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Patrizio (A Quiet Night's Rest Book 1)



Synopsis

Set in a post-war Italian bar, this literary short contrasts the innocent hopes of boyhood with the cynical reality of the Colonel, a man standing on the precipice of death. As the Colonel tells his story one snowy eve, young Patrizio endeavors to lead him back from the edge.

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Customer Reviews

“Patrizio” is a book full of contrasts. It is a book about the old and the new, experience and inexperience, optimism and pessimism, hope and desperation, regret and rejoice, love and hate, life and death. A man who describes himself as broken shares with young Patrizio his bitter thoughts about how hard life can be and how overvalued some feelings can be. “Time will grind down those youthful thoughts, boy,” the old man says. Some might say this is a pessimistic read. In my opinion it is an optimistic one. I believe that old man is everything Patrizio should never be.

in adult life, an example to avoid. And “Patrizio” is a well-written short read that will make you think how fast your life goes and that you should seize every moment.

What does it mean to be brave? Are we brave? How do we live (and die)? Where and how do we seek answers to events and the feelings we have while living. A good and thought-provoking conversation between an old man and a young man.

Wow, such a powerful impact for a short story! The message, eloquently laid out, leads the reader to ponder their own beliefs, their own thoughts and aspirations. The innocence of the boy can be found in all of us at some point of our lives, and we can relate to his unjaded faith in simple truths. As in previous works, this author again uses compelling description in such a way that the reader is drawn right in to the scene, you can see yourself sitting on the bar stool next to the Colonel. Another impressive piece by Tanager! Looking forward to the next one!

As a fan of classic literature, I’m sensing a style of writing such as Hemingway, the Master of Dialog. A style that is more suggestive than direct leaving the reader to use their own imagination in the end. Perhaps even a hint of him in the Main Character. I do look forward to the next short story by this Author.

Patrizio in Italian means noble and in Latin, it means regal. Either way, David Tanager’s second book, written in the same vein as his first, Old James is a reminder of transience and a yearning to transcend time. Here is a plot which upholds facets of both experience and youth simultaneously. Only, in this case, the old man, the Colonel’s companion Patrizio is a discerning young man sipping wisdom as an insect takes to nectar. Both in style and in content, a marvelous show of Hemingway’s hand, a tantalizingly familiar European setting, a hotel smelling of sweat, tobacco and gin, a dialogue between the old man and the boy opens up a world far above the trivial. Packed with potent metaphors and similes, all are used to educate the young Patrizio about love, courage, and the constant shift of time. In the final analysis, all feet eventually fade in the snow leaving no marks. Where the two realities blend - the reflection - the plot within and the outer world, the shadow as it were of Plato’s cave, promotes unflinching courage and love for freedom. Life is not diminished in death, rather it is transcended into a reality far greater than death. Alas, the Colonel didn’t think he would be a defeatist when indeed he became that quintessence of dust or faded feet on snow. But he would rise infinitely above, in his dignified acceptance of a harshly hardwired reality. This

acceptance comes from courage rather than fear of death. What he imbued in the mind of the youth was this philosophical message that life was a quicksand - a lesson learnt from an introspective journey of the boy from Old James to now an old dying man on a continuum of a timeline. However, life is also to be lived. Freedom is to be cherished. Even though atonements would have to be made. One must find true love and allow oneself to be loved. But not to be consumed in its fire or be devoured like apples. Something that left the Colonel regrettably short-changed.'

Patrizio is a short story between an older man, very much at the brink of his will to make another day, and a child filled with hope and wonder for life. While the man fills his evening with one cynical observation after another, boyÃ¢â€šâ€™s optimistic nature shrugs these remarks with never failing curiosity and admiration for the storyteller. During the short account the colonel assumes sardonic disposition, disparaging life itself it would seem, yet thereÃ¢â€šâ€™s subtlety in his inability to remain stolid and impassive in view of the boy's charm and naivete. Meaningfully written, the story stands on its own, though one can easily see presented short conversation between two unlikely interlocutors growing into something more substantial.

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