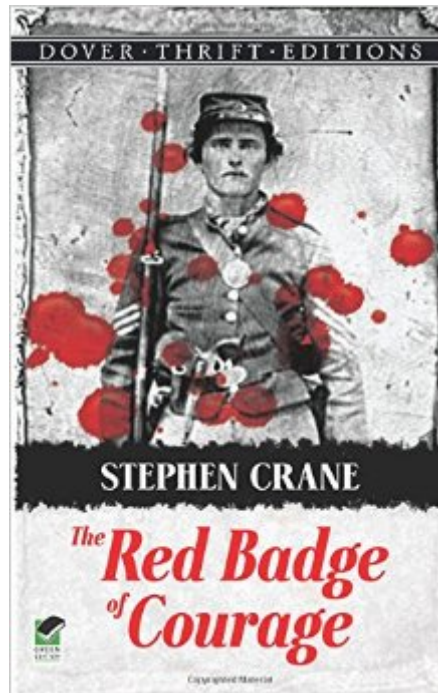


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The Red Badge Of Courage (Dover Thrift Editions)



Synopsis

First published in 1895, this small masterpiece set the pattern for the treatment of war in modern fiction. The novel is told through the eyes of Henry Fleming, a young soldier caught up in an unnamed Civil War battle who is motivated not by the unselfish heroism of conventional war stories, but by fear, cowardice, and finally, egotism. However, in his struggle to find reality amid the nightmarish chaos of war, the young soldier also discovers courage, humility, and perhaps, wisdom. Although Crane had never been in battle before writing *The Red Badge of Courage*, the book was widely praised by experienced soldiers for its uncanny re-creation of the sights, sounds, and sense of actual combat. Its publication brought Crane immediate international fame and established him as a major American writer. Today, nearly a century later, the book ranks as an enduring landmark of American fiction.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 500 (What's this?)

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications, Inc.; Dover edition (July 1, 1990)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486264653

ISBN-13: 978-0486264653

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.2 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (614 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #21,023 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > United States > Classics](#) #804 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Classics](#) #2650 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Literary](#)

Age Range: 11 and up

Grade Level: 6 and up

Customer Reviews

Unlike many others I was never required to read "The Red Badge of Courage" in High School. When I saw that it was among the many other classics that are now available for free on the Kindle I happily took the opportunity to read it; I am glad that I did. There are plenty of reviews of the novel itself on the print version, so first a note about the Kindle Edition of this book: I found no typos or poor formatting of the text throughout the Kindle Edition, which is a nice change from many of the

other free classics. The only problem with this edition is that the table of contents does not work. It looks as if it should, but it is apparently just a large image within the text file, instead of clickable links to the relevant sections of the book. This is not a big deal, but it is always nice to have a working table of contents for reference. As for the story: *The Red Badge of Courage* tells the story of Henry, often referred to as the "Youth," and his transformation over the course of a few days. Considering the author never fought in a war, his reflections on the way battles can change a person are truly insightful, and at times even breath-taking. Stephen Crane also had a talent for describing the world around Henry allowing the reader to feel as if they are in the novel. The book is quite short, but Crane does a great job developing Henry's character. As Henry goes from scared, to terrified, to arrogant, and eventually humble, you find yourself actively liking and disliking Henry through his transformation, as if you were there. There are two particular literary devices Crane uses that I particularly enjoyed and make the novel poetic at times. First, almost all of the characters have both a name and then also a character description.

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