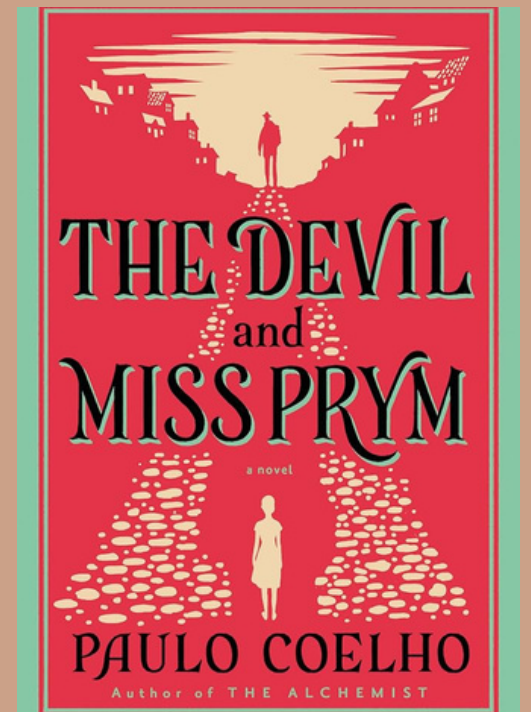


Good vs. Evil...

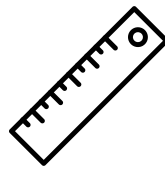
...AND THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY



THE PEOPLE

CHANTAL

Barmaid who has returned to her hometown and is dissatisfied with her life. Dreams of leaving to start a new life.



HOTEL OWNER

- Wealthy
- Opposes the devil's offer
- Driven by a sense of justice

STRANGER

- Past arms dealer
- Approximately 40-50 yrs. old
- Shabby appearance, but cordial to all he meets.
- Keeps to himself/discreet
- Accompanied by the devil



BAR OWNER

- Opposed the devil's offer at first
- Becomes more and more tempted
- Deals with inner conflict

PRIEST

- Father Gregorious
- Tries to sway the community to make the "good" decision



BERTA

- Elderly
- Sits on her porch to watch the community
- Widowed; "communicates" with her dead husband
- "Sees" - (intuition?)

MAYOR

- Motivated by greed
- Advocate to accept the devil's offer
- Willing to sacrifice one innocent to achieve wealth for the community

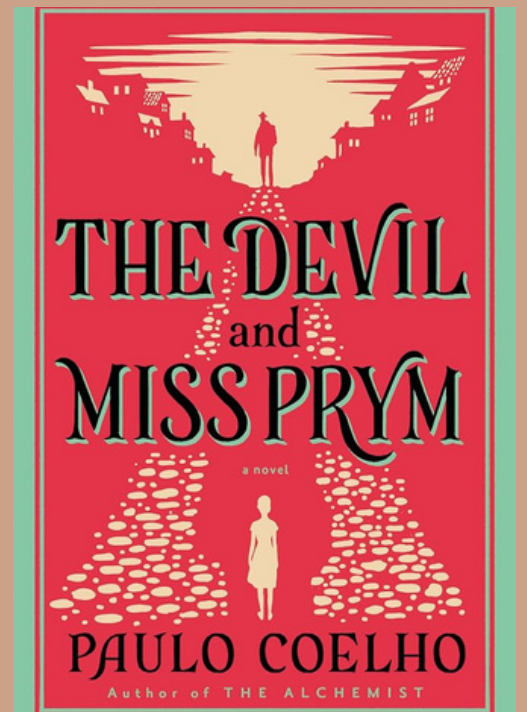


TOWNSPEOPLE

In general, each person represents a different aspect of human nature.

Good vs. Evil...

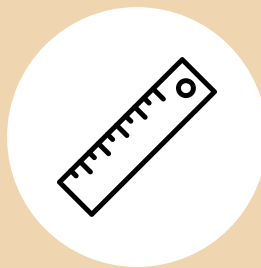
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THEMES & MOTIF

GOOD VS. EVIL

Exploration of the struggle of good and evil.



REDEMPTION

Even the most flawed can make amends.

MORALITY

What is Chantal's moral dilemma?

Do the other members of the community have the same dilemma or does that depend upon one's personal morals?



SETTING

- Secluded small village in the mountains
- Only 281 inhabitants
- Chantal is the youngest
- The history of the village

DESTINY

Is our fate predetermined? Does it depend upon our circumstances?



GOLD

Represents temptation

What is your "gold"?

HUMAN NATURE

What are the darker aspects of human nature? How did they impact the trajectory of the story?

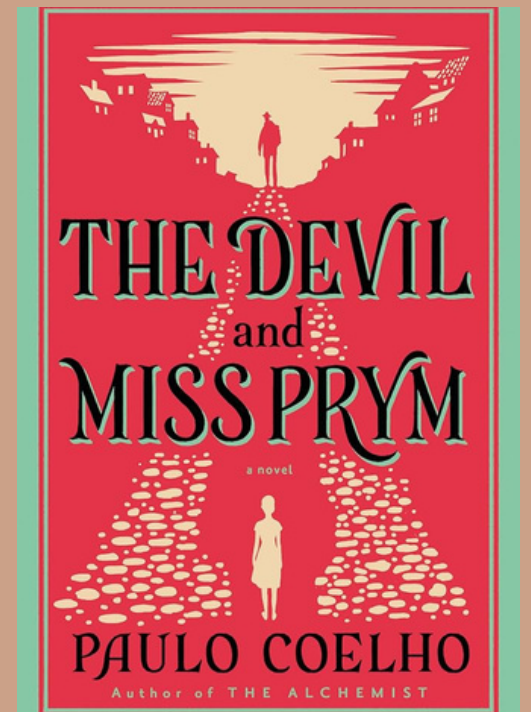


THE DEVIL

Temptation and the forces of evil

Good vs. Evil...

...AND THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY



QUOTES & QUESTIONS

JUSTIFICATION

How do the characters justify their actions and decisions in the name of sacrifice?

- p. 69: “..believe they have a mission to protect and save their village...” (stranger)
- 107: “What’s immoral is sitting back and watching the demise of our beloved Viscos.” (Mayor’s wife)
- 108: “The only thing I know well is my religion, in which the sacrifice of one individual saved all humanity.” (Priest)

When, if ever, is evil justifiable?

FEAR AND TEMPATION

P. 100: “....then at least they have fear.” (Chantal)

- **Analyze the role of fear and temptation in novel. How do they influence the decisions of the characters?**
- **What role does fear play in our own lives when it comes to temptation? What is stronger, fear of punishment or the desire to “be good”?**

STRANGER

P 68: “But first, for the sake of my wife and daughters, I need to grasp what happened in the hiding place.” (Stranger)

Did this give you insight to the stranger’s “why” and if so, how did your opinion change?

P 17: “....there are good and evil people-which would put me in a difficult position because it would mean that there’s a spiritual struggle going on that could be won by either side.”

How do you interpret this? Is this the devil with him talking because the devil fears God?

THE DEVIL

P 106: “Imagine if they did. Imagine if they earned enough money for the rest of their lives.” (Coelho)

Is this how the devil gets to us? Just imagine.....

