

Reading 9 questions

1. We are meant to pity everyone that is in France of a lower-class position. Dicken has done this type of pity throughout the whole book, but we feel it more now hearing the story of the doctor's imprisonment. What's noticeable about Dickens villains is that they are all just completely evil, there is no good in them or hope like some other villains have. I'm not really sure how they contrast with that hideous strength though.

We are meant to pity the girl, and all of her family. We are, by implication, meant to pity every peasant in France. Also, the young brave wife who is risking everything to make up for her husband's evil. The villains are so evil that it almost becomes ludicrous. The villains in that hideous strength are grotesque but they still seem human.

Reading 10 questions

1. Mrs. Defarge created a "hit list" with all her knitting. Her anger and her hate for people turned her crazy and she basically killed herself by doing it. She vindicated herself, becoming what she wished for others to be. Although because we now hear her backstory of how these things happened, we can somewhat pity her because of her sister and what she's been through.

She is incapable of pity. We can't pity her because she can't pity anyone else. We are meant to see that Madame Defarge is a monster and therefore dies the death of a villain.

2. Sydney Carton has changed dramatically throughout this story. From being a man who was lazy and drunk all the time, to a man that now has laid his life down for the sake of someone's life and family. At the beginning of the story, Sydney just looked like Darnay, but now his character has grown so much that he implements some of the same good characteristics he does. It is a believable change because we are reading the story, but for someone to just hear that and believe it would be pretty hard to comprehend.

We are left wondering where that secret reservoir of strength and nobility came from. Its unbelievable because throughout his story he never fundamentally changed.

3. In my opinion he doesn't really resemble a Christ figure to well because of his poor choices. Carton knew what he needed to do and didn't do it, the only noble thing he did was lay his life down, there was nothing else special about him.

4. I'm not really sure about this question.

The cause of the revolution was the abuses of the aristocracy. In dickens mind, the revolution was absolutely inevitable given the conditions. Dickens wants to maintain that abuse, tyranny, and power will result in this kind of bloodshed. He attempts to show the horror of the revolution, but he wants us to see with sympathy the people's side. If we carefully read Carton's prophecy at the end of the book, dickens saw the Revolution as bringing out change that would leave Paris a beautiful city.

5. London, and Paris. He named the book a "tale of two cities" because everything revolved around the two cities and how they contrasted with each other.