

THE OUTSIDERS

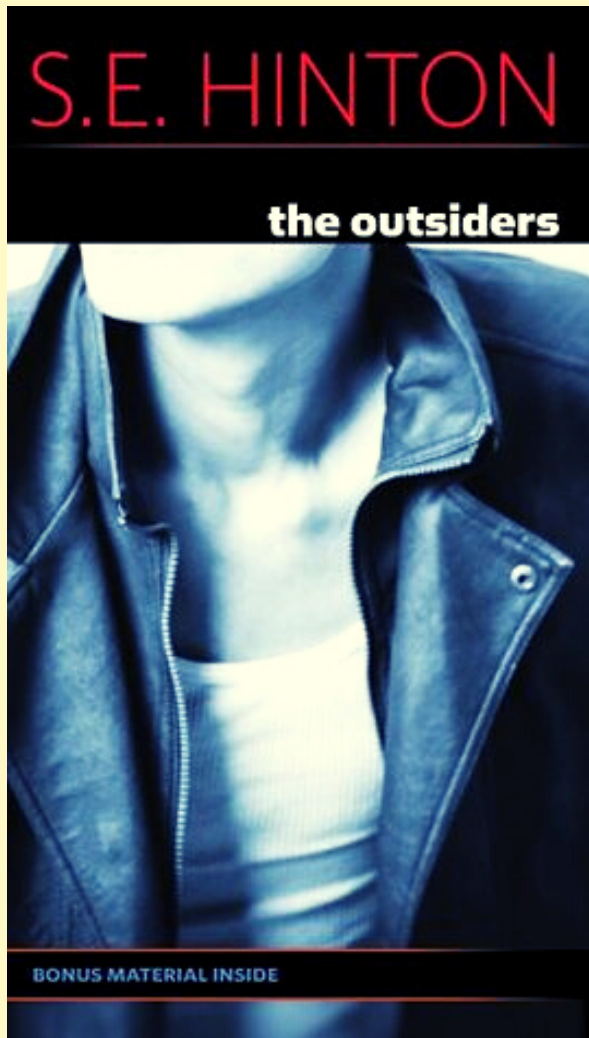
by *S. E. Hinton*

RATED:



RECOMMENDED GRADE LEVELS:

8TH GRADE AND UP



Review

BY AN 8TH-GRADER

This novel portrays 14-year-old Ponyboy's life as a greaser. The town he lives in is split into two: the Greasers and the Socs. The former are known as lowlives who are a part of gangs and participate in minor criminal activities. The latter represent the privileged classes who have a future outside time in prison. Both sides are always brewing up trouble with the other.

That all changes when he and his best friend, Johnny, end up responsible for the death of a Soc. With the help of Dally, Johnny and Ponyboy go through adventures, including trials involving a burning church, hospitalized loved ones, and more run-ins with the law that end up with one of the two boys dead and the other lost.

While the book was originally published in 1967, the plot and writing style continue to stay relevant to current issues. The book had been banned in some schools for its strings of reality as it portrayed gang violence, underage smoking and drinking, strong language/slang, and family dysfunction.
