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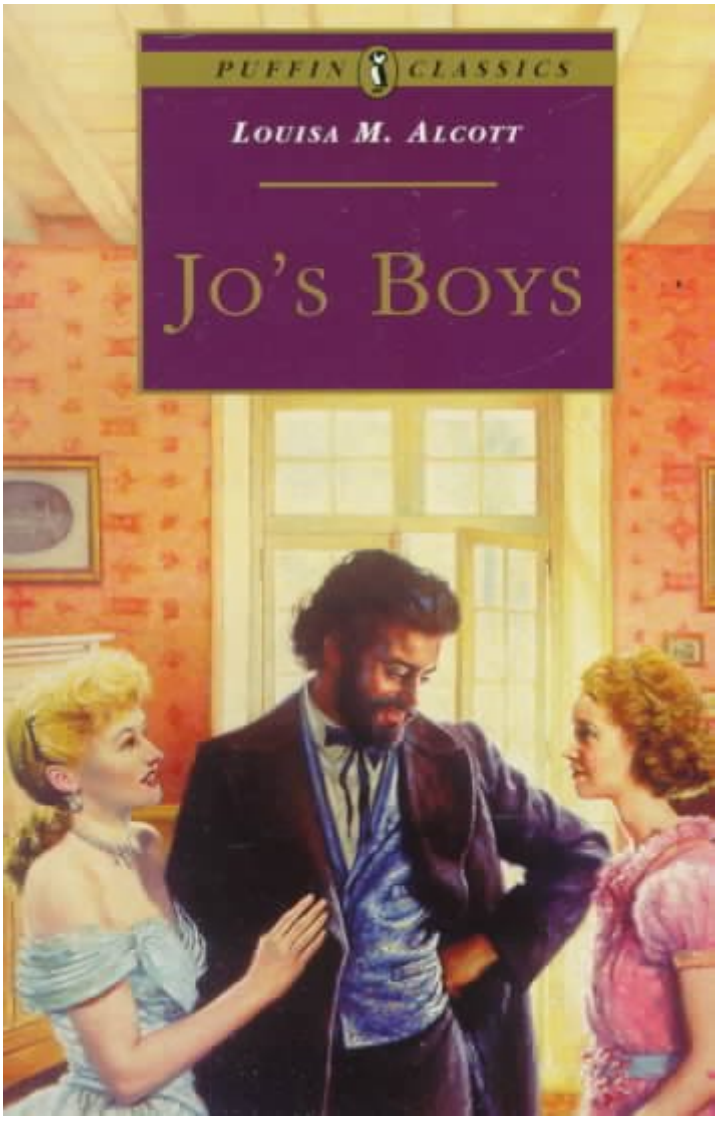
"Jo's Boys" reviewed by Sarah on June 14, 2010



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Name:
Sarah
Grade:
11
Title:
Jo's Boys
Author:
Alcott, Louisa May
Genre:
historical

Write a review of the book, including plot points, if you wish:
In the classic story, Jo?s Boys, by Louisa May Alcott, God reveals how trials and sufferings exposes the value of life and love, which brings numerous blessings and graces to those who persevere through them. The first example takes place when Emil, Jo?s son, is sailing in the ocean and has to undergo many trials; his ship is consumed by fire, Emil almost starves in the lifeboat with the captain and his wife and daughter and other men, then he sees a ship, but could not gain its attention. Finally, a ship catches sight of the lifeboat and Emil gives ?thanks, more fervently and gratefully than ever before, for the blessed gift of life, which was the sweeter for a sense of duty faithfully performed.? (191)2 Because Emil did his duty and suffered severe trials, he was exposed to the value of life and love, which is a great blessing and grace to those who call to mind and observe this gift. The second example comes when Dan, Jo?s other son, is in prison and is undergoing his sentence time. He suffers ?loss of liberty? and grows ?moody, fierce, and rebellious...? (196) However, after hearing a sermon on how ?suffering and shame wring new strength for a nobler life? (199-200) Dan resolves to take ?up his solitary life again, and tried to pay his forfeit manfully.? (203) Because of this, Dan resolves to persevere through his sufferings as he has been revealed the value of life and how ?there is hope and help for everyone, for God?s mercy is infinite?? (199) The final example comes when Nat, another of Jo?s sons, is in Leipzig, Germany, where he spends himself into debt and is revealed the sufferings required in order to achieve blessings and graces. He suffers from his wrongdoings and resolves to pay his debts and work to earn his way until he returns home. Through this resolution, Nat states that he would rather ?be an honest pauper than a jackdaw among peacocks.? (215) Nat redeems himself and is rewarded with two jobs that ?would support him in a frugal way...? Thus he realizes ?hope was a better cordial than the wine, and good resolutions bloomed as freshly as the little rose tree that filled the room with fragrance?? (216) Thus, in the classic story, Jo?s Boys, by Louisa May Alcott, God reveals how trials and sufferings must be undertaken to expose the value of life and love, which brings numerous blessings and graces on those who persevere through them because ?there is more rejoicing over one repentant sinner then many saints.? (337)
Would you recommend this book?:
Yes
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