

heart of darkness

heart of darkness is a phrase that has become synonymous with the exploration of humanity's deepest and most complex moral and psychological struggles. Immortalized by Joseph Conrad's classic novella, "Heart of Darkness," this term delves into the darkness within the human soul and the consequences of unchecked ambition, colonialism, and moral ambiguity. This article offers a comprehensive analysis of "Heart of Darkness," exploring its plot, characters, primary themes, symbolism, and influence on literature and culture. Readers will gain a deeper understanding of the novella's intricate narrative structure, its historical context, and the enduring debates it inspires. With a focus on the heart of darkness as both a literal and metaphorical journey, this guide will equip anyone interested in classic literature, psychology, or cultural studies with the knowledge to appreciate and analyze Conrad's masterwork. Continue reading to uncover the multifaceted nature of "Heart of Darkness" and its lasting relevance in the modern world.

- Introduction
- Origins and Background of Heart of Darkness
- Plot Overview and Structure
- Major Themes in Heart of Darkness
- Key Characters and Characterization
- Symbolism and Imagery
- Critical Reception and Legacy
- Influence on Modern Literature and Culture
- Frequently Asked Questions

Origins and Background of Heart of Darkness

"Heart of Darkness" was written by Joseph Conrad, a Polish-British author whose own experiences as a sailor profoundly influenced his literary works. Originally published as a three-part serial in 1899 and later as a novella in 1902, it reflects the realities of European imperialism in Africa during the late 19th century. The story was inspired by Conrad's journey up the Congo River, which exposed him to the brutality and exploitation central to colonial enterprises. The novella's backdrop provides a historically rich context for the exploration of psychological darkness, reflecting both the literal wilderness of the Congo and the metaphorical wilderness of the human soul.

Plot Overview and Structure

"Heart of Darkness" is structured as a frame narrative. The primary story is recounted by Charles Marlow, a seasoned seaman, to a group of listeners aboard a boat anchored on the Thames River. Marlow narrates his journey into the African Congo, where he is tasked with retrieving Kurtz, an enigmatic ivory trader who has gone rogue. The plot unfolds as Marlow travels deeper into the continent, encountering the grim realities of colonial exploitation and the unraveling psyche of Kurtz. The novella's structure, moving from the civilized world to the untamed heart of darkness, mirrors Marlow's psychological descent and increasing moral ambiguity.

Major Themes in Heart of Darkness

Imperialism and Colonialism

One of the central themes in "Heart of Darkness" is the critique of European imperialism. Conrad exposes the hypocrisy and brutality of colonial enterprises, portraying the so-called civilizing mission as a veneer for greed and exploitation. The novella juxtaposes the supposed enlightenment of Europe with the darkness of unchecked ambition in Africa.

The Duality of Human Nature

"Heart of Darkness" explores the duality inherent in human nature. The novella suggests that darkness and savagery are not exclusive to the so-called uncivilized world, but exist within all humans. Marlow's journey becomes a metaphorical exploration of the capacity for evil within the self.

Moral Ambiguity and Relativism

Marlow's observations and internal struggles highlight the complexity of moral choices in a world where traditional values are upended. The novella avoids clear-cut judgments, instead presenting a morally ambiguous landscape where characters must navigate shifting ethical terrain.

- Imperial greed and exploitation
- Psychological descent and madness
- Contrast between civilization and savagery
- The illusion of progress

Key Characters and Characterization

Charles Marlow

Marlow serves as both narrator and protagonist. His introspective nature and philosophical outlook shape the narrative's tone and style. As he ventures deeper into the Congo, Marlow becomes increasingly disillusioned with the supposed nobility of imperial ventures and confronts profound questions about morality and the nature of evil.

Kurtz

Kurtz is the enigmatic ivory agent whose charisma and eloquence captivate those around him. However, his descent into madness and his willingness to embrace brutality highlight the corrupting power of absolute authority. Kurtz's final words, "The horror! The horror!" encapsulate the novel's exploration of existential dread.

The Manager and Other Supporting Characters

Several secondary characters, such as the Company Manager, the Brickmaker, and the Russian Harlequin, serve to illuminate different facets of colonial enterprise and human psychology. These characters often act as foils to Marlow and embody various attitudes toward power, ambition, and morality.

Symbolism and Imagery

The Congo River

The Congo River is a central symbol in "Heart of Darkness," representing both a physical route into the unknown and a metaphorical journey into the subconscious mind. As Marlow travels upriver, he moves further away from the trappings of civilization and deeper into primal territory.

Light and Darkness

Light and darkness are recurring motifs throughout the novella. While darkness is often associated with the unknown and the uncivilized, Conrad subverts these associations by depicting the heart of darkness as residing within the so-called enlightened Europeans. Light, conversely, can represent both knowledge and the blinding arrogance of colonial authority.

Kurtz's Painting and the Intended

Kurtz's painting of a blindfolded woman carrying a lighted torch is a powerful image, symbolizing the misguided nature of colonial benevolence. The Intended, Kurtz's fiancée, embodies innocence and the idealization of European values, standing in stark contrast to the reality that Marlow experiences.

Critical Reception and Legacy

Since its publication, "Heart of Darkness" has been the subject of extensive critical debate. Early readers were captivated by its narrative complexity and psychological depth, while later critics have analyzed its treatment of race, gender, and colonialism. The novella has been both praised for its literary innovation and critiqued for its portrayal of Africa and Africans. Despite controversy, "Heart of Darkness" remains a foundational text in modernist literature and postcolonial studies.

Influence on Modern Literature and Culture

"Heart of Darkness" has inspired countless adaptations, reinterpretations, and scholarly works. Its influence extends to film, most notably with the adaptation of its themes in "Apocalypse Now." The novella's exploration of the darkness within humanity resonates across genres, influencing writers, artists, and philosophers alike. Its phrases, such as "the horror," have entered popular consciousness and continue to provoke reflection on the nature of evil and civilization.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the main theme of heart of darkness?

A: The main theme of "Heart of Darkness" is the exploration of the darkness within the human soul, particularly as it relates to moral ambiguity, the effects of imperialism, and the duality of civilization and savagery.

Q: Who wrote heart of darkness and when was it published?

A: "Heart of Darkness" was written by Joseph Conrad and first published as a serial in 1899, then as a novella in 1902.

Q: What does the Congo River symbolize in heart of darkness?

A: The Congo River symbolizes both a physical journey into the African interior and a metaphorical journey into the subconscious mind and the depths of human nature.

Q: Why is Kurtz an important character in heart of darkness?

A: Kurtz represents the ultimate consequence of unchecked ambition and moral decay. His transformation in the Congo illustrates the novella's central concerns about power, madness, and the fragility of civilized values.

Q: How does heart of darkness critique colonialism?

A: "Heart of Darkness" critiques colonialism by exposing its brutal realities, questioning the supposed civilizing mission of Europeans, and highlighting the exploitation and dehumanization involved in imperial enterprises.

Q: What is the significance of the phrase "the horror! the horror!" in heart of darkness?

A: Kurtz's final words, "The horror! The horror!" signify his realization of the darkness within himself and the overwhelming evil present in the world. This phrase encapsulates the novella's existential and psychological themes.

Q: How is light used as a symbol in heart of darkness?

A: Light in "Heart of Darkness" often symbolizes knowledge, enlightenment, and civilization, but Conrad also uses it ironically to highlight the blindness and arrogance of colonial powers.

Q: In what ways has heart of darkness influenced modern culture?

A: "Heart of Darkness" has influenced modern literature, film, and critical theory, most notably inspiring the film "Apocalypse Now" and shaping discussions around postcolonialism and psychological exploration.

Q: Why is heart of darkness still relevant today?

A: The novella remains relevant due to its timeless examination of human nature, moral complexity, and the consequences of unchecked power, making it pertinent to discussions of history, politics, and psychology.

Heart Of Darkness

Find other PDF articles:

<https://fc1.getfilecloud.com/t5-goramblers-06/Book?dataid=QIV44-2782&title=linkedin-it-operations-assessment-answers.pdf>

Delving into the Depths: Unraveling the Enduring Power of "Heart of Darkness"

Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness" isn't just a novella; it's a literary expedition into the darkest corners of the human psyche. Published in 1902, its exploration of colonialism, imperialism, and the brutal realities of the Congo Free State continues to resonate with readers today. This post will delve deep into the narrative, exploring its themes, symbolism, and enduring relevance in the 21st century. We'll unpack its complex characters, analyze the narrative structure, and ultimately, consider why "Heart of Darkness" remains a cornerstone of literary study.

The Journey into the Abyss: Narrative Structure and Setting

"Heart of Darkness" unfolds as a frame narrative. Marlow, a seasoned sailor, recounts his journey up the Congo River to find Kurtz, a brilliant ivory agent who has succumbed to the savagery of the wilderness. This framing device allows Conrad to layer multiple perspectives and to highlight the unreliability of narrative itself. The journey itself is symbolic, a descent into the heart of both the geographical and psychological unknown. The oppressive, suffocating environment of the Congo mirrors the moral decay that Marlow witnesses. The relentless heat, the disease, and the omnipresent feeling of impending doom create a palpable atmosphere of dread.

The River as a Symbol: Flowing Through Time and Morality

The Congo River acts as more than just a geographical feature; it's a powerful symbol. It represents the flow of time, the passage from civilization to primal savagery, and the gradual erosion of morality. As Marlow travels further upriver, he moves further away from the societal norms and expectations he left behind, encountering increasingly disturbing sights and moral ambiguities. The river's journey becomes a metaphor for Marlow's own inner journey, a descent into the darkness within himself.

Characters: Exploring the Depths of Human Nature

The characters in "Heart of Darkness" are complex and multi-faceted, each representing different aspects of human nature.

Kurtz: The Enigma of Ambition and Madness

Kurtz, the elusive ivory agent, serves as the central enigma. His initial reputation precedes him as a brilliant and ambitious man, but Marlow's journey reveals a descent into madness fueled by unchecked ambition and the seductive power of absolute power. Kurtz's final words, "The horror! The horror!", remain chillingly ambiguous, hinting at the profound moral degradation he has experienced.

Marlow: The Reluctant Observer

Marlow acts as both the protagonist and the narrator. He is a detached observer, yet he is profoundly affected by what he witnesses. His journey is one of self-discovery, as he grapples with the implications of colonialism and confronts the darkness within himself and humanity.

The Company: The Face of Colonial Exploitation

The nameless "Company" represents the insidious nature of colonial exploitation. Its agents are often callous and indifferent to the suffering of the native population, prioritizing profit over human life. This portrayal underscores the dehumanizing effects of imperialism.

Themes: Unveiling the Darkness Within

"Heart of Darkness" tackles several profound themes, making it endlessly fascinating for literary analysis.

Colonialism and Imperialism: A Critical Examination

Conrad's unflinching portrayal of the brutal realities of colonialism is arguably the novel's most significant theme. The novella exposes the hypocrisy and violence inherent in the colonial enterprise, showing how it exploited and dehumanized the native population for economic gain.

Civilization vs. Savagery: A Blurred Line

The novella challenges the simplistic dichotomy between civilization and savagery. Marlow witnesses acts of brutal violence committed by both colonizers and colonized, blurring the lines between the two. He discovers that "civilization" itself can be a mask for barbarity.

The Darkness Within: Confronting the Human Psyche

Perhaps the most enduring theme is the exploration of the darkness within the human heart. The novella suggests that the true "heart of darkness" is not found solely in the Congo, but within the individuals who perpetrate the violence and exploitation. It's a chilling reflection on the capacity for evil that resides within all of us.

The Enduring Legacy of "Heart of Darkness"

"Heart of Darkness" remains a powerful and relevant work of literature because it confronts uncomfortable truths about humanity. Its exploration of colonialism, imperialism, and the complexities of the human psyche continue to resonate with readers in the 21st century. Its enduring power lies in its unflinching honesty and its ability to provoke critical thought about the darkness that can reside within individuals and societies.

Conclusion:

"Heart of Darkness" is not an easy read. It's a challenging, disturbing, and ultimately rewarding exploration of human nature and the destructive forces of unchecked ambition and colonial exploitation. Its power lies in its ambiguous nature, forcing us to confront uncomfortable truths and to question our own complicity in the systems that perpetuate injustice. Its themes of colonialism, the human psyche, and the nature of darkness continue to resonate powerfully, solidifying its place as a literary masterpiece.

FAQs:

1. Is "Heart of Darkness" racist? The novella's portrayal of Africans has been widely criticized for its stereotypical and dehumanizing representations. While Conrad wasn't explicitly racist in a modern sense, his work reflects the prevailing racist attitudes of his time. It's crucial to read the text with this historical context in mind and engage in critical analysis of its problematic aspects.
2. What is the significance of the ivory trade in "Heart of Darkness"? The ivory trade symbolizes the exploitative nature of colonialism and the insatiable greed that drove it. The pursuit of ivory becomes a metaphor for the relentless pursuit of wealth and power, at any cost.
3. How does Marlow's character change throughout the novella? Marlow begins as a relatively detached observer, but his experiences in the Congo profoundly impact him. He witnesses atrocities and moral ambiguities that shake his beliefs and force him to confront the darkness within himself.
4. What is the meaning of Kurtz's final words, "The horror! The horror!"? This line remains open to interpretation, but it likely reflects the profound horror and regret Kurtz feels for his actions and the moral degradation he has experienced. It speaks to the ultimate consequences of unchecked ambition and the horror of confronting one's own depravity.

5. Why is "Heart of Darkness" still relevant today? The novel's exploration of power, exploitation, and the darkness within human nature remains disturbingly relevant in the 21st century. Its themes of imperialism, racism, and the dehumanizing effects of unchecked ambition continue to resonate with contemporary readers and critics.

heart of darkness: Heart of Darkness Joseph Conrad, 1990 Dark allegory describes the narrator's journey up the Congo River and his meeting with, and fascination by, Mr. Kurtz, a mysterious personage who dominates the unruly inhabitants of the region. Masterly blend of adventure, character development, psychological penetration. Considered by many Conrad's finest, most enigmatic story.

heart of darkness: Heart of Darkness ,

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness* Joseph Conrad, 1993-10-26 In a novella which remains highly controversial to this day, Conrad explores the relations between Africa and Europe. On the surface, this is a horrifying tale of colonial exploitation. The narrator, Marlowe journeys on business deep into the heart of Africa. But there he encounters Kurtz, an idealist apparently crazed and depraved by his power over the natives, and the meeting prompts Marlowe to reflect on the darkness at the heart of all men. This short but complex and often ambiguous story, which has been the basis of several films and plays, continues to provoke interpretation and discussion. Heart of Darkness grew out of a journey Joseph Conrad took up the Congo River; the verisimilitude that the great novelist thereby brought to his most famous tale everywhere enhances its dense and shattering power. Apparently a sailor's yarn, it is in fact a grim parody of the adventure story, in which the narrator, Marlow, travels deep into the heart of the Congo where he encounters the crazed idealist Kurtz and discovers that the relative values of the civilized and the primitive are not what they seem. Heart of Darkness is a model of economic storytelling, an indictment of the inner and outer turmoil caused by the European imperial misadventure, and a piercing account of the fragility of the human soul.

heart of darkness: Heart of Darkness Joseph Conrad, 2022-10-19 Heart of Darkness, a novel by Joseph Conrad, was originally a three-part series in Blackwood's Magazine in 1899. It is a story within a story, following a character named Charlie Marlow, who recounts his adventure to a group of men onboard an anchored ship. The story told is of his early life as a ferry boat captain. Although his job was to transport ivory downriver, Charlie develops an interest in investing an ivory procurement agent, Kurtz, who is employed by the government. Preceded by his reputation as a brilliant emissary of progress, Kurtz has now established himself as a god among the natives in one of the darkest places on earth. Marlow suspects something else of Kurtz: he has gone mad. A reflection on corruptive European colonialism and a journey into the nightmare psyche of one of the corrupted, Heart of Darkness is considered one of the most influential works ever written.

heart of darkness: Heart of Darkness and Other Tales Joseph Conrad, 2002 Regarded as Conrad's finest tale, these stories tell of Marlow's journey up the Congo River to meet Mr Kurtz. This volume also includes 'An Outpost of Progress', 'Karain' and 'Youth' in a revised edition using the English first edition texts and with new chronology and bibliography.

heart of darkness: The Secret Agent Joseph Conrad, 2012-11-13 Revolutionaries in the backstreets of 19th-century London plot the destruction of Greenwich Observatory in this masterpiece of suspense. Rich in atmosphere and psychological realism.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness and The Secret Sharer* Joseph Conrad, 2004-03-02 Heart Of Darkness. The story of the civilized, enlightened Mr. Kurtz who embarks on a harrowing night journey into the savage heart of Africa, only to find his dark and evil soul. The Secret Sharer. The saga of a young, inexperienced skipper forced to decide the fate of a fugitive sailor who killed a man in self-defense. As he faces his first moral test the skipper discovers a terrifying truth -- and comes face to face with the secret itself. Heart Of Darkness and The Secret Sharer draw on actual events and people that Conrad met or heard about during his many far-flung travels. In portraying men

whose incredible journeys on land and at sea are also symbolic voyages into their own mysterious depths, these two masterful works give credence to Conrad's acclaim as a major psychological writer.

heart of darkness: A Shadow in Summer Daniel Abraham, 2007-04-01 From debut author Daniel Abraham comes *A Shadow in Summer*, the first book in the Long Price Quartet fantasy series. The powerful city-state of Saraykeht is a bastion of peace and culture, a major center of commerce and trade. Its economy depends on the power of the captive spirit, Seedless, an andat bound to the poet-sorcerer Heshai for life. Enter the Galts, a juggernaut of an empire committed to laying waste to all lands with their ferocious army. Saraykeht, though, has always been too strong for the Galts to attack, but now they see an opportunity. If they can dispose of Heshai, Seedless's bonded poet-sorcerer, Seedless will perish and the entire city will fall. With secret forces inside the city, the Galts prepare to enact their terrible plan. In the middle is Otah, a simple laborer with a complex past. Recruited to act as a bodyguard for his girlfriend's boss at a secret meeting, he inadvertently learns of the Galtish plot. Otah finds himself as the sole hope of Saraykeht, either he stops the Galts, or the whole city and everyone in it perishes forever. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

heart of darkness: Heart of Darkness Joseph Conrad, 2019-11-05 "Not only a triumph of graphic art but a compelling work of literary interpretation." —Maya Jasanoff, from the foreword Acclaimed illustrator Peter Kuper delivers a visually immersive and profound adaptation of Joseph Conrad's enduring classic.

heart of darkness: *From the Heart of Darkness* David Drake, 1983

heart of darkness: *Blood River* Tim Butcher, 2008 'Blood River' is a readable account of an African country now virtually inaccessible to the outside world and what is perhaps one of the most daring and adventurous journeys a journalist has made.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness and Selected Short Fiction* Joseph Conrad, 2023-09-12 When Charles Marlow travels to Africa to serve as steamboat pilot for an ivory-trading company, he learns he is to rendezvous with Kurtz, a trading-post agent held in high regard. But the deeper Marlow penetrates into the jungle, the grimmer the assessments of Kurtz become. Described by Conrad himself as something quite on another plane than an anecdote of a man who went mad in the Centre of Africa, *Heart of Darkness* has long been regarded as a powerful appraisal of the fragility of civilization and the consequences of imperialism. This collection includes another five of Conrad's incomparable tales of adventure, including *The Secret Sharer*, *Youth*, and *Typhoon*.

heart of darkness: Joseph Conrad Nicolas Tredell, 1999 At last available in a single volume: comprehensive overviews and concise analyses of the key critical texts and approaches to the most-studied works of literature. By assembling extracts from essays, reviews, and articles, the columbia critical guides provide students with ready access to the most important secondary writings on a single text or pair of texts by a given writer. each volume: -- Offers a balanced and nuanced approach to criticism, drawing on a wide array of British and American sources -- Explains criticism in terms of key approaches, allowing students to grasp the central issues for each work -- Is edited by a noted scholar who specializes in the writer or work in question -- Includes notes and a comprehensive bibliography and index. The critical works in this collection analyze the complex narrative technique of heart of darkness while exploring its evocation of myth, philosophy, and politics, its attitudes to empire, its images of Africa, and its representations of women. Examining secondary sources from the 1900s to the 1990s, this guide is an indispensable resource for the study of one of Conrad's most potent works.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness (Fifth International Student Edition) (Norton Critical Editions)* Joseph Conrad, 2016-08-29 "This is the best Norton Critical Edition yet! All my students have become intensely interested in reading Conrad—largely because of this excellent work." —Elise F. Knapp, Western Connecticut State University This Norton Critical Edition includes: - A newly edited text based on the first English book edition (1902), the last version to which Conrad is known to have actively contributed. "Textual History and Editing Principles" provides an overview

of the textual controversies and ambiguities perpetually surrounding *Heart of Darkness*. - Background and source materials on colonialism and the Congo, nineteenth-century attitudes toward race, Conrad in the Congo, and Conrad on art and literature. - Fifteen illustrations. - Seven contemporary responses to the novella along with eighteen essays in criticism—ten of them new to the Fifth Edition, including an entirely new subsection on film adaptations of *Heart of Darkness*. - A Chronology and an updated Selected Bibliography.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness (Wisehouse Classics Edition)* Joseph Conrad, 2015-11-15 *HEART OF DARKNESS* (1899) is a novella by Polish-British novelist Joseph Conrad, about a voyage up the Congo River into the Congo Free State, in the heart of Africa, by the story's narrator Marlow. Marlow tells his story to friends aboard a boat anchored on the River Thames, London, England. This setting provides the frame for Marlow's story of his obsession with the ivory trader Kurtz, which enables Conrad to create a parallel between London and Africa as places of darkness. Central to Conrad's work is the idea that there is little difference between so-called civilized people and those described as savages; *Heart of Darkness* raises important questions about imperialism and racism. Originally published as a three-part serial story in *Blackwood's Magazine*, the novella *Heart of Darkness* has been variously published and translated into many languages. In 1998, the Modern Library ranked *Heart of Darkness* as the sixty-seventh of the hundred best novels in English of the twentieth century.

heart of darkness: *Miss Lonelyhearts & The Day of the Locust (New Edition)* Nathanael West, 2009-06-23 A primer for Big Bad City disillusionment, unsparing in its portrayal of New York's debilitating entropy.—*The Village Voice*. With a new introduction by Jonathan Lethem. First published in 1933, *Miss Lonelyhearts* remains one of the most shocking works of 20th century American literature, as unnerving as a glob of black bile vomited up at a church social: empty, blasphemous, and horrific. Set in New York during the Depression and probably West's most powerful work, *Miss Lonelyhearts* concerns a nameless man assigned to produce a newspaper advice column — but as time passes he begins to break under the endless misery of those who write in, begging him for advice. Unable to find answers, and with his shaky Christianity ridiculed to razor-edged shards by his poisonous editor, he tumbles into alcoholism and a madness fueled by his own spiritual emptiness. During his years in Hollywood West wrote *The Day of the Locust*, a study of the fragility of illusion. Many critics consider it with F. Scott Fitzgerald's unfinished masterpiece *The Last Tycoon* (1941) among the best novels written about Hollywood. Set in Hollywood during the Depression, the narrator, Tod Hackett, comes to California in the hope of a career as a painter for movie backdrops but soon joins the disenchanting second-rate actors, technicians, laborers and other characters living on the fringes of the movie industry. Tod tries to seduce Faye Greener; she is seventeen. Her protector is an old man named Homer Simpson. Tod finds work on a film called prophetically "*The Burning of Los Angeles*," and the dark comic tale ends in an apocalyptic mob riot outside a Hollywood premiere, as the system runs out of control.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness* Joseph Conrad, 2000-10-31 Selected by the Modern Library as one of the 100 best novels of all time • Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's *The Great American Read* Introduction by Caryl Phillips Commentary by H. L. Mencken, E. M. Forster, Virginia Woolf, Ernest Hemingway, Bertrand Russell, Lionel Trilling, Chinua Achebe, and Philip Gourevitch Originally published in 1902, *Heart of Darkness* remains one of this century's most enduring works of fiction. Written several years after Joseph Conrad's grueling sojourn in the Belgian Congo, the novel is a complex meditation on colonialism, evil, and the thin line between civilization and barbarity. This edition contains selections from Conrad's *Congo Diary* of 1890—the first notes, in effect, for the novel, which was composed at the end of that decade. Virginia Woolf wrote of Conrad: "His books are full of moments of vision. They light up a whole character in a flash. . . . He could not write badly, one feels, to save his life."

heart of darkness: *King Leopold's Soliloquy* Mark Twain, 2020-03 Dear, dear, when the soft-hearts get hold of thing like that missionary's contribution they completely lose their tranquility they speak profanely and reproach Heaven for allowing such a find to live. Meaning me . They think

it irregular. They go shuddering around, brooding over the reduction of that Congo population from 25,000,000 to 15,000,000 in the twenty years of my administration; then they burst out and call me the King with Ten Million Murders on his Soul. They call me a 'record'. - From King Leopold's Soliloquy

heart of darkness: Women and Men Joseph McElroy, 1993 Beginning in childbirth and entered like a multiple dwelling in motion, *Women and Men* embraces and anatomizes the 1970s in New York--from experiments in the chaotic relations between the sexes to the flux of the city itself. Yet through an intricate overlay of scenes, voices, fact, and myth, this expanding fiction finds its way also across continents and into earlier and future times and indeed the Earth, to reveal connections between the most disparate lives and systems of feeling and power. At its breathing heart, it plots the fuguelike and fieldlike densities of late-twentieth-century life. McElroy rests a global vision on two people, apartment-house neighbors who never quite meet. Except, that is, in the population of others whose histories cross theirs--believers and skeptics; lovers, friends, and hermits; children, parents, grandparents, avatars, and, apparently, angels. For *Women and Men* shows how the families through which we pass let one person's experience belong to that of many, so that we throw light on each other as if these kinships were refracted lives so real as to be reincarnate. A mirror of manners, the book is also a meditation on the languages--rich, ludicrous, exact, and also American--in which we try to grasp the world we're in. Along the kindred axes of separation and intimacy *Women and Men* extends the great line of twentieth-century innovative fiction.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness* Jeremiah P. Ostriker, Simon Mitton, 2015-05-26 *Heart of Darkness* describes the incredible saga of humankind's quest to unravel the deepest secrets of the universe. Over the past thirty years, scientists have learned that two little-understood components--dark matter and dark energy--comprise most of the known cosmos, explain the growth of all cosmic structure, and hold the key to the universe's fate.--Jacket.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness and Other Stories* Joseph Conrad, 1995 Generally regarded as the pre-eminent work of Conrad's shorter fiction, 'Heart of Darkness' is a chilling tale of horror which, as the author intended, is capable of many interpretations.

heart of darkness: *Agua Viva* Clarice Lispector, 1989 Discusses life, time, beauty, experience, meaning, music, and art.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness (Fourth International Student Edition) (Norton Critical Editions)* Joseph Conrad, 2016-04-04 The Fourth Edition is again based on Robert Kimbrough's meticulously re-edited text. Missing words have been restored and the entire novel has been repunctuated in accordance with Conrad's style. The result is the first published version of *Heart of Darkness* that allows readers to hear Marlow's voice as Conrad heard it when he wrote the story. *Backgrounds and Contexts* provides readers with a generous collection of maps and photographs that bring the Belgian Congo to life. Textual materials, topically arranged, address nineteenth-century views of imperialism and racism and include autobiographical writings by Conrad on his life in the Congo. New to the Fourth Edition is an excerpt from Adam Hochschild's recent book, *King Leopold's Ghost*, as well as writings on race by Hegel, Darwin, and Galton. Criticism includes a wealth of new materials, including nine contemporary reviews and assessments of Conrad and *Heart of Darkness* and twelve recent essays by Chinua Achebe, Peter Brooks, Daphne Erdinast-Vulcan, Edward Said, and Paul B. Armstrong, among others. Also new to this edition is a section of writings on the connections between *Heart of Darkness* and the film *Apocalypse Now* by Louis K. Greiff, Margot Norris, and Lynda J. Dryden. A Chronology and Selected Bibliography are also included.

heart of darkness: *Dog Soldiers* Robert Stone, 1997 Small-time journalist John Converse thinks to cash in on the last days of the Vietnam War by becoming involved in a major drug deal, but things go very wrong when he gets back to the U.S. and finds himself hunted by a corrupt government agent.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness* Joseph Conrad, Ross C. Murfin, 1996 Now in its second edition, this popular case-study of Conrad's classic short novel reprints an authoritative text together

with five essays (four of which are newly-commissioned or revised) written from a range of contemporary critical perspectives.

heart of darkness: The Tell-Tale Heart Edgar Allan Poe, 2024-01-29 In Edgar Allan Poe's *The Tell-Tale Heart*, the narrator tries to prove his sanity after murdering an elderly man because of his vulture eye. His growing guilt leads him to hear the old man's heart beating under the floorboards, which drives him to confess the crime to the police.

heart of darkness: Heart of Darkness Joseph Conrad, 2019-06-06 *Heart of Darkness* is a novella written by Polish-born writer Joseph Conrad (born Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski). Before its 1902 publication, it appeared as a three-part series (1899) in *Blackwood's Magazine*. It is widely regarded as a significant work of English literature and part of the Western canon. This highly symbolic story is actually a story within a story, or frame narrative. It follows Marlow as he recounts, from dusk through to late night, his adventure into the Congo to a group of men aboard a ship anchored in the Thames Estuary. The story details an incident when Marlow, an Englishman, took a foreign assignment as a ferry-boat captain, employed by a Belgian trading company. Although the river is never specifically named, readers may assume it is the Congo River, in the Congo Free State, a private colony of King Leopold II. Marlow is employed to transport ivory downriver; however, his more pressing assignment is to return Kurtz, another ivory trader, to civilization in a cover up. Kurtz has a reputation throughout the region.

heart of darkness: Heart of Darkness Joseph Conrad, Paul O'Prey, 1989 Marlowe sails down the Congo in search of Kurtz, a company agent who has, according to rumors, become insane in the jungle isolation

heart of darkness: The Cambridge Companion to Joseph Conrad J. H. Stape, 1996-06-27 Leading scholars provide a comprehensive introduction to the work of Joseph Conrad.

heart of darkness: A Bright Shining Lie Neil Sheehan, 2009-10-20 One of the most acclaimed books of our time—the definitive Vietnam War exposé and the winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. When he came to Vietnam in 1962, Lieutenant Colonel John Paul Vann was the one clear-sighted participant in an enterprise riddled with arrogance and self-deception, a charismatic soldier who put his life and career on the line in an attempt to convince his superiors that the war should be fought another way. By the time he died in 1972, Vann had embraced the follies he once decried. He died believing that the war had been won. In this magisterial book, a monument of history and biography that was awarded the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction, a renowned journalist tells the story of John Vann—the one irreplaceable American in Vietnam—and of the tragedy that destroyed a country and squandered so much of America's young manhood and resources.

heart of darkness: HEART OF DARKNESS AND TALES OF UNREST. JOSEPH. CONRAD, 2024

heart of darkness: Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness Gene M. Moore, 2004 The books that comprise the 'Casebooks in Criticism' series offer edited in-depth readings and critical notes and studies on the most important classic novels. This volume explores Conrad's 'Heart of Darkness'.

heart of darkness: Youth, Heart of Darkness, The End of the Tether Joseph Conrad, 2010-10-07 Owen Knowles, Research Fellow at the University of Hull. --Book Jacket.

heart of darkness: Heart of Darkness "Annotated" Joseph Conrad, 2020-04-11 Joseph Conrad (born Teodor Józef Konrad Korzeniowski, 3 December 1857 - 3 August 1924) was a Polish-born novelist. Some of his works have been labelled romantic: Conrad's supposed romanticism is heavily imbued with irony and a fine sense of man's capacity for self-deception. Many critics regard Conrad as an important forerunner of Modernist literature. Conrad's narrative style and anti-heroic characters have influenced many writers, including Ernest Hemingway, D.H. Lawrence, Graham Greene, Joseph Heller and Jerzy Kosiński, as well as inspiring such films as *Apocalypse Now* (which was drawn from Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*).

heart of darkness: The Secret Sharer Joseph Conrad, 2024-07-16 »The Secret Sharer« is a short story by Joseph Conrad, originally published in 1910. JOSEPH CONRAD [1857–1924] was born in Ukraine to Polish parents, went to sea at the age of seventeen, and ended his career as a captain

in the English merchant navy. His most famous work is the novella *Heart of Darkness* [1899], adapted into a film by Francis Ford Coppola in 1979 as *Apocalypse Now*.

heart of darkness: *Heart Of Darkness* Joseph Conrad, 2019-06-29 *Heart of Darkness* is a novella written by Polish-born writer Joseph Conrad (born Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski). Before its 1902 publication, it appeared as a three-part series (1899) in *Blackwood's Magazine*. It is widely regarded as a significant work of English literature and part of the Western canon. This highly symbolic story is actually a story within a story, or frame narrative. It follows Marlow as he recounts, from dusk through to late night, his adventure into the Congo to a group of men aboard a ship anchored in the Thames Estuary. The story details an incident when Marlow, an Englishman, took a foreign assignment as a ferry-boat captain, employed by a Belgian trading company. Although the river is never specifically named, readers may assume it is the Congo River, in the Congo Free State, a private colony of King Leopold II. Marlow is employed to transport ivory downriver; however, his more pressing assignment is to return Kurtz, another ivory trader, to civilization in a cover up. Kurtz has a reputation throughout the region.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad (Illustrated) Joseph Conrad, 2018-09-03 Presenting *Heart of Darkness* (Large Print Edition) by Joseph Conrad. This classic is part of The Great Books Series by Golding Books. An allegorical novel (or precisely a novella) like no other, *Heart of Darkness* is a masterpiece of psychological fiction and one of many classic sea stories from Joseph Conrad, though the action predominantly takes place on the Congo River. Charles Marlow captains a steamboat for an ivory trading company, and grows obsessed with ivory trader Kurtz, who has turned himself into a charismatic demigod of the local tribes. *Heart of Darkness* examines what it means to be civilized, and in asking questions about imperialism and racism it suggests much about who people at the time called savages and who is the cause of darkness. It is one of the most gripping and incisive of dark classics, and is also an excellent introductory point to classic and complex short novels or more serious literature (including its suitability as young adult literature). Golding Books' Great Books Series, along with its Essential Series, comprises a wide variety of classic, influential and important books. These two series aim to champion not only remarkable and recognized literary achievements, but also to highlight the meaningful and significant works of lesser-known authors. Get your copy of the titles through convenient online purchase as an eBook or in paperback (including some Large Print editions). Joseph Conrad was born Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski in the Russian Empire (now Ukraine, and once part of the Kingdom of Poland) in 1857. Because of his father's attempts at farming and political activism, the family moved repeatedly (such as to Warsaw, Vologda, and Chernihiv) and Conrad was home-schooled. An aloof and often depressed man, 20-year-old Conrad attempted suicide by shooting himself in the chest with a revolver. Born a Russian subject, he was granted British nationality in 1886 after joining the British merchant marine in 1878, and eventually settled in Kent, England. About half of his 19-year merchant marine career was spent at sea; he achieved captain's rank after working in numerous crew roles. His most popular novels include *The Nigger of the 'Narcissus'* (1897), *Heart of Darkness* (1899), *Lord Jim* (1900), *Typhoon* (1902), *Nostromo* (1904), and *The Secret Agent* (1907). After suffering throughout his life from issues with his physical and mental health, Conrad died of a likely heart attack at the age of 66.

heart of darkness: *The Love Hypothesis* Ali Hazelwood, 2021-09-14 The Instant New York Times Bestseller and TikTok Sensation! As seen on THE VIEW! A BuzzFeed Best Summer Read of 2021 When a fake relationship between scientists meets the irresistible force of attraction, it throws one woman's carefully calculated theories on love into chaos. As a third-year Ph.D. candidate, Olive Smith doesn't believe in lasting romantic relationships--but her best friend does, and that's what got her into this situation. Convincing Anh that Olive is dating and well on her way to a happily ever after was always going to take more than hand-wavy Jedi mind tricks: Scientists require proof. So, like any self-respecting biologist, Olive panics and kisses the first man she sees. That man is none other than Adam Carlsen, a young hotshot professor--and well-known ass. Which is why Olive is positively floored when Stanford's reigning lab tyrant agrees to keep her charade a secret and be

her fake boyfriend. But when a big science conference goes haywire, putting Olive's career on the Bunsen burner, Adam surprises her again with his unyielding support and even more unyielding...six-pack abs. Suddenly their little experiment feels dangerously close to combustion. And Olive discovers that the only thing more complicated than a hypothesis on love is putting her own heart under the microscope.

heart of darkness: *Heart of Darkness* - Ed. Goonetilleke - Second Edition Joseph Conrad, 1999-08-16 The story of Marlow travelling upriver in central Africa to find Kurtz, an ivory agent as consumed by the horror of human life as he is by physical illness, has long been considered a classic, and continues to be widely read and studied. This edition, edited by one of the leading figures in 'the Conrad controversy,' includes an introduction and explanatory notes, as well as a fascinating variety of contemporary documents that help to set this extraordinary work in the context of the period from which it emerged. The introduction and bibliography have been updated, and two new appendices have been added; the second of these is a selection of Alice Harris's extraordinary but little-known photographs documenting the horrors of colonialism in turn-of-the-century Congo.

heart of darkness: Heart of Darkness Joseph Conrad, 2017-05-03 *Heart of Darkness* (1899) is a short novel by Polish novelist Joseph Conrad, written as a frame narrative, about Charles Marlow's experience as an ivory transporter down the Congo River in Central Africa. The river is a mighty big river, that you could see on the map, resembling an immense snake uncoiled, with its head in the sea, its body at rest curving afar over a vast country, and its tail lost in the depths of the land. In the course of his travel in central Africa, Marlow becomes obsessed with Mr. Kurtz. The story is a complex exploration of the attitudes people hold on what constitutes a barbarian versus a civilized society and the attitudes on colonialism and racism that were part and parcel of European imperialism. Originally published as a three-part serial story, in *Blackwood's Magazine*, the novella *Heart of Darkness* has been variously published and translated into many languages. In 1998, the Modern Library ranked *Heart of Darkness* as the sixty-seventh of the hundred best novels in English of the twentieth century.

Back to Home: <https://fc1.getfilecloud.com>