

The Count of Monte Cristo Novel analysis

Title and author:

The title is The Count of Monte Cristo and the author is Alexandre Dumas. The story is retold and shortened by Eleanor Updale.

Summary:

The Count of Monte Cristo is a story about a young man named Edmond Dantes. Edmond was a seaman who was in love with a girl named Mercedes. Edmond had some people who were out to get him, because he was in love with Mercedes and he became the captain of a ship. These people were Fernand, Caderousse and Danglars. He was supposed to marry Mercedes, but when he had the wedding, he was taken by the police for a crime he did not commit. It was a fabricated letter by the men who were against him. He was sent to the magistrate De Villefort where he thought he was free, but he was actually sent to a heavily guarded prison on an island. The Chateau d'If. There he was for fourteen years. He met a man there named Faria who taught him much. He told him there was treasure, at the Isle of Monte Cristo. Edmond snuck out of the prison and went to get the treasure that was on the island. He used the money there to get revenge on his traitors. He went after them, one by one until all of them had suffered in some way. When he felt like he had accomplished his revenge, he sailed off into the horizon never to be seen again.

People:

- Edmond Dantes was a young sailor also known as The Count of Monte Cristo. He is the main character.
- Faria was a man in the Chateau D'If prison that Edmond met. He was a wise man. He also worked as a butler for a rich family in Italy
- Danglars, also known as Baron Danglars, was a sailor in Marseille and later a banker in Paris.
- Fernand, Mercedes's cousin was a fisherman then a politician. He changed his name to The Count of Morcerf
- Mercedes, Edmond's fiancée later to be Fernand's wife
- Monsieur de Villefort a magistrate in Marseilles later the top prosecutor in Paris
- Gaspard Caderousse A tailor, later an innkeeper. He had a wife that died of greed

Personal relations:

Edmond Dantes was a seaman which means he was part of a crew. He was with two ships, Monsieur Morrel's ship and the La Jeune Amelie. He also had a girlfriend. He was Morrel's best friend and had other friendships later in the story such as, Faria who he was in prison with, Jacopo who he sailed with and Albert who he saved in Rome. He was alone for some time in the prison until he heard Faria there. He was also alone on the Isle of Monte Cristo when he went looking for the treasure, but for the majority of the story he was with someone.

Environment:

Most of the happenings of the story are in western Europe. More specific, in France and Italy. Marseilles where the story begins in, is a port city in the south of France. The city itself is not explained on how it looks.

Cateau d'If is a prison island off the coast of Marseille. It is explained to be a dungeon. His cell did not have any windows. There was next to no light in his cell. It was very dirty, there were small creatures all around in his cell.

The Island of Monte Cristo: The island is uninhabited. And there is a cave on the island. There are some dangerous animals on the island, because Edmond asked for a rifle on the island to protect himself.

Paris: The only thing we see of Paris is the luxurious mansions of the rich in Paris.

The story is set from 1815 to around 1838. The story begins in 1815, and Edmond was in prison for 14 years. And then he went on a trip around Europe for 10 more years. And the book mentioned the year 1838 close to the end.

Narrator and Language:

The story is almost half and half between 3. person and lines. The point of view varies in the story between the narrator, Edmond and most of the other characters. The story is made up of short lines and is easy to understand.

Composition:

Beginning Cap 1-4: It begins with learning about who Edmond Dantes is and who he worked for.

Presentation Cap 5-13: He goes to prison where he meets Faria. Faria was an inmate in the Chateau d'If. Faria tells him about the people who betrayed him. They dig a tunnel to each other.

Point-of-no-return Cap 14-18: The point of no return is when he escapes the prison and goes to claim the treasure. That is when he finds out that he can use it to get revenge on his betrayers.

Deepening Cap 19-22: The deepening is when he goes to find out more about the people who he wants to get revenge on. He finds out where they live, if they are rich or not and also gets to know their children.

Conflict escalation Cap 23-25: Edmond changes his name to the Count of Monte Cristo. He becomes famous and starts plotting his revenge. He goes to Paris and learns about ways and can get his revenge.

Climax Cap 26-30: He starts his plan to get revenge. He confronts his betrayers and makes them suffer in some way.

Fade out Cap 31: He gave Maximilian and Valentine a letter, saying goodbye. He sailed off into the horizon with Maximilian and Valentine staring off into the distance only hoping to see him again.

Motif and theme: There are many themes in the story. Some big ones are Vengeance, escape, justice, gods will, love, happiness, redemption and identity.

Symbols: We hear about a Coat of Arms once in the story. It was the Coat of Arms of the Morcerf family.

Perspective: The story about the Count of Monte Cristo, is a bit similar to the story of the Man in the Iron Mask. The Man in the Iron Mask is a movie about a father whose son died. And it was kinda the king's fault. They try to free a man from prison, believed to be the king's twin brother, and put him on the throne.

Assessment: The story is exciting and catching. This version does so that when you start reading, you can't stop. The story is good and there's nothing else to say.