

APPENDICES

SYNOPSIS OF THE SCARLET LETTER

Hester Prynne is a wife of Roger Prynne. Her marriage is happy before she goes to New England without being accompanied by her husband. She is tempted to have an affair with Arthur Dimmesdale, a reverend in the puritan society and she gives birth to a daughter. Society wants to know who the father is but Hester insists on hiding the identity of the father. Society condemns her cruelly by putting the scarlet letter symbol, A, which symbolizes the sin of adultery on her chest.

Hester feels that this is a very severe on this punishment. Society does not regard her as a good woman because society thinks that she is a bad woman who is involved with Satan. Hester works as a seamstress to earn her daily bread. She makes beautiful dresses for people in the town including the governor. The A letter symbol has caused Hester to be patient. Hester helps poor people although sometimes they refuse her help.

Meanwhile, people change their mind because they think Hester has become a good person. Some people think that Hester is very helpful, patient, and keen. Hester takes care of Pearl, her only child. Pearl is growing and becomes an impish child but Hester still loves Pearl. When the community

attempts to take Pearl away from her, she refuses their command and defend her child.

Later, Arthur confesses that he loves Hester and he is the father of Pearl. After that confession, Arthur dies and Roger dies one year later. Finally, Hester feels free because she does not have to keep her lover's identity anymore. She goes with Pearl to start a new life in another town. After several years, she comes back to that town, still wearing the A letter symbol.

SYNOPSIS OF THE MERMAID CHAIR

Jessie Sullivan is Hugh Sullivan's wife. She takes care of her family well. She loves her husband because her husband is very kind. After Dee, Jessie's only daughter, goes to college and stays at boarding house in Vanderbilt, Jessie feels so lonely. She feels uncomfortable in her house. After receiving a call from her mother's friend, Kat, telling her that Jessie's mother, Nelle Dubois, cuts her finger off, she goes to her homeland, Egret Island. First, she feels sad, wondering what happens to her mother as she has bad relationship with her mother. It becomes a good reason for her to separate for a while from Hugh Sullivan, her husband. Jessie's relationship with her mother is not good because Jessie thinks that her mother still blames Jessie for her father's death.

In Egret Island, Jessie has an affair with a junior monk, Whit, in the St. Senara Church. She feels that Whit has a good side, because he earnestly trusts his God. Jessie refuses Hugh's coming to Egret Island because she is in love with Whit. Jessie feels that this affair is her second love, which is the same as when she fell in love with Hugh. Elle cuts her finger again and the real problem is revealed.

Nelle, Kat and Father Dominic kill her father because her father requires them to do so. Jessie feels free because she always blames herself on her father's death. Jessie regrets because she has hurt Hugh and Dee.

When having the affair, she does not realize that she has a happy family. She comes back to Atlanta and apologizes to Hugh. She wants to fix her fault. At first, Hugh only lets Jessie alone. At night, Jessie sleeps in the guest room and keeps thinking about her fault. In the morning, Hugh makes breakfast for them, which means that Hugh and Jessie want to fix their marriage and start a new life. After several years, she goes to Egret Island by herself and Hugh allows her because Hugh trusts her.

BIOGRAPHY OF NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE

Nathaniel Hawthorne was born on July 4, 1804, in Salem, Massachusetts. He was a 19th century American novelist and short-story writer. Nathaniel's father is William Hawthorne, who emigrated from England in 1630 and was the first of Hawthorne's ancestors to arrive in the colonies. Hawthorne studied in the Bowdoin College from 1821 to 1824, he made friend with Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and the future president Franklin Pierce. In that college, he joined the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. He wrote Twice-Told Tales in 1837. Hawthorne's career as a novelist was boosted by The Scarlet Letter in 1850, in which the preface refers to his three-year tenure in the Custom House at Salem. The House of the Seven Gables (1851) and The Blithedale Romance (1852) followed in quick succession.

Many of Hawthorne's writings are about New England and many feature moral allegories with a Puritan inspiration. His fiction works are considered of the Romantic movement and, specifically, dark romanticism. His writings would also reflect his negative view of the Transcendentalism movement. His themes are often about the inherent evil and sin of humanity. His works often have moral messages and deep psychological complexity.

Source: "Nathaniel Hawthorne". Wikimedia Foundation, Inc. 27 March 2007
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nathaniel_Hawthorne

BIOGRAPHY OF SUE MONK KIDD

Sue Monk Kidd was born on August 12, 1948 in Sylvester, Georgia. She is a great novelist. Sue's works are influenced by Henry David Thoreau, Kate Chopin, Thomas Merton, Martha Burke and Carl Jung. She read Thoreau's spiritual memoir, Walden, and Kate Chopin's novel, The Awakening, and they had a deep impact on her and made her a great novelist. Her writing is inspired by place. The Secret Life of Bees, her first novel, is inspired by her experiences of growing up in Sylvester

Sue mostly writes spiritual memoir and novels. Sue's second novel, The Mermaid Chair, has been sold more than 1.7 million copies since its publication, in 2005. It explores a woman's self-awakening, the inner conflict of mid life marriage, and about region in the female soul where the blame, sex and doubt mix together. The Mermaid Chair was soon the #1 spot on the *New York Times*

bestseller list. It is the Winner of the 2005 Quill Award for General Fiction, and was on translated into 23 languages and was produced as a television movie.

Today Sue lives in Charleston, South Carolina, with her husband Sandy, her two children, and their black lab, Lily. She writes in a book-lined, upstairs study where she can see the beautiful view at the tidal creeks and marsh birds. She is still at work on a new book

. Source: "Author". Sue Monk Kidd.com. Sue Monk Kidd Official. 27 March 2007 <<http://www.suemonkkidd.com/author.asp>>