Laundromat Encyclopedia Article

Laundromat

The following sections of this BookRags Literature Study Guide is offprint from Gale's For Students Series: Presenting Analysis, Context, and Criticism on Commonly Studied Works: Introduction, Author Biography, Plot Summary, Characters, Themes, Style, Historical Context, Critical Overview, Criticism and Critical Essays, Media Adaptations, Topics for Further Study, Compare & Contrast, What Do I Read Next?, For Further Study, and Sources.

(c)1998-2002; (c)2002 by Gale. Gale is an imprint of The Gale Group, Inc., a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. Gale and Design and Thomson Learning are trademarks used herein under license.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Encyclopedia of Popular Fiction: "Social Concerns", "Thematic Overview", "Techniques", "Literary Precedents", "Key Questions", "Related Titles", "Adaptations", "Related Web Sites". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults: "About the Author", "Overview", "Setting", "Literary Qualities", "Social Sensitivity", "Topics for Discussion", "Ideas for Reports and Papers". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

All other sections in this Literature Study Guide are owned and copyrighted by BookRags, Inc.

Contents

Laundromat Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Laundromat.....3

Laundromat

The first business to provide self-service washing machines and clothes dryer s for a fee opened in 1934 in Fort Worth, Texas. Later establishments also offered soap, bleach, and blueing. As time went on, improvements were made to the laundry equipment available, amenities added, and washers and dryers became coin operated. In 1984 a business featuring laundry activities on one side of the facility and a deli on the other opened in Austin, Texas. Some modern facilities serve refreshments and food, provide dance music and videos, and are decorated with everything from neon lights to hanging plants although they might more accurately be referred to as dollar, rather than coin operated. Many modern laundromats will wash, dry and fold customer's clothes for a fee.