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Theme in book monster by walter dean myers

This study guide consists of about 45 pages of chapter summaries, quotes, character analysis, themes and more - all you need to sharpen your knowledge of the Monster. This section contains 1,142 words (about 3 pages in 400 words per page) Monster's primary theme reveals how the U.S. justice system works to determine the cause of a crime and how to punish a criminal. The book depicts the prison system through the eyes of a 16-year-old black teenager who paints terrible pictures of life in prison, and this is just a detention centre, not a prison. All entering the system will be punished, guilty or not. Steve is desperate to get out of prison, even if it means taking his own life. He also notes that the authorities take the prisoner's shoelaces and belt so that the prisoner does not commit suicide. Is prison really this bad? For Steve, it's the worst place in the world. But he hasn't lived much life yet. Compared to other prison situations involving approved torture rather than legal proceedings, the Manhattan Detention Center... (read more) This section contains 1,142 words (about 3 pages in 400 words per page) copyrights Monster from BookRags. (c)2020 BookRags, Inc. All rights reserved. Detailed explanations, analyses and quotes for each important offer from Litcharts. Walter Dean Myers Monster Study Guide Summary Previous page | Table of Contents | The Introspection theme of next PageDownloadable / Printable version is the most essential in the novel. It suggests how the whole novel is not only about Steve's retelling of events he has to endure after Mr. Nesbitt's murder, but also about how he works through every step of the road he took when he joined the likes of Bobo, James and Osvaldo. Sometimes he believes he has done nothing wrong, whereas sometimes, at least in his heart, he knows what he did was wrong. This introduction begins at the beginning of the manuscript, but does not stop when the manuscript ends. Steve still doesn't know who he is, and it's clear he's in some kind of crisis, trying to figure out the truth. He can't forget the disgust in Miss O'Brien's face, so introspection has a long way to go. Peer pressure Another theme is peer pressure. This is another important idea put forward for young people who may read this novel. It presents the reality of the world that there are people who do bad things out of selfishness and greed, and they often affect the people around them in devastating ways. This is true for all young people, but there is a particular problem in the inner city, where young black men have few, if any, good role models in their lives. Steve hasn't as deeply influenced this as Bobo, James and Osvaldo, but he too feels pressure to belong to groups and individuals who don't affect him positively. Proving manhood is very important. It could mean joining a gang. Or follow a tougher man with a robbery or even murder in mind. For Steve, the lessons of his home were not enough to withstand the pressure, and in his desire to show that he was a man, he made decisions with which he must live the rest of his life. As a young black man in Harlem, the third theme is the theme of young black men in Harlem. This theme is part of the author's intention to show how life in the inner city leads many young black men straight to prison. They live in quiet despair where they can prove themselves or make any kind of impression only through crime. They are often uneducated and insufficiently prepared to live an honest and moral life. The author does not try to justify what these young men do, nor to absolve them of their crimes; However, he is trying to point out the social problems that we often want to throw under the carpet or, in the case of these black men, go to jail. It is a problem that black people have to face, but it is also a problem for our whole country. There are too many young black men in prison, and the reasons why they should be analyzed and solved. Race and the American justice system The last theme concerns race and the justice system. Even Ms. O'Brien knows that race influences the jury's perception of the accused perpetrator. He's afraid that being black automatically makes the jury feel like he's guilty. Moreover, the author seems to imply that the justice system puts these people in jail by a means necessary and is therefore biased. In fact, there is a subtle suggestion that often a young black man cannot get a fair trial. Previous Page | Table of Contents | Next Page Downloadable /Printable Version Monster Walter Dean Myers Free BookNotes Summary Switch nav join today and never see them again. By entering your email address, you agree to receive emails from Shmoop and make sure you are over 13 years of age. HomeStudy GuidesMonsterThemes Monster Monster's central theme is fraud. Even from the moment the novel begins, it is impossible to determine Steve's innocence simply by evaluating his diary entries. As the legal proceedings continue, it is also impossible to determine which characters are actually telling the truth. The testimonies of witnesses cannot be trusted, as many of these individuals have entered into agreements with their lawyers to exchange their testimony for a reduction in the sentence. The prevalence of fraud reflects the inhumane prison conditions in the United States. Prisoners rely on their survival tactics and act in immoral ways to safeguard their safety and mental health. Although Steve is constantly surrounded by other inmates, prison is the loneliest place Steve has ever been. Due to Steve's age and the nature of the alleged crime, he is being held alone in a cell. At night, he wants the comfort of his home life and the company of his little brother. Steve's physical state of loneliness even more so because of his emotional loneliness. Loneliness. In prison and in the courtroom, everyone treats Steve with suspicion, disgust and pity. His family's reaction to his capture also reinforces Steve's sense of isolation. Although his family vows to support him, Steve confesses that he has broken their trust. This grip makes Steve feel even more distant from these of these he loves. While Monster offers an insight into the American justice system, it also tells the family's story. Although Steve is the only one who experiences prison and his trial first-hand, each family member is separately affected by Steve's alleged involvement in the crime. Jerry, Steve's younger brother, is struggling with the absence of one of his best friends. Mrs Harmon insists on defending her son's innocence, but he is constantly concerned for his safety and well-being. Mr. Harmon is having trouble accepting Steve's alleged involvement in the crime. Although he claims to believe in his son's innocence, Mr. Harmon becomes increasingly confident after every prison visit. Even after Steve's release, Mr. Harmon can't accept Steve back in his home and his life. Steve's insinuation that he has disappointed his family adds to his sense of self-disgust. Throughout the novel, fear is portrayed in a way that personifies emotion. Fear is experienced in almost all the protagonists of the novel in some form. For example, many convicted criminals experience primitive fear for their lives and well-being. On the other hand, Mrs. Harmon fears for the boy's safety in prison. Osvaldo offers yet another perspective on fear when he testifies that he was forced into a crime because of Bobo's fear. In prison, Steve worries about being beaten, raped or killed. In addition, he fears the verdict of his trial. Although Steve experiences a primitive sense of fear in prison, he also fears for his life when he is acquitted. Steve is concerned that he will not be able to continue to feel normal because of the social stigma of criminals. Steve also fears he's violated his family's trust. At his core, Steve fears the truth. He is concerned that he is a monster and fears that he may face the consequences of his morality. In the opening pages of the novel, we learned that Steve is overwhelmed and shocked by his prison experience. Surviving his depression, Steve decides to chronicle his reality in the form of a script. This creative decision gives the reader a glimpse of Steve's playful imagination. Steve also uses the script to distance himself from his reality. Although Steve has lost his autonomy and individualism in prison, the script is a way for him to maintain a sense of creative control. Steve is able to channel his energy into the script instead of tawing his negative thoughts. That way, the script is incredibly therapeutic for Steve. during the novel Steve refers to numerous sayings and tenants who are mottos for an American American System. At the beginning of the novel, Steve believes he is innocent until proven guilty and that there is freedom and justice for all. In the courtroom, Steve looks up to see pictures of the U.S. flag and George Washington. The inclusion of the novel in these thoughts and images reflects how idealism is closely intertwined with the structure of the American subconscious. Throughout Steve's trial, he realizes that individuals lie under oath to fulfill their own selfish needs. He also learns that bribery is ubiquitous. In this way, Steve's idealism is shattered. There's violence in almost every aspect of Steve's life. In Steve's neighborhood, crime and violence are normalizing. In prison, Steve fears he will be sexually assaulted, assaulted and assaulted. Even in his own psyche, Steve is violently tormented by his own anxious thoughts. This epidemic shows how violence occurs especially in low-income and non-white American communities. Next section Offers and analysis Previous section glossary Buy study guide GradeSaver Monster themes. GradeSaver, August 3, 2020 Web. Mention this page

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