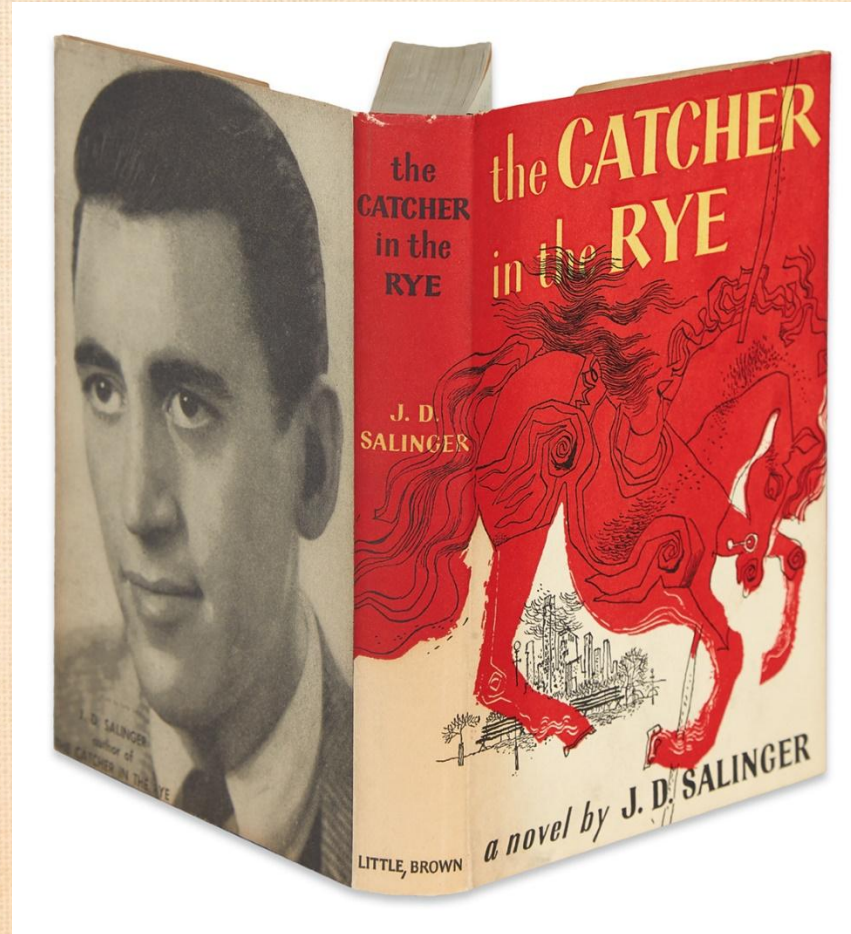


# “The Catcher in the Rye” by J.D. Salinger

Analysis





# Author

- The author of this literary work is Jerome David Salinger. He was a notable and peculiar writer of the 20th century. His works belong to novella genre, because his stories deal for the most part with short teachable stories. Such features as endowing his protagonists with a great force of character, a profound psychological insight, and a deep understanding of the human motives are typical of the writer. His literary works were adored by the readers, but were panned by the critics.

# Title

- In my opinion, the title is rather metaphorical, because it reflects dreams of the main character.

# Setting

- Undoubtedly, the main scenes are laid in New York. The story is set in the 1949 – the author points out this fact directly. Moreover, the author's creative activity was connected with that time and place which proves our point of view.



## Subject

- The subject of the story may be formulated as maturity of teenager.

# Message

- The message of the literary work runs as follows: the growing of young persons is a process of reliving emotionally difficult situations which helps them to understand themselves and find happy lifestyle. The story is intended to provoke thoughts about motives of teenagers' misbehaviour.



# Plot

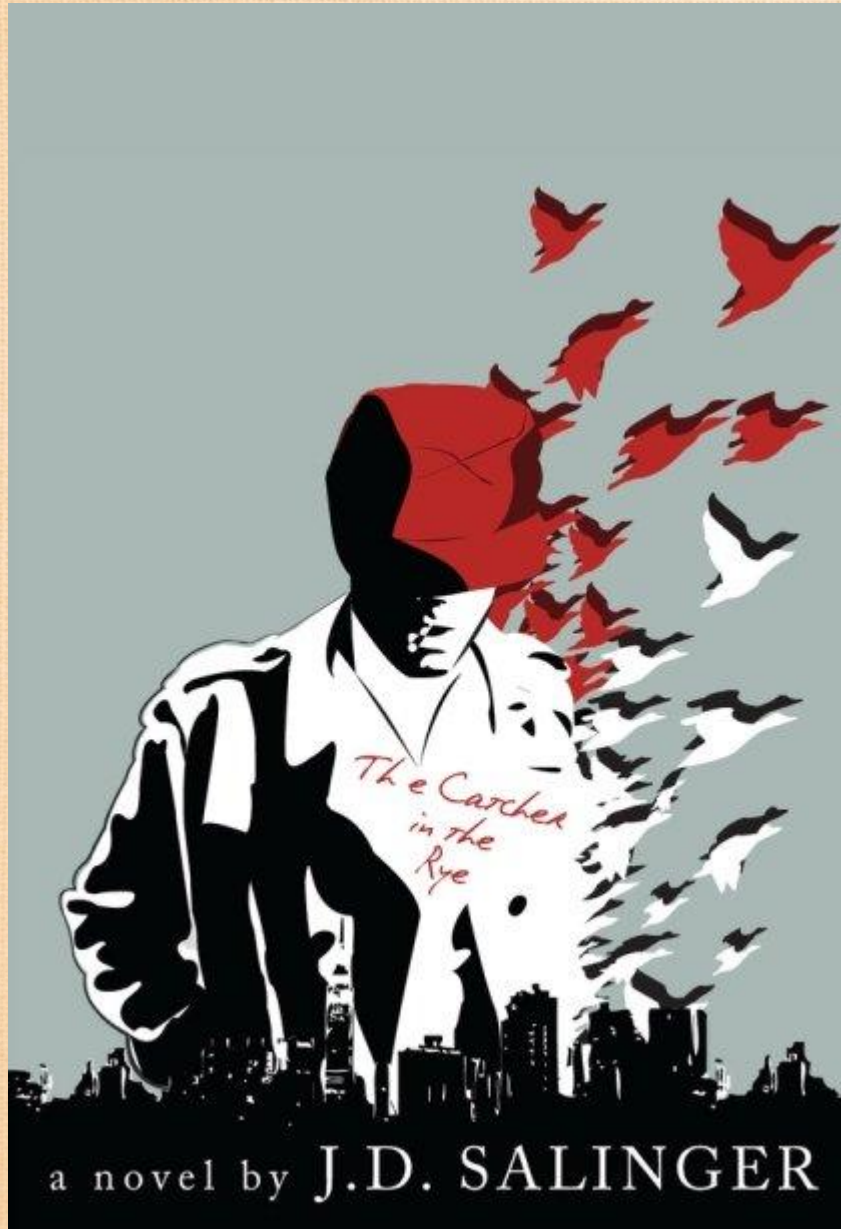
- In my opinion, the plot of the story is rather simple and linear. The basic plot of the story develops slowly towards a violently dramatic incident and an romantic conclusion. The charm of the story lies in its interesting plot and exciting situation. At the same time it conveys deep thought, keen observation and sharpness of characterization.

# Plot

- The novel is written on behalf of sixteen-year-old Holden Caulfield, who is being treated at the clinic. The young man's memories begin on the last day of his stay at Pencey's closed school. In the exam, he failed 4 out of 5 subjects and was expelled. Holden returns to his dorm and meets up with neighbors - Akley and Stradlater. Holden hates both of them but also feels something warm and pleasant. Colfield argues with Stradlater, fights and almost gets knocked out. The main character decides to drive away in New York and have an amazing vacation. The main parts of the trip were alcohol, prostitutes, quarrels, and, however, mental growing and hopes of the future.



# Characters



- The main character is sixteen year old Holden Colfield – illiterate and touchy teenager. The charm of the story lies in his realistic portrayal. He is full-blooded, many-sided and complex. The author reveals the nature of his characters through actions and description of their motives. At the beginning he was usual rebelling juvenile who looks only for entertainments. The story reveals the author’s great knowledge of man’s inner world. The character is portrayed dynamically, as later he undergoes changes and understands he could be better. The major character is represented through his behaviour and thoughts. The author presents complicated and realistic portrayed characters. The events and descriptions in the story are seen through the main character’s eyes.

# Conflict

- We observe the conflict of the real world and imaginary world of teenager. Young persons face different problems and realize that everything around is complicated and full of evil.

# Vocabulary

- Phrasal verbs: to strike up, to hang around, to straighten out, to horse around etc.
- Idiomatic expressions: bang out of something, to get run-down, to drive someone mad, to hit the ceiling, to chew the rag, to be up one's alley.
- Explicit lexica: crap, horse manure, to be up the creek, half-assed

# Conclusion

- I found the story gripping, moving, original and thought-provoking. The chief effect the author was trying to achieve is to shine a light on the inner worries of young mind.