

The Catcher in the Rye

J.D. Salinger

Reviewed by: Antonella Risi, 16

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Set in the 1950s, it is the story of a teenager named Holden Caulfield telling the story of his two-day journey from his private school in Pennsylvania to New York City while in a mental institute. He goes through the world's complexities while being simple, attempts to go back home without alerting his parents, and asks some taxi drivers about where ducks in the Central Park pond go during the winter. He is alone during his journey, and the numerous different events that take place because of this and who he is are retold to the readers.

This book is commonly regarded as a classic and is one book that is usually taught in high school classes. While some parts of the book can be a bit much, the use of angst, alienation, and the search for truth in a world of "phonies" is used well and is the reason why high schools continue to teach it, alongside other reasons. I personally enjoyed this book, although some areas were slower, and there are definitely times when you need to look a little closer to get the real picture. I would recommend this to teenagers in high school and older.

Recommended Titles

A Separate Peace by John Knowles

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain