



Do and Dare: A Brave Boy's Fight for Fortune

Horatio Alger Jr.

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Part of a series of rags to riches stories of boys achieving the American dream of wealth through hard work, these works can also be seen as helpful in understanding the development of American cultural and social ideals.

Do and Dare: A Brave Boy's Fight for Fortune Details

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Author : Horatio Alger Jr.

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From Reader Review Do and Dare: A Brave Boy's Fight for Fortune for online ebook

Albert Duran says

This is a nineteenth century, moralistic juvenile tale with the message that working hard and being honest will lead to bourgeois success. Good and evil are clearly defined and the former always prevails over the latter. At most, the book is light reading and somewhat entertaining.

Marygrace says

how to read it ?

David says

Ah, it is so refreshingly to visit America of times past where everyone was a two-dimensional puppet and spoke in hideously stilted dialogue. Why can't we return to this simpler time where the morals were actually spoken just in case anyone missed them just barely veiled in the action of the novel?

Seriously, I don't know why I keep reading Alger's books. It's some sort of demented fascination. The writing is horrible, though I do understand it was meant for young boys. Still, I'm not sure what it was really supposed to say. Everyone always says Alger's central theme was hard work and prudence inevitably lead to riches, but it seems to me to be more about luck. Sure, it's only the just and upright, but it's still all luck even if they're the only ones who get it (befriending rich man, joining in on just the right mine, saving a rich man's son, etc.). I would suspect the moral more to be the upright will be divinely rewarded even in this life more than hard work leads to success.

In short, mildly entertaining schlock.

Mike Briggs says

A quick easy read. Interesting look at the rags to riches story Horatio Alger was known for. It was rather preachy, but then I expected that. Characters were slightly less wooden than I expected, though still inhabiting the realm of the unlikely.

Ah, living in a time when you worked 14 hours a day, six days a week for the princely sum of between \$1.50 and \$10 a week. And having war widow benefits of \$8 a month. Though that \$10 a week was city type wages where you'd likely spend the vast majority of it just surviving.

Carissa says

Herbert Carr is a great role model. He is honest, loyal, and hardworking and gets rewarded for his efforts by a wealthy kind friend who is equally admirable.

Judy says

Everyone should read at least one Horatio Alger story. This was my intro to his writing. I think that I read a couple of others. Here there's no doubt who is good and who is bad. My recall is that the central character was always a boy struggling to pull himself out of poverty. Work hard. Live honestly. Be fair. Success will follow.

My brothers loved these books, and I'm sure they were the ones Alger was targeting, which is the reason for my four-star rating.

And, of course, I recommend reading one of the early editions instead of a modern reprint or an ebook.

Sarah says

Loved this book. Good contrast between good guy (Herbert) and bad guy (Eben). Shows very clearly how bad decisions lead to bad consequences. Also showed how Eben finally realized his errors and appeared to repent at the end of the book. Herbert showed compassion and welcomed him back into the community and his friendship.

Ben Trele says

Adventurous book

Rebecca Trele says

Adventurous book. I liked it.
