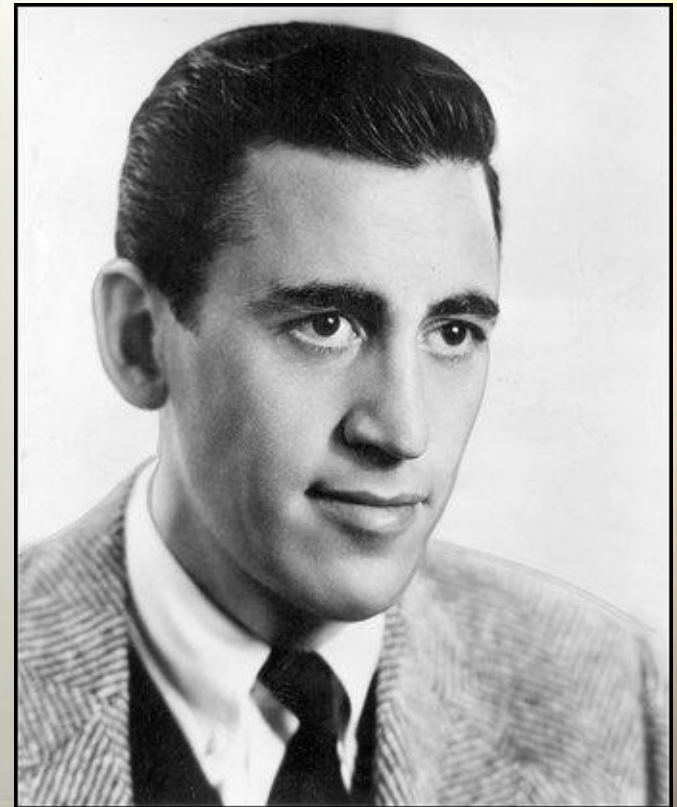


**J.D. Salinger**  
**And**  
***The Catcher in the Rye***

# Jerome David Salinger

- Born - January 1, 1919 - Manhattan, NY
- Parents were wealthy
- Didn't have a great relationship with his dad
- Went to prep schools, military school, Europe, and college in NY



# Salinger's Early Love Life

Salinger fell in love  
with Oona O'Neill -->



But she left him for  
Charlie Chaplin -->

He was much older than  
she was!



# Experiences in War

- Drafted into the Infantry in WWII
- Involved in the invasion of Normandy
- Involved in a useless battle at Hürtgenwald
  - Witnessed atrocities of war
- Suffered from PTSS (post-traumatic stress syndrome), a.k.a. “shell shock”

# Other Relationships

- Sylvia - 1945 - divorced
- Claire Douglas - 1955 - divorced in 1967
  - Two children, Margaret and Matt
- Joyce Maynard - 1970s - girlfriend (broke up because she was much younger and wanted children; he thought he was too old)
- Colleen O'Neill - late 1980s (married) - she was 40 years younger than Salinger

# Publications

- Early short stories - published in magazines
  - *Story*
  - *Saturday Evening Post*
  - *Esquire*
  - *The New Yorker*
- Stories eventually published in collections
  - *Franny and Zooey*
  - *Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters*
  - *Nine Stories*

# Publications

- *The Catcher in the Rye*
  - Salinger's only novel
  - Published in 1951
  - Immediate success - quickly reached #4 on the New York Times Bestseller List
  - Book-of-the-Month Club selection
  - Never out of print - still sells 250,000 copies annually

# *Catcher* Controversy

- One of the most censored books of the 20th century (#13 on the ALA list of most frequently challenged books of 1990-2000)
  - Language
  - Sexual themes
  - Alcohol
  - Blasphemy
  - Undermining family values
  - Holden being a poor role model
- At one point, *Catcher* was the most censored and second most taught book in the USA



# Where is He Now?

- Salinger hasn't published anything in over 40 years (he's 89!)
- Lives as a **recluse** in New Hampshire
- In his last interview, he said that he loves to write, but he writes for himself only

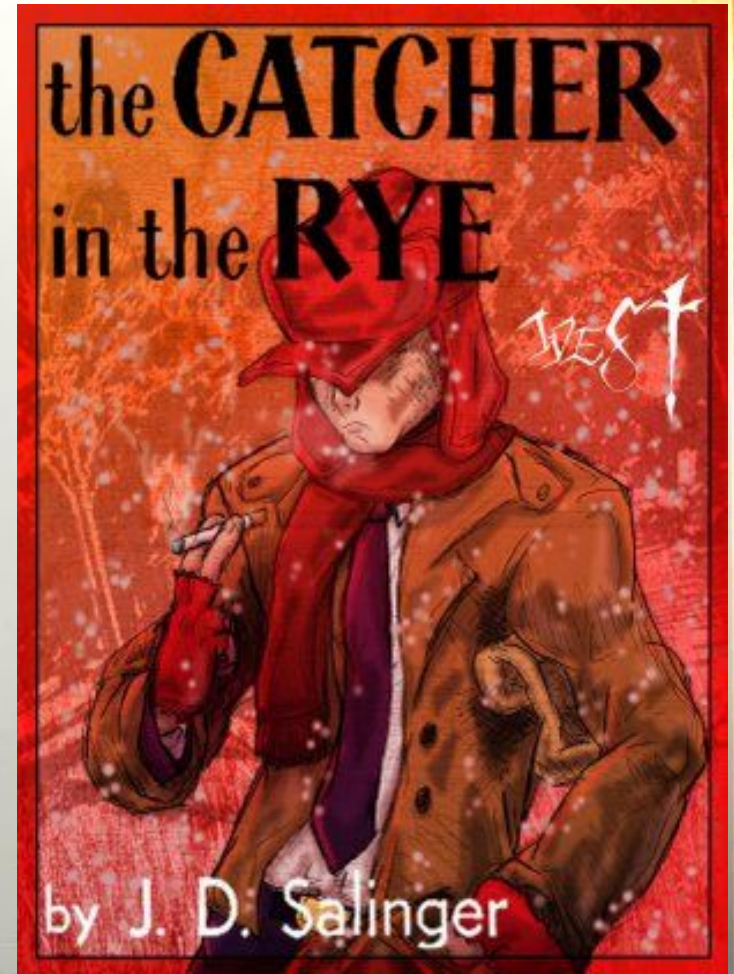
# Interesting Tidbit

- In Margaret Salinger's memoir, she revealed that J.D. Salinger drank his own urine.
- He did this for medicinal purposes

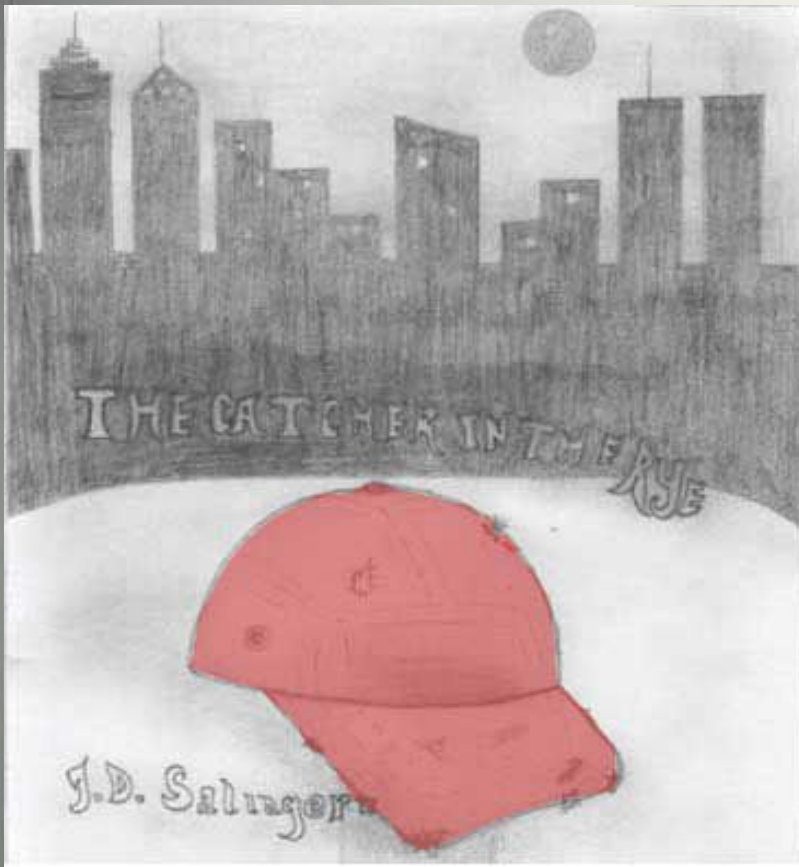
# Catcher in the Rye -- J.D. Salinger



Salinger's main character, Holden Caulfield epitomizes the growing pains of an entire generation of high school students



# Setting: New York City



- Holden is from a wealthy area of New York City
- Holden is kicked out of Pencey Prep
- Story is told over a 3 day period in December in the early 1950s

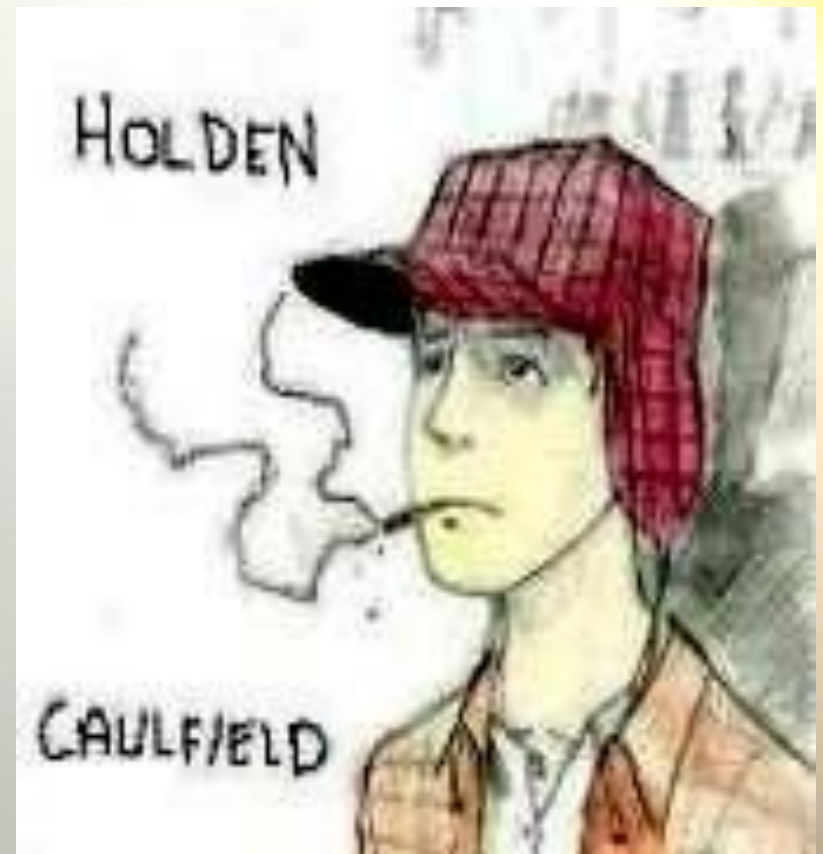
# The Characters:

- **Holden Caulfield**
- **Phoebe Caulfield**
- **Allie Caulfield**
- **Ackley**
- **Stradlater**
- **Jane Gallagher**

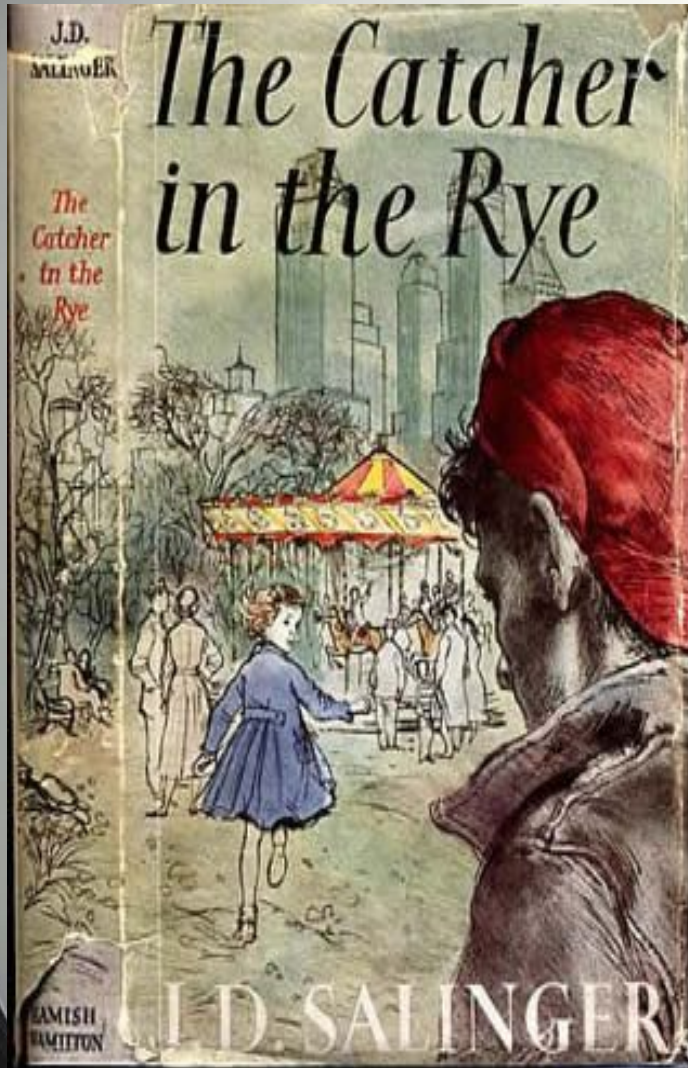


# Holden Caulfield

- The protagonist and narrator of the novel
- sixteen-year-old junior who has just been expelled for academic failure
- Extremely negative and judgmental
- Views the adult world as “Phony”



# Phoebe Caulfield



Holden's ten-year-old sister

Her childish innocence is one of Holden's only consistent sources of happiness

Phoebe seems to recognize that Holden is his own worst enemy.



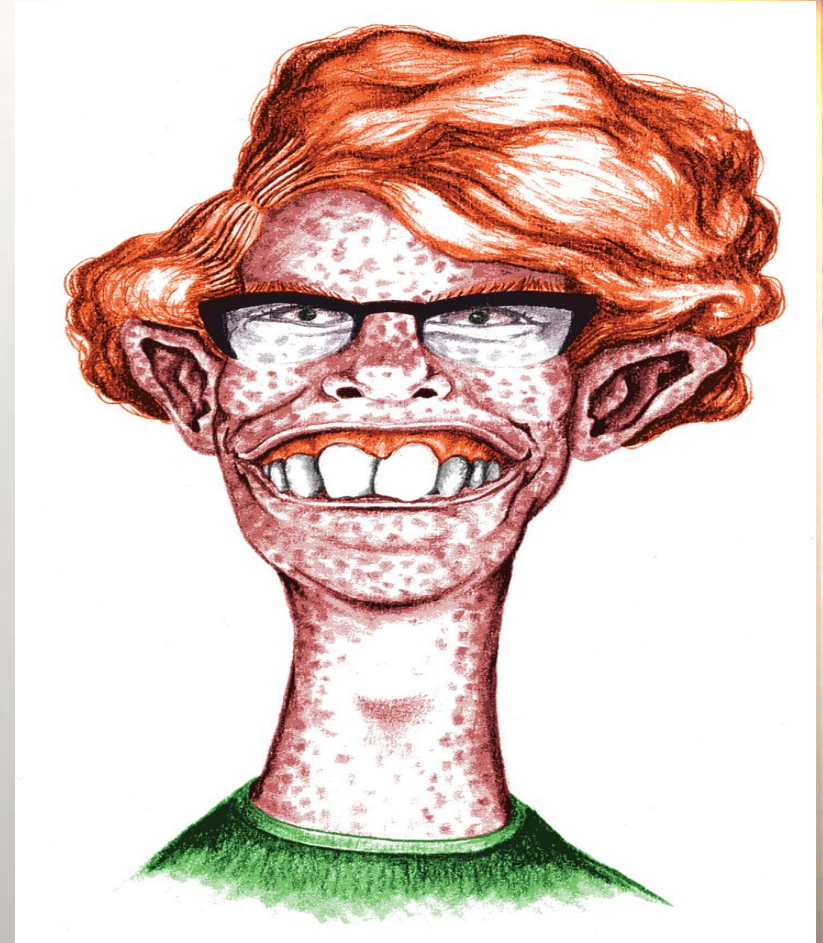
# Characters - Allie Caulfield

- Holden's younger brother
- Dies of leukemia three years before the start of the novel
- Holden carries around a baseball glove on which Allie used to write poems in green ink.



# Characters – Ackley

- Holden's next-door neighbor in his dorm at Pencey Prep
- pimply, insecure boy with terrible dental hygiene
- often barges into Holden's room and acts completely oblivious to Holden's hints that he should leave



# Characters - Stradlater



- Holden's roommate at Pencey Prep
- Stradlater is sexually active and experienced for a prep school student
- Holden calls him a “sexy bastard.”

# Characters – Jane Gallagher

- girl with whom Holden spent a lot of time one summer
- Jane never actually appears in novel
- Jane is extremely important to Holden because she is one of the few girls whom he both respects and finds attractive.



# The Plot:

- Holden Caulfield, the narrator of The Catcher in the Rye, begins with the novel with an authoritative statement that he does not intend for the novel to serve as his life story. Currently in psychiatric care, this teenager recalls what happened to him last Christmas, the story which forms the narrative basis for the novel.

# Plot 2.

- Holden returns to his dormitory where he finds Robert Ackley

\*Holden tells about how Allie died of leukemia several years before and how he broke all of the windows in his garage out of anger the night that he died.

## Plot 3.

- Holden decides to leave Pencey to return to New York City, where he will stay in a hotel before actually going home.
- While he is walking he feels depressed when he hears children singing the song "If a body catch a body coming through the rye." When Holden sees Sally immediately wants to marry her, even though he does not like Sally.

# Plot 4.

- He tells Phoebe, whom he has known for some time that he would like to be "a catcher in the rye," and he imagines himself standing at the edge of a cliff as children play around him. He would catch them before they ran too close to the cliff.



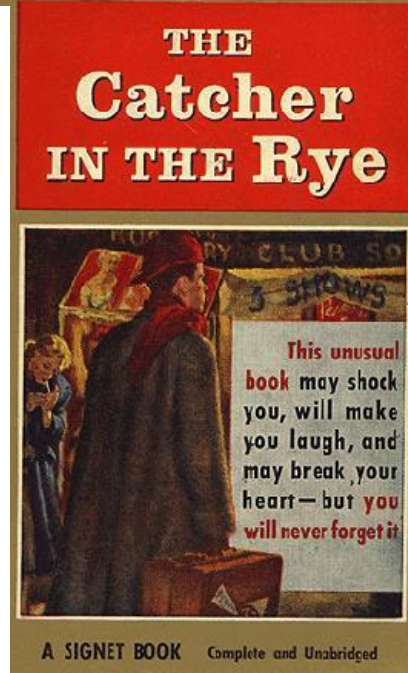
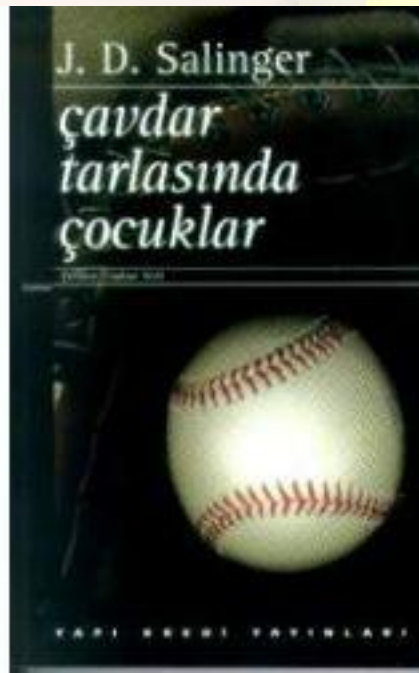
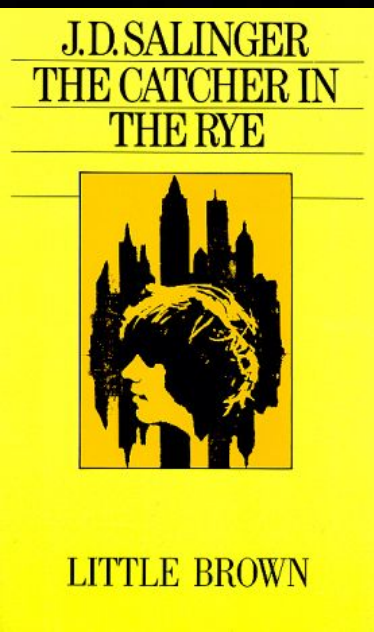
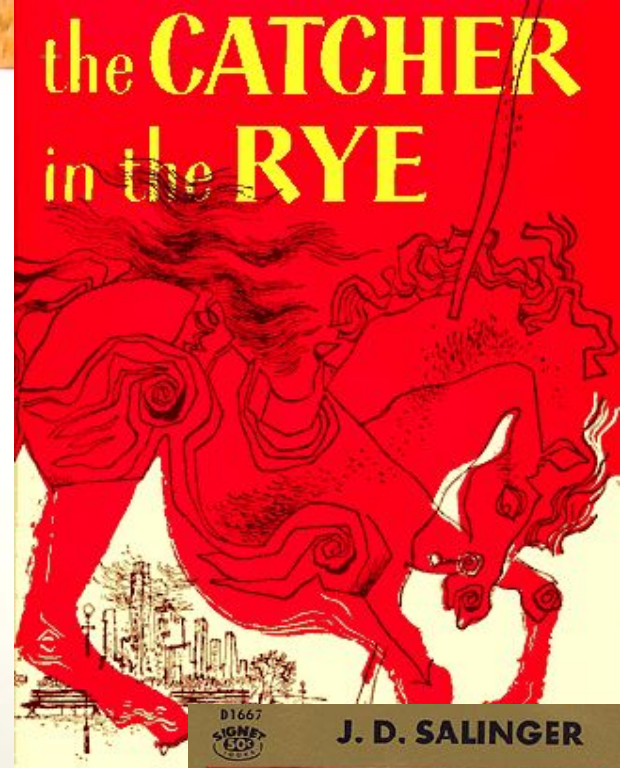
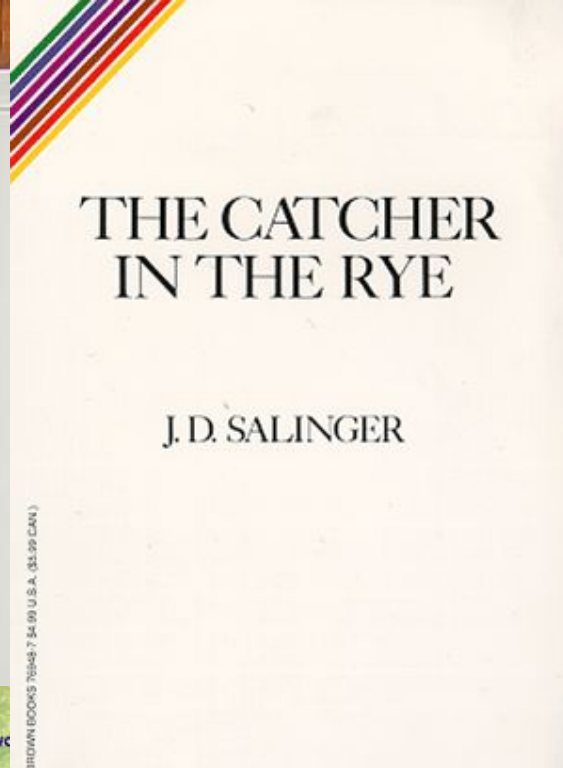
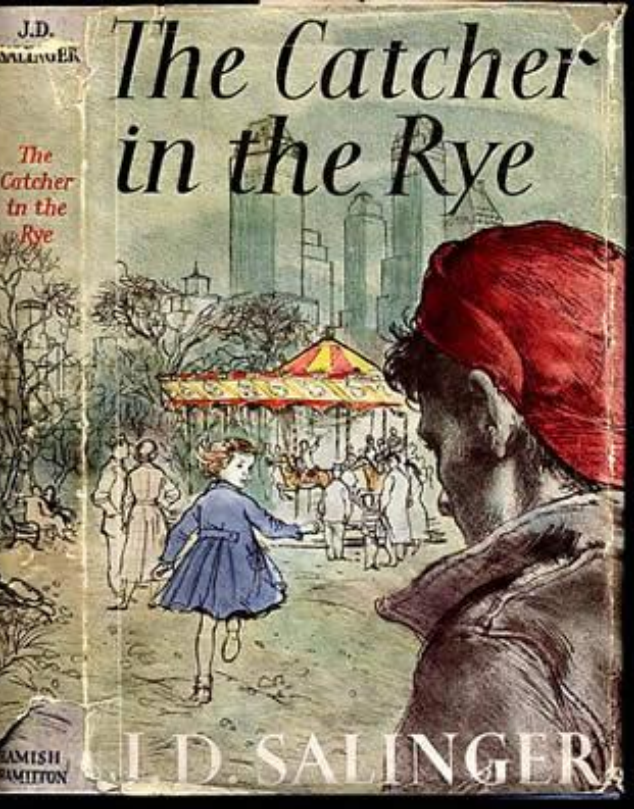


# Plot 6.

- Holden spends the night at Grand Central Station, then sends a note to Phoebe at school, telling her to meet him for lunch. He becomes increasingly distraught and delusional, believing that he will die every time he crosses the street and falling unconscious after suffering from diarrhea.
- When he meets Phoebe, she tells him that she wants to go with him and becomes angry when he refuses. He buys Phoebe a ticket for the carousel at the nearby zoo, and as he watches her, he begins to cry.

# Plot 7.

- Holden ends his story here. He refuses to tell what happened next and how he got sick, and tells how people are concerned about whether or not he will apply himself next year. He ends the story by telling that he misses Stradlater and Ackley and even Maurice.



**Thank you  
for  
attention!)**