

The Adventures of Huck Finn

When I decided to write about one of the best novels of Mark Twain I was afraid that I won't give that story enough credit, that it surely deserves, but I will do my best!

Mark Twain's has put basic principles in novel writing The accurate description of the main characters, the attention to the surrounding environment, the very good use of details to make the reader witness an important stage of America history, the trenchant social analysis through the interaction of the persons and era that thankfully now gone! His main character Huck who is helping a slave "Jim" to have his freedom and they both go on an adventure across the Mississippi River while facing several adventures and going through a lot they develop a unique bond and friendship, Huck's Character is beyond amazing though he's just a little boy he is full of hope, strong, smart and always tries to survive in the harshest circumstances. He and his journey companion Jim are seeking freedom. Huck may be far away from the image of the ideal boy but who said that there's a certain pattern to follow to be a good boy? He refused every rule, followed his mind and heart and they were good enough for him, He didn't care about what everyone thinks or does, he just tried to be himself . All the conditions around him (poverty, being an orphan, his drunken father) didn't break his spirit or make him bitter, miserable or angry! They just made him stronger, smarter and more adaptable. Though the rough life he lived never made him lose his innocence or his pure heart. Any other boy in his shoes would have become a criminal but Huck isn't simply that kind of a man!

Huck respected his word, didn't lose his compassion, learned how to love and respect people regardless of their color. In my humble opinion we can all learn something from this young man:

“Be yourself, don’t surrender, don’t just cry and lament your bad luck. Respect what you believe in and always try to survive”.

There are a number of stops in his journey with his good friend Jim that I’ll try to comment on.

My First stop will be with his drunken father, the character that Mark Twain excelled in writing. It made me wonder how can anyone start drinking after reading this novel? His dad was a bitter old man who keeps cursing life and everything around him without lifting a finger to change his reality and condition! He’s an irresponsible, wimp with such a bad mouth that he even envies his only son for having a better life than him! What saddened me most is that his father, who was supposed to be the one who Huck should have been able to trust and depend on the most, let him down constantly and make him feel unsafe and insecure, failing to provide him with a feeling of security that only a father can provide!

Your children are very fragile creatures, they are weak and they put their trust in you to protect them and to keep them safe. That should be your priority in life as a parent so don’t let them down.

Drinking made him lose his mind to the extent that he tried to kill his own son once! Drinking makes you lose yourself and turn you into another person, a very lousy one, you lose yourself to your addiction till you become a slave, a slave to this nasty liquid.

His father didn’t do any thing to enhance his life, he became a burden on his child!

I think his father is a manifestation of all the evils of drinking in its best form ... I think all anti-alcohol organizations should distribute the novel for free in their meetings with a poster of Huck's dad next to the phrase "DON'T DRINK"!

My second stop will be with the thieves, they met on their way, those who joined them on their little raft. Unlike Huck, those two thieves represent all the defects of human nature, they are greedy, lazy, cold hearted. They had a dead conscience. As much as I would like to do so, I can't blame those thieves only. I surely, blame the naive people who made their job easier. If they had met people who use their brains a little bit, they wouldn't have been able to abuse them as they have done.

The village people shushed the one person that tried to warn them up. The entire Village judged the book by its cover and decided to put their trust in those strangers. Is it a coincidence that the little girl didn't believe them? Or the children always had a very strong intuition that helps them in judging people!

My third stop will be with the "Revenge Village" Two families have been killing each other for decades for absolutely no rational reasons. What could possibly be the reason for killing another human; another soul. In my opinion there isn't a reason on earth! Both families didn't have one sane person to ask the reason why, or who could stop this bloodshed! Not a single soul tried to stop this chain of nonsense. They do not even know why they are doing all that! When Huck asked his buddy Buck why they are carrying guns and killing each other, the young boy replied that nobody knows how the whole thing started! They just know that they are destined to keep killing each other! Sophia was the only one who decided to escape, break those hatred rules and marry the one she loved but like anyone who decides to stand up for what they believe in, there

were consequences ...a massacre broke out and Buck the young innocent boy was one of its victims. The lesson that we learn from this Village is when you follow outdated traditions, shut down your heart and soul and be fulfilled with blind hatred there will be always be a price to pay, there will be always victims.

My Fourth and last stop will be with the kind man “ Jim” the black slave who was seeking desperately for his freedom the thing that made him escape from his owner and face the death penalty or worse!

Jim didn't ask for too much, he just wanted to be treated as a human, he wanted his child to live in a dignified way, wanted his normal right to enjoy the company of his kids like a normal father, he wanted his effort to be for the sake of his small family. He wanted to be called by his name instead of the N word, when he was caught and treated like a slave again he never said a word about Huck. He loved him deeply as if he was his son in spite of the age difference. Jim was Huck's only friend and mentor, he even endured the bad treatment and the whipping without blaming Huck even with a bad look! Huck's good heart couldn't handle seeing his only friend in that position; he sacrificed the good life to rescue his friend in their journey together. Jim got the chance to teach Huck a few good lessons about life, how to use his brain, how to make his own judgments, how to appreciate freedom and how not to take anything for granted:

“When all people believe in something that doesn't mean they are right”

That was the valuable lesson he taught Huck: don't let anyone shape your opinions and principles. That is a lesson that could be useful to all of us.

To conclude, the story is beyond amazing, it's breath taking and provokes you to think. After having finished reading this story, my belief in the notion that we came to this world to change it not to simply accept it, greatly increased. That is what the young man did and that is what we all can do!

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