

Questions and Answers - Young Goodman Brown – Set 1

1. Who are the main characters in Young Goodman Brown?
 1. The main characters in the story are the couple Young Goodman Brown and his wife Faith.
2. What is the short story about?
 1. It is the story of a very faithful and god fearing man, a true Christian, who is tempted by the devil who only tweaks his curiosity. In the end he begins to question his own faith and becomes miserable.
3. Who is the protagonist of the story Young Goodman Brown?
 1. The main character of the short story is Young Goodman Brown, a god fearing Christian man who is pious and devoted to his wife and his community.
4. Is Young Goodman Brown a good person or an evil person?
 1. The beauty of this short story is that human nature is shown to be a fickle mixture of both good and evil. An even balance is to be maintained in one's soul to maintain harmony and balance. Young Goodman Brown has both good and evil thoughts within him. He is shown to try and become the epitome of pure by casting away evil but by doing so, discards his community and his wife. Thus young Goodman Brown unknowingly embraces the evils of insensitivity and selfishness.
5. What does Young Goodman Brown symbolize?
 1. Young Goodman Brown symbolizes the presence of doubt and the seed of evil in man. When one questions a single act of evil more than one should, it consumes the soul and destroys the person from within.

Questions and Answers - Young Goodman Brown – Set 2

6. What is the moral of Young Goodman Brown?
 1. The moral of the story Young Goodman Brown is that one should recognize the sinister impulses in oneself rather than to find faults in others.
7. Explain the allegory in the short story, Young Goodman Brown?
 1. The short story can also be interpreted as an allegory about religious faith. Brown symbolically literally leaves his 'Faith' behind when he ignores his wife's pleas. He leaves home for the night to go into the dark, mysterious wood which can be inferred as the devil.
8. What does Goodman Brown's wife Faith symbolize?

1. His wife Faith symbolizes the balance between good and evil. When she begs her husband not to go to the forest, suggesting that she begs him not to go to the devil.
9. What happens to Young Goodman Brown at the end of the story?
 1. Young Goodman Brown grows old and dies as a miserable man with no trust in anyone. He is buried with no hopeful verse upon his tombstone, for his dying hour was gloom.
10. How is Goodman Brown changed in the end?
 1. Goodman Brown is deeply shaken by what he saw the previous night. He is not sure as to whether what he saw the night before was real or was it a dream. However, this contradiction results in the questioning of his belief that he lives in a true Christian community. He loses his faith in his wife, along with all of humanity. He lives his life an embittered and suspicious cynic, wary of everyone around him and dies in gloom.

Questions and Answers - Young Goodman Brown – Set 3

11. What is the climax of Goodman Brown?
 1. When he sees the faces of good pious people in his community: the Deacon Gookin, Goody Cloyse, and that Faith is among them, he breaks and questions his faith. He is never able to trust his wife and his community again and dies a miserable man.
12. What is the irony in the names of the short story Young Goodman Brown?
 1. The names of the people serve to be a setting for the paradox in the end of the story. The irony is that “Goodman”, a name that symbolizes good in Christianity becomes a sinner by questioning his faith in the lord. Through his eyes, his wife Faith, a name of virtue, becomes an acolyte and a follower of the devil.
13. What is the internal conflict that Goodman Brown is struggling with?
 1. The internal conflict in 'Young Goodman Brown is his faith and belief in the Lord. Young Goodman Brown has a crisis of faith for only one night and that ends up changing his worldview and destroys his peace of mind.
14. Explain what is meant when Young Goodman Brown meant when he cried “my faith is gone”?
 1. When Goodman Brown realizes that Faith is being taken to the Devil's service, he breaks and loses his inner balance and begins questioning his beliefs. The loss of his wife, Faith, literally means a loss of his faith, showing that he had put increasing store in Faith's morality and their marriage to protect him from sin.
15. What are the themes of Goodman Brown?

1. The two major themes which circle around the story Young Goodman Brown are moral Hypocrisy and Religious Hypocrisy. What is shown as true faith in the beginning is shown to be nothing more than weak blind faith. Goodman Brown only looks to others as a basis of his own purity and goodness. This he ends up putting his faith in others and relying on them to support his beliefs.