every time I evaluation that book. yet the place he makes common or particular criticisms that follow to this book, it really is acceptable to say these here. First, as to Cooper overusing the equipment of a sprig breaking and alerting anyone to movement, in this studying I regarded fairly for that. It happens once, in a 423-page book. Second, Twain doesn't determine that it truly is impossible, in a fog, to back down the path of a spent cannonball that, via his personal admission, might bypass and roll over damp ground, leaving marks; he establishes that it might be relatively tough --in different words, this type of factor heroes or heroines in motion fiction frequently do, the place much less able characters would not have the ability to. And third, if it is an iron-clad legislations of nature that each mark within the backside of a working circulation is kind of immediately absolutely erased by way of the current, we are at a loss to account for fossilized impressions of such marks that persisted till they grew to become to rock. In practice, it makes loads of distinction how deep the mark is, how mallable the ground is, how briskly the present is moving, and what sort of time elapsed because the mark was once made. Cooper is not the one being unobservant on that point. Reading this e-book was once a funky journey down reminiscence lane; it used to be striking how a lot detail, and sometimes how a lot distinct wording, I remembered! it really is certainly re-whetted my urge for food to learn extra of his paintings (one of those years!). Of course, there are various actual to-read piles in my workplace to be hacked through, or a minimum of reduced, first...["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>

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