

The Theme of Alienation in J.D. Salinger's The Catcher in the Rye

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Abstract: *The Catcher in the Rye is a novel that explores the theme of alienation through the experiences and interactions of its protagonist Holden Caulfield. Holden's sense of isolation and disconnection from society becomes increasingly apparent throughout the novel, as he struggles to find a place where he belongs. His negative view of the world around him only serves to deepen his feelings of alienation, as he sees society as phony and superficial. Holden's interactions with various characters reinforce his sense of alienation. He feels disconnected from his former teacher Mr. Spencer, whom he sees as old and out of touch with reality. Similarly, he feels like his date Sally Hayes doesn't understand him and is only interested in superficial things. Even his family fails to understand him, as he has a strained relationship with his parents and feels like they don't understand his problems..*

Keywords: Alienation, Adolescence, Identity, Phonniness, Innocence

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