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The Picture of Dorian Gray

Discussion Questions

1. Why does Dorian put the painting in the old schoolroom?
2. Does Dorian blame Lord Henry entirely for his sins? (no: p. 104, 124; yes: p. 123)
3. What kind of childhood had Dorian had?
4. As Dorian becomes more corrupt, does his position in society change? Why not?
5. How does his relationship to the portrait change?
6. How old is Dorian now? (p. 128)
7. Why does Basil see Dorian before going to Paris? (p. 130)
8. What influence has Dorian had on others?
9. Why does Dorian show Basil the portrait?
10. How does he feel about it afterward? and later?
11. How does Dorian persuade Alan Campbell to destroy Basil's body?
12. How does the murder change the portrait? (p. 150)
13. How does Dorian try to forget the murder?
14. How does Dorian talk James Vane out of killing him?
15. Why does Dorian faint? (p. 172)
16. Why could Dorian never really love anyone? (p. 176)
17. How is James Vane killed?
18. How does Dorian react when he sees Vane's body?
19. What happens to Alan Campbell? (p. 182)
20. How does Lord Harry feel about the murder? (p. 184)
21. What good action does Dorian do? How does it affect the portrait?
22. What finally happens to Dorian and the portrait?