Leather Jacket Encyclopedia Article

Leather Jacket

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

Leather Jacket Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Leather Jacket.....3

Leather Jacket

Few pieces of clothing carry the rich connotations of the leather jacket, especially when it is the personality-laden black motorcycle style. Since the prehistoric era, people have worn leather, but in the twentieth century, the black leather jacket became the symbol of the outlaw when it was used as protective outerwear for motorcycle enthusiasts. Marlon Brando exemplified the style in the film *The Wild One,* and the coat became a necessity for Hell's Angels and other bikers who emblazoned their club's name on the back. Rock stars and punks later latched on to this "bad boy" image of black leather, but leather jackets eventually found mainstream favor when manufacturers began creating leather in a variety of styles and colors, such as the brown bomber jacket and haute couture skirts and blazers. The mystique of the original biker style, however, endures.

Further Reading:

Farren, Mick. *The Black Leather Jacket.* New York, Abbeville Press, 1985.

Fitzpatrick, Catherine. "For the Ultrahip, Skins Have Always Been In." *St. Louis Post-Dispatch.* January 8, 1998, 2.

Jensen, Jim. "Black Leather Is a Timeless Fashion Statement."*Rocky Mountain News.* August 7, 1998, 8M.