



# Absalom, Absalom!

Study Guide by Course Hero



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## • Book Basics

### AUTHOR

William Faulkner

### YEAR PUBLISHED

1936

### GENRE

Drama

### PERSPECTIVE AND NARRATOR

The story shifts among the voices of several different narrators, each of whom has a different view of the events they describe; there is also some omniscient narration.

### TENSE

*Absalom, Absalom!* is told in the past tense.

### ABOUT THE TITLE

The title *Absalom, Absalom!* refers to the story of King David and his son Absalom in the Old Testament of the Bible (2 Samuel). While the novel's narrative does not follow the biblical story precisely, it includes parallels such as sibling incest, fratricide, and rebellion against the father.

## • In Context

*Absalom, Absalom!* is a story of the American South spanning from the early years of the 19th century through the Civil War and on through Reconstruction to the narrative present in 1900. This crucial period of Southern history entails a host of influences and issues the novel takes up.

## Southern Culture and Economics

In the pre-Civil War period, the Southern economy was based on agriculture. Rich plantation owners derived their wealth from the labor of chattel slaves. Large-scale agriculture (especially cotton crops) and the wealth it brought depended on slave labor. Slavery and racism—and all the evils that attended them—infuse *Absalom, Absalom!* with much of its underlying conflict and tragedy.

Wealthy white Southern women of this era were treated as delicate greenhouse flowers whose purity and fragility had to be protected. The code of honor that underpinned every rich, respectable Southern family was based, at least to some extent, on the inviolable purity of its women.

The Civil War (1861–65) began after the anti-slavery candidate Abraham Lincoln was elected president in 1860 and the South

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## **Absalom Absalom Study Guide:**

**A Study Guide for William Faulkner's "Absalom, Absalom!"** Gale, Cengage Learning, 2016-06-29 A Study Guide for William Faulkner's Absalom Absalom excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Novels for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary, character analysis, author biography, study questions, historical context, suggestions for further reading, and much more. For any literature project, trust Novels for Students for all of your research needs. [Absalom, Absalom!](#)

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CENGAGE LEARNING. GALE, 2016 **A Study Guide for Toni Morrison's Beloved** Gale, Cengage Learning, 2015-03-13 A Study Guide for Toni Morrison's Beloved excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Novels for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary, character analysis, author biography, study questions, historical context, suggestions for further reading, and much more. For any literature project, trust Novels for Students for all of your research needs. [Review Notes and Study Guide to Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice](#) William J. Fitzpatrick, 1964 [Catalog of Copyright Entries. Third Series](#) Library of Congress. Copyright Office, 1971 [Absalom, Absalom!](#) James L. Roberts, 1964 Reading and study guide for

William Faulkner's novel *Absalom Absalom* Library of Congress. Copyright Office, 1968 Thomas Hardy, Robert Ackerman, 1964 *Books and Pamphlets, Including Serials and Contributions to Periodicals Review Notes and Study Guide to Hardy's Tess of the D'Urbervilles* *William Faulkner, a Bibliography of Secondary Works*, 1981 **The Publishers Weekly**, 1898 **William Faulkner's Absalom, Absalom!** Elizabeth Phillips, 1965 *A Guide to Bible Study* Harry E. Richards, 1914 **Study Guide Student Workbook for Absalom, Absalom!** John Pennington, 2017-09-09 The Quick Student Workbooks are designed to get students thinking critically about the text they read and providing a guided study format to facilitate improved learning and retention. Teachers and Homeschool Instructors may use them to improve student learning and organization. Students will construct and identify the following areas of knowledge: Character Identification, Events, Location, Vocabulary, Main Idea, Conflict, and more as appropriate to the text. This is a workbook for students to determine the above areas. This is not a study guide, cliff notes, or Teacher's guide. **The Publishers' Trade List Annual**, 1985 *Paperbound Book Guide for Colleges*, 1970 **Paperbound Books in Print**, 1969 *Catalogue of Title-entries of Books and Other Articles Entered in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, Under the Copyright Law ... Wherein the Copyright Has Been Completed by the Deposit of Two Copies in the Office Library of Congress*. Copyright Office, 1974

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