

Chapter 1 : Library Resource Finder: Table of Contents for: The loneliness of the long-distance run

"The Decline and Fall of Frankie Buller": Alan Sillitoe recalls his childhood in Nottingham when as a child he part of a gang led by Frankie Buller, a man in his early twenties (though with a mental age much lower) which made frequent military-style raids into a nearby housing estate to do battle with a rival gang.

A teenager from Nottingham is convicted for robbing a bakery and sent to borstal where he finds solace in long distance running. Ernest Brown the upholsterer was lonely. Suffering from shell-shock he feels guilty that he survived the trenches of World War I. His wife has left him and he has lost touch with his family. Then one morning whilst in a cafe two young girls sit at his table, disrupting his routine of introspection. He speaks to them and buys them cakes. In the weeks that follow he meets them regularly, buying them food and gifts; they give him a reason to live and become the children he never had. Then the police, tell him not to meet them again and he turns to drink. Sillitoe based the title character on a relative of his, Uncle Edgar also an upholsterer warned off by police from meeting two young girls he had befriended. He reflects on their relative merits whilst trying to maintain discipline among his unruly charges Again Sillitoe bases this story on his own experiences: In Nottingham, Harry, a postman, looks back 28 years to when he married Kathy. The marriage lasted six years, then she left him to live with a housepainter. After ten years she returned, but she had lost the vitality she once had and seemed sad. She tells him the housepainter has died from lead-poisoning. She asks for the eponymous picture which Harry gives her, only to find later that she has pawned it. She returns every week for six years asking to borrow money which he is happy to give her for old times sake. The story ends with her death by a lorry accident, and Harry finding out that the housepainter was in fact alive for those 6 years. Ten-year-old Colin and his cousin Bert visit the Goose Fair , but they only have fourpence between them. But the resourceful Bert uses dishonest tricks to get more money. Fred to his young wife of only a month; Lennox to a row with his wife which spills over into violence as Lennox loses his temper The story of Jim Scarfedale is told by a young neighbour as a cautionary tale against staying at home after childhood. Jim, always thought to be a mothers boy announces he is to marry, much to the surprise and consternation of his domineering mother. The marriage lasts six months after which Jim returns to his mother, leading to his eventual disgrace Alan Sillitoe recalls his childhood in Nottingham when as a child he part of a gang led by Frankie Buller, a man in his early twenties though with a mental age much lower which made frequent military-style raids into a nearby housing estate to do battle with a rival gang.

Chapter 2 : The Loneliness of the Long-distance Runner - Alan Sillitoe - Google Books

The Decline and Fall of Frankie Buller Summary. The narrator is sitting in his study, gazing at his vast collection of books and thinking how he can never "unforget" any of them, that they have become a part of his psyche.

After returning from the war, psychologically, Ernest was never the same. Through the binge drinking of alcohol, Ernest was able to relieve his emotional pain from the war, but only temporarily. Due to not receiving proper care from shell shock and all he had experienced, he began to take out his anger on his wife, both verbally and physically. Of course, this correlated in having his wife leaving him, which is when he begins to feel even lonelier than before. Yet things are not quite as simple as they seem, although what begins as a sad story progresses into something happier, how society judges people negatively is evident in this story. This issue will later cause problems for Ernest and his newfound happiness. They decide to isolate him solely based on his violent actions in the past. The way society views him is as a low life who deserves to feel the way he does; guilty and lonely. While it might appear that Sillitoe is setting up the character of Uncle Ernest to be unlikable due to his abusive and drunken ways, he is actually giving readers a sense of what the war does do to people in the working class. Men who returned from World War I experienced an overwhelmingly amount of violence and death. From both the guilt he still bears and the loneliness he feels, he assists society in alienating himself, by sticking to a daily schedule and keeping to himself. These two girls are bickering across the table from Uncle Ernest about whether to buy food or pay for a bus to get home. Even though it may seem as if Uncle Ernest feels nothing for the people around him he feels a gravitational pull towards these girls and decides to help them by paying for food, tea, and eventually presents. It becomes questionable about whether or not these two innocent little girls begin to take advantage of him. Each time they meet in the morning they begin to want more and more, while Uncle Ernest does not seem to mind. He just enjoys and values the time he spends with them. With his past in mind, the happiness and love he receives from the company of these girls is taken away very quickly. Despite all the good Ernest has been doing, people begin to question him and believe that he ulterior motives. Because of the caring man he actually is deep down, he goes to say something, even defend himself, but no words leave his mouth. He knows for a fact that no matter what he says, he will never convince the officers otherwise. To them and other people in his society he is still an abuser, a drunk, and now a pedophile. Immediately, the attitude of society reversed all the progress he had made. They had no knowledge whatsoever of what was occurring between Uncle Ernest and the two girls, but instead, based their judgments on his appearance and past. Since the one thing Ernest had to live for is taken away from him this leads him to continue with the life he was living before by drinking away the emotional pain of loneliness he feels.

Chapter 3 : The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner Analysis - calendrierdelascience.com

Dive deep into Alan Sillitoe's The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner with extended analysis, commentary, and discussion. ("The Decline and Fall of Frankie Buller"). Only "The.

The title story is about a youth named Smith who is sent to Borstal after robbing a bakery. Borstals were youth prisons in the UK named after the village near Rochester where the first one was established in , which housed delinquent offenders under the age of . The Borstal model was abolished in when the Criminal Justice Act made provision for youth custody centres. Therefore, seeing an attempt to bolster his own reputation as a progressive jailer, the governor coerces Smith into competing for the Borstal Blue Ribbon Prize Cup For Long-Distance Cross-Country Running All England , a prize that the gangly-limbed and fleet-footed Smith could win with his eyes closed. Smith accepts nothing, nor does he complain or seek to shift the blame when the establishment demands recompense of him. Ostensibly, the man " Harry " seems content enough to live alone. He settles into the routine of work; reads his books; smokes his pipe. The picture of the title " the remaining item from a triptych the other two broken during vicious arguments " serves as an epitaph for their relationship. Then his estranged wife reappears on the scene and asks for it back. The story is a study in regret and ends unexpectedly. They skive off school, head to the Goose Fair a yearly funfair that occupies a large recreational ground in Nottingham , cadge pennies for rides, pick up drop cigarettes, swear, sing rude songs and engage in the odd bit of petty theft. When their ill-gotten finances run out, they take to playing a dangerous game on the mechanical ride of the title, trying to ride for free while evading the bullish owner. Left out of a trip to the cinema, he passes the time roaming the back alleys of his hardscrabble neighbourhood. Thus he becomes witness to and complicit in a suicide attempt. Fred goes home to his new bride and makes the most of the rest of his weekend. Lennox, however, goes home and deliberately picks a fight with his wife. Mrs Scarfedale is a pinafore-wearing, house-proud Midlands version of Mrs Bates, constricting Jim with the taut knots of the apron-strings. His characters rage and struggle, tearing themselves fully-formed from the page even though their creator has sketched them with deceptively few sentences. Sillitoe gets inside their heads. He makes them all too familiar. Disturbingly familiar at times. And therein lies the genius.

Chapter 4 : The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner (short story collection) - Wikipedia

A primary source is a work that is being studied, or that provides first-hand or direct evidence on a topic. Common types of primary sources include works of literature, historical documents, original philosophical writings, and religious texts.

The main focus of each piece is a character study, with their being little to even no plot. Fortunately, I understood the historical and societal era the tales depicted as this is where and how my father grew up. Even though the book has a brief biographical afterword about the author I do wish there had been an Introduction which introduced us to his writing. His thoughts all have to do with the British class system and his contempt for anyone in authority or "lords and ladies". My dad was born during WWII in Yorkshire and this youth used some slang making me think he came from the same region. This youth was a Teddy Boy, as was my dad though for him it was more of a fashion statement than the accompanying rebellious behaviour. Uncle Ernest - A character study. A depressing story of Ernest, an upholsterer, survivor of WWI, suffering from shellshock but no one knows not even him. He has no reason to live, thinking of his drudgery of life, no friends, no family. Then one day two hungry little girls come into the diner where he eats lunch and sit at his table. He feeds them and it becomes a regular affair, the elder of the two is aggressive and takes advantage of him eventually getting presents for themselves as well as food. But Ernest is simple and now has a reason to live, he loves these girls like daughters, they are the light of his life. So Ernest turns dim and walks back into a pub with the glasses of ale welcoming him back. Well-written gloomy study of a typical type of man from this time in Britain. Mr Raynor the School-Teacher - This story looks at Raynor, a teacher who sits on his high stool looking through the window lusting after the drapery shop girls across the street. He is particularly remembering an 18yo who left a few weeks back as she was killed. Raynor occasionally returns attention to his current class of final year 14yo boys and eventually straps the most belligerent one which turns into a tussle but Raynor holds his own and maintains an order for his class. Raynor is certainly not likeable, but he is probably a common example of a teacher from this era and place in Britain. There is also plenty to think about regarding the girl and her death. A young couple marries; the woman is headstrong and cocky while the man is a nonconfrontational reader. They argue a lot and six years later the woman runs off with a painter. They remain legally married. Ten years later she turns up at his doorstep, characteristically changed and visits him once a week thereafter during the war until her death. He became happy in his quiet way after she left him but after her death, he finds out the suffering life she lead during those years. He examines their relationship, and love, and perhaps how they could have done something to make it work. A bleak but soul-searching story. My favourite so far. We learn a lot about the boys and their backgrounds as they walk along. Once at the fair, the streetwise boy shows the other all the tricks to come up with money at such an event and they steal, find, trick, and beg themselves enough to have a great day. This is the main thing the most honest boy had wanted to experience at the fair. Everything ends well, but it leaves you with a bittersweet feeling that people make the most of what they have, but dishonesty gets its just reward in the end. On Saturday Afternoon - This is about a man who tries to hang himself. I disagree as our lives are certainly not our own, they belong to God, and while not a cause to be arrested anymore, suicides should be treated with mental health resources. The Match - Most of the story rambles on about a "football" match and the home team loses like they always do. The two mates talk about it as they walk home; they live next door to each other. One is newly married, in love with a pretty pregnant wife. The other, Fred, has three children ages 14 and down. The last bit of the story describes the domestic unrest and abuse going on in the home as his friend and wife hear the ends of it next door. Too bad all the sports just zoned me out on this one. The Disgrace of Jim Scarfedale - Well, this is a sorry meandering story that narrates certain events and the eventual outcome of Jim Scarsdale by a 15yo neighbour who spied in a secret cranny to hear every word that went on in his house. It only lasts six months and he returns home to mamma. But what happens to him in the end, is a shocker. Quite a bit of social commentary and eventually focussing on whether his upbringing connects to his crimes in the end. The time is between the wars and his father won a medal in WWI and was returned shellshocked. Frankie, clearly 10 years older than the neighbourhood 15yos is obsessed and fascinated with war. The narrator was one of those 15yo boys. He then

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tells us of meeting up with Frankie again when he visits home, the final time realising Frankie has had electric shock therapy. I like depressing stories like this but felt disconnected from not getting any sense for the characters. There are pictures included. However, it sheds no light on his stories or his writing.

Chapter 5 : The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner - free PDF, DOC, RTF, TXT

The decline and fall of Frankie Buller. REVIEWS & SUMMARIES Booklist Review Summary / Annotation Author Notes COMMUNITY REVIEWS. No community reviews.

Chapter 6 : Table of Contents: Collected stories /

*The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner (Vintage International) [Alan Sillitoe] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Perhaps one of the most revered works of fiction in the twentieth-century, *The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner* is a modern classic about integrity.*

Chapter 7 : calendrierdelascience.com: Customer reviews: The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner

*And the same goes for *The Decline And Fall Of Frankie Buller* which is the story of a gang of boys and their leader, the simple-minded Frankie Buller of the title, playing at being soldiers and waging innocent war against rival gangs of boys from the neighbouring estate.*

Chapter 8 : The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner by Alan Sillitoe | calendrierdelascience.com

And "The Decline and Fall of Frankie Buller" is a rollicking tale of unbridled childhood fantasy and a moving tribute to the liberating powers of imagination. Poignant, often uproarious, and full of life, these nine stories provide stunning social commentary, a collection that stands as a modern British classic.

Chapter 9 : The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner - Alan Sillitoe - Google Books

The collection ends on an unexpectedly poignant note with 'The Decline and Fall of Frankie Buller' which seems, for its first few pages, to be a back-streets of Nottingham vignette that could have been an early sketch for 'Saturday Night and Sunday Morning', but suddenly reveals itself as a nakedly autobiographical work.