

Reading Guide

The Literary Catholic



The Literary Catholic Reading Guide is designed to assist readers as they navigate and engage with Catholic literature, which often explores themes of faith, morality, human nature, and redemption.

1. Themes of Faith: What do you consider to be the most important themes or messages in the book? How does the book address themes of faith and doubt? Are there any moments or characters that embody these themes? What question is the book asking?

2. Moral and Ethical Challenges: What moral dilemmas do the characters face? How do they resolve these, and what does that say about their character or belief system?

3. Character Development: How do the characters evolve throughout the book? Are their transformations influenced by their faith or lack thereof? What is underneath the character's veneer?

4. Impact of Setting: Consider the place and time. How does the setting influence the religious and philosophical undertones of the story? Does it add to the characters' spiritual journey?

5. Role of the Church: How is the Church portrayed in this work? Does it play a central role in the narrative or thematic development?

6. Influence of Catholic Doctrine: In what ways does Catholic doctrine influence the decisions, actions, or fate of the characters?

7. Symbols and Motifs: What symbols enhance the book's religious themes? How do these symbols help deepen the reader's understanding of the characters or the plot?

8. Comparative Reflections: How does the treatment of Catholic themes in this book compare to other books in the genre or other books by the same author?

9. Author's Perspective: Based on the text, what can be discerned about the author's own religious views? How do these influence the reader's perception of the story?

10. Personal Reflections: Which aspects of the book resonated with your life experiences or beliefs? Were there any points of significant agreement or disagreement? How do the book's insights impact or reflect on Catholic thought or society in general?

Look for Catholic Ideas

Good/Evil	Hope	Sanctity of Life	Humility
Temptation	Justice	Reconciliation	Compassion
Forgiveness	Charity/Love	Vocation/Purpose	Consequence
Perseverance	Suffering	Prayer	Courage
Redemption,	Miracles	Mercy	Patience
Sacrifice	Prophecy	Reflection	Generosity
Faith	Martyrdom	Resurrection	Fidelity
Grace	Sin	Conscience	Persistence
Community	Pilgrimage	Dignity of Work	Ecumenism