

ANALYZING DIMMESDALES CHARACTER IN THE SCARLET LETTER BY NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE

During this lesson, we will examine Arthur Dimmesdale, one of the central characters in 'The Scarlet Letter' by Nathaniel Hawthorne. A brief plot overview.

These thoughts explain why he can so easily write his Election Day sermon, which is filled with the passion of his struggle and his humanity. The gradual deterioration of Dimmesdale's health is aggravated by Chillingworth, who seeks his revenge for his part in the adultery. As a minister, Dimmesdale has a voice that consoles and an ability to sway audiences. Thus, Dimmesdale leads a hypocritical life. As both a badge of shame and a beautifully wrought human artifact, it reflects the many oppositions in the novel, such as those between order and transgression, civilization and wilderness, and adulthood and childhood. In death, perhaps he will find a gentler judgment than his own or that of his fellow citizens of Boston. For Dimmesdale, however, his effectiveness betrays his desire to confess. In the forest scene, Dimmesdale evidently realizes that he is human and should ask forgiveness and do penance openly. There is no doubt that he is devoted to God, passionate in his religion, and effective in the pulpit. On the way home, he sees how far his defenses have been breached by evil. As demonstrated later, his weakened condition makes it easier for him to associate himself with the Black Man in the forest. Although he will not confess it publicly, he is the father of her child. Dimmesdale's skepticism and his lack of faith in himself are responsible for his tragic end. However, Dimmesdale has an unusually active conscience. They reasoned that the elect "that is, God's chosen people" would not or could not commit evil acts; they would act the role, as it were; thus, Dimmesdale's dilemma. Hester herself is revealed to be a self-reliant heroine who is never truly repentant for committing adultery with the minister; she feels that their act was consecrated by their deep love for each other. It is in the introduction that we meet the narrator who comes across an account of Hester Prynne more than years after the incident and writes a fictional account of her life. In the end, Chillingworth is morally degraded by his monomaniacal pursuit of revenge. His duality, in retaining his pious image in public and leading a guilt-ridden life of penance in private, mars his health and causes his physical deterioration. His ministry aids people in leading good lives. Only Hester can face the future bravely, as she prepares to begin a new life with her daughter, Pearl, in Europe. The fear of public exposure and its consequences prevents Dimmesdale from openly confessing his sin although he mildly attempts to do so several times.