

Chapter 1 : Books by A.J. Cronin (Author of The Citadel)

The Citadel is a novel by A. J. Cronin, first published in 1937, which was groundbreaking in its treatment of the contentious theme of medical theinnatdunvilla.com has been credited with laying the foundation in Great Britain for the introduction of the NHS a decade later.

Cronin, a physician as well as a writer, himself lived much of the life he attributes to his protagonist, Andrew Manson, in *The Citadel*. Therefore, he knows whereof he speaks. The novel begins by recounting the life of a medical doctor newly graduated from the not-quite-fashionable University of Dundee, as he commences his first full-fledged medical assignment, to maintain the established practice of Dr. In Blaenelly, Manson meets Christine, a local schoolteacher who is to become h. Philip Denny, who is to become the most influential person in his professional life. As he goes about carrying on Dr. Page unjustly accuses Manson of taking from a patient payment that should have gone to her husband. Actually, the grateful patient has given Manson a small gratuity in appreciation for his attention when he was ill. Manson realizes, however, that he can no longer continue in his present arrangement. The nearby town of Aberalaw needs a physician, and Manson goes before the committee there as an applicant for the job. He impresses the committee and accepts its offer to come to Aberalaw, taking with him Christine, whom he marries on the very day he leaves Blaenelly for his new post. Manson remains the good, overworked physician. His idealism keeps him working at the highest level of competence of which he is capable. Although he begins to prosper modestly, his concern is with patients more than with the fees they pay him. Before long, it is evident that his patients have great faith in him as a doctor. His greatest professional problem in Aberalaw is the same as his greatest professional problem had been in Blaenelly: The citizenry with whom he must deal have old-fashioned notions of how medicine should be practiced, and the resistance that meets his new ways frustrates him enormously. As a result, Manson is not always tactful in dealing with people. When a local clergyman comes to him saying that he and his wife do not want to have children yet and asking for advice, Manson, who has just suffered the loss of his The entire section is 1, words. Unlock This Study Guide Now Start your hour free trial to unlock this page The Citadel study guide and get instant access to the following:

Chapter 2 : My research diary " The Citadel by AJ Cronin " CMHS UK " Challenging Mental Health

The Citadel is the morality tale of the initially idealistic Scottish Doctor Andrew Manson who starts off working in the mining towns of the South Wales valleys (view spoiler)] before descending into the vanity fair of fashionable London doctors, who specialise in conditions which cost a lot of money to treat, where he reaches a crisis point before returning to the narrow path of virtue.

He is idealistic, but he quickly learns that his training is inadequate and that his hemiplegic employer will never return to practice. Manson must do all the work for a pittance and bad food. He befriends another assistant, the surgeon Phillip Denny, whose fatal flaw is devotion to drink. She encourages him to continue his studies and to conduct research on the relationship between dust inhalation and tuberculosis. To add to the gloom, Christine loses a much wanted pregnancy and the ability to have children. The Mansons leave Wales for London, where Manson hopes to extend his research within a government agency. Quickly disillusioned by bureaucracy, he is lured into society practice and slowly abandons his ideals in exchange for prestige and wealth. Christine is increasingly unhappy, but his response is annoyance with her and an affair with a married woman. When one of his new associates botches an elective operation on a trusting patient, he realizes the colleague is nothing more than a society abortionist and that he and his new friends are little better. He decides to sell his practice and renews contact with Denny to establish a group consulting practice "on scientific principles" in a carefully chosen Midland town. He also helps the tubercular daughter of an old friend to an unorthodox but effective pneumothorax in a clinic run by Stillman, an American who does not have an MD. Just as he and Christine have rediscovered joy in each other and their future together, she is killed in a freak accident. Only days later in the depths of grief, he is brought before the General Medical Council on charges of unprofessional conduct laid by his former associates. He acquits himself brilliantly and leaves with his old friend Denny for work in the Midlands. In every situation--as an assistant, in a solo mining town practice, as a medical bureaucrat, and as an illustrious private practitioner--he is brutally conscious that most of what he does makes little difference to the lives of his patients or the health of the public. Instead, Cronin blames the organization of health services, the nature of doctor training, and the arrogance of the profession for the failure of medicine to improve the well-being of the population. With irony, he features the perquisites attendant on medical meetings p. First printed in September , the Citadel enjoyed more than a dozen reprintings before the year was out, and a relatively faithful adaptation was the basis for a successful feature film in see film annotation of Cronin suffered ostracism by the medical profession for his liberal views, but his book is said to have helped pave the way for public acceptance of National Health Service in the following decade. For more on Cronin, see Dale Salwak, A. Twayne Publishers, and J.

Chapter 3 : The Citadel by A J Cronin

Archibald Joseph Cronin (19 July - 6 January) was a Scottish novelist and physician.. His best-known novel is The Citadel (), the story of a Scottish doctor in a Welsh mining village, who quickly moves up the career ladder in London.

Cronin often wrote of young men from similarly mixed backgrounds. His paternal grandparents had emigrated from County Armagh , Ireland, and become glass and china merchants in Alexandria. Owen Cronin, his grandfather, had had his surname changed from Cronague in His maternal grandfather, Archibald Montgomerie, was a hatter who owned a shop in Dumbarton. When he was seven years old, his father, an insurance agent and commercial traveller , died from tuberculosis. Cronin was not only a precocious student at Dumbarton Academy [3] who won many prizes in writing competitions, but also an excellent athlete and footballer. From an early age he was an avid golfer , and he enjoyed the sport throughout his life. He also loved salmon fishing. A family decision that he should study either to join the church or to practise medicine was settled by Cronin himself when he chose "the lesser of two evils". He was absent in " for naval service. In he graduated, with highest honours, with the degree of MBChB. After the war he trained at various hospitals, including Bellahouston and Lightburn Hospitals in Glasgow, and the Rotunda Hospital in Dublin. He undertook general practice in a small village on the Clyde , Garelochhead , as well as in Tredegar , a mining town in South Wales. In he was appointed Medical Inspector of Mines for Great Britain, and his survey of medical regulations in collieries , and his reports on the correlation between coal dust inhalation and pulmonary disease , were published over the next few years. Cronin drew on his medical experience and his research on the occupational hazards of the mining industry for his later novels The Citadel , set in Wales, and The Stars Look Down , set in Northumberland. He subsequently moved to London, where he practised in Harley Street before opening his own thriving medical practice in Notting Hill. Cronin was also the medical officer for Whiteleys at this time and was becoming increasingly interested in ophthalmology. At Dalchenna Farm by Loch Fyne he was finally able to indulge his lifelong desire to write a novel, having previously "written nothing but prescriptions and scientific papers". Some of his stories draw on his medical career, dramatically mixing realism, romance and social criticism. A prodigiously fast writer, Cronin liked to average 5, words a day, meticulously planning the details of his plots in advance. During the Second World War he worked for the British Ministry of Information , writing articles as well as participating in radio broadcasts to foreign countries. In the novel Cronin advocated a free public health service in order to defeat the wiles of those doctors who "raised guinea -snatching and the bamboozling of patients to an art form. The author quickly made enemies in the medical profession, and there was a concerted effort by one group of specialists to get The Citadel banned. A few of the more vociferous medical practitioners of the day took exception to one of its many messages: Some pointed to the lack of balance between criticism and praise for hard-working doctors. The majority accepted it for what it was, a topical novel. The press attempted to incite passions within the profession in an attempt to sell copy, while Victor Gollancz followed suit in an attempt to promote the book, all overlooking the fact that it was a work of fiction, not a scientific piece of research, and not autobiographical. At medical school, as he recounts in his autobiography, he had become an agnostic: In short I lost my superiority, and this, though I was not then aware of it, is the first step towards finding God. Accept evolution with its fossils and elementary species , its scientific doctrine of natural causes. And still you are confronted with the same mystery, primary and profound. Ex nihilo nihil , as the Latin tag of our schooldays has it: One day he invited a distinguished zoologist to deliver a lecture to the members. The speaker, adopting "a frankly atheistic approach," described the sequence of events leading to the emergence, "though he did not say how," of the first primitive life-form from lifeless matter. When he concluded, there was polite applause. Then, "a mild and very average youngster rose nervously to his feet," and with a slight stammer asked how there came to be anything in the first place. The lecturer "looked annoyed, hesitated, slowly turned red. Then, before he could answer, the whole club burst into a howl of laughter. The elaborate structure of logic offered by the test-tube realist had been crumpled by one word of challenge from a simple-minded boy. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and

removed. August Learn how and when to remove this template message Cronin with family in It was at university that Cronin met his future wife, Agnes Mary Gibson May ”, who was also a medical student. The couple married on 31 August As a physician, May worked with her husband briefly in the dispensary while he was employed by the Tredegar Medical Aid Society ; she also assisted him with his practice in London. When he became an author, she would proofread his manuscripts. Their first son, Vincent , was born in Tredegar in Their second son, Patrick , was born in London in Andrew, their youngest son, was born in London in Later years[edit] Ultimately Cronin returned to Europe, to reside in Lucerne and Montreux , Switzerland, for the last 25 years of his life. He continued to write into his eighties. He included among his friends Laurence Olivier , Charlie Chaplin and Audrey Hepburn , to whose first son he was godfather. Although the latter part of his life was spent entirely abroad, Cronin retained a great affection for the district of his childhood, writing in to a local teacher: In my study there is a beautiful 17th century coloured print of the Rock I even follow with great fervour the fortunes of the Dumbarton football team.

Chapter 4 : A. J. Cronin - Wikipedia

The Citadel has been adapted into several successful film, radio, and television productions around the world, including the Oscar-nominated film starring Ralph Donat, Rosalind Russell, Ralph Richardson, and Rex Harrison.

But now I can go ahead and recommend this book to him. Dr Andrew Mason is a poor doctor and newly out of medical college. His first assignment is to be an assistant to Dr Page in Driffney. This is his first encounter with unethical behaviour which disturbs him a lot. Dr Andrew is forced to leave Driffney under unfavourable conditions. He moves to Aberalaw where he works hard with miners to prove that silicosis is an industrial disease. Dr Andrew looks forward to do a lot of research on lung related diseases with total support from Christine. But things change very soon. Andrew is caught in the world of money when he gets a few private practises when he moves to London. His ambition changes into becoming one of the highly paid doctors in London and he compromises his moral values and even start to support unethical behaviors to get more money out of totally healthy patients. Christine is very much disturbed by this change in Dr Andrew, but she finds herself helpless in convincing Andrew. So who will win in the end? Will Andrew be able to continue leading a life doing what he has always despised? How much long can Christine wait for her old Andrew to come into his senses? I had to acquire each of this book from second hand book shops in Bangalore, but all the effort was worth it. A J Cronin writes stories about true love, honesty, hard work, compassion, religion etc and about people who lived in the early s especially in the medical field as he was a physician himself. The Citadel was published in the year If you like to read a good story with a good moral, something which will inspire you a lot, you must read one of the novels by A J Cronin. One other best quality associated with his books is that his characters are very human. They are common people, many times so poor that they have to worry about daily food, they all have their own weaknesses, they all yearn for true love, and they all have to try hard to get the successes in their lives. On a final note, grab a Cronin book if ever you get a chance and see how great a writer was heâ€¦Would love to know if anyone else feels the same about Cronin books Rating:

Chapter 5 : BBC Radio 4 - 15 Minute Drama, The Citadel

This thrilling novel of a doctor's life has been the subject of a Mobil Masterpiece Theatre dramatic series on PBS. "Cronin's distinguished achievement.

It is cited as being influential in the setting up of the NHS. Published in 1947, I am hoping it will give me an insight to conditions before the NHS. AJ Cronin knew what he was talking about: Cronin studied at the University of Glasgow. He was later appointed to the Ministry of Mines, studying the medical problems of the mining industry. *The Citadel* is a novel. I also discovered that there is a film, so I watched it. The story begins with a newly qualified doctor Andrew Manson arriving for his first assistant post in a mining community in Wales. The miners have money deducted from their wages to cover medical costs. This money is paid to the doctors according to how many patients they have registered with them. But Andrew discovers that Dr Page is bedridden and he is expected to run the practice alone. The fees from the miners are given to Blodwen Page and Andrew works as a doctor on the salary of an assistant. If you want to operate you use the kitchen table. You wash up afterwards at the scullery bosh. In a dry summer the kids die like flies with infantile cholera. *The Citadel* is a novel. After working for Doctor Page for a month, Andrew discovers the reality of healthcare in Britain: Now he began to question if there were not some truth in what Denny said. Andrew and Denny discover an outbreak of Typhoid Fever, and they identify the source as being a well. The two of them advise all of their patients to boil the water before drinking it, and with treatment the epidemic comes under control. But their efforts to deal with the source come to nothing: It leaks like the devil and seeps into half the low wells at the bottom of the town. It is about a suspected case of madness. One of the miners had been: He had turned quarrelsome and violent. And this looks uncommonly like it. Andrew attends the patient and examines him: The change was not gross, it was Emlyn true enough, but a blurred and altered Emlyn, his features coarsened in some subtle way. His face seemed swollen, the nostrils thickened, the skin waxy, except for a faint reddish patch that spread across the nose. His whole appearance was heavy, apathetic. Andrew spoke to him. He muttered an unintelligible reply. Andrew felt that he ought to be convinced. Yet inexplicably, he was not satisfied. Why, why, he kept asking himself, why should Hughes talk like this? Supposing the man had gone out of his mind, what was the cause of it all. He had always been a happy contented man "no worries, easy going, amicable. Why, without apparent reason, had he changed to this! Andrew diagnoses thyroid deficiency and after successful treatment the patient is returned to his former self. After a while Andrew has an argument with Miss Page over money. His frustrations about his assistant status lead him to give notice and leave the practice. He finds a post as a qualified doctor and applies for it. He is interviewed by a committee which is made up of medical experts and miners: At the small side-table was a pale quiet man with a sensitive, intelligent face who looked, from his blue pitted features, as if he had once been a miner. He was Owen, the secretary. Lounging on the edge of the table, smiling good naturedly at Andrew, was Doctor Llewellyn. Owen, in a quiet voice, explained the conditions of the post. Out of this the Society administers the necessary medical services, provides a nice little hospital, surgeries, medicines, splints, etcetera. In addition the Society engages doctors, Doctor Llewellyn, the head physician and surgeon, and four assistants, together with a surgeon dentist, and pays them a capitation fee "so much per head according to the number on their list. I believe Doctor Leslie was making something like five hundred pounds a year when he left us. Andrew accepts the job offer and the house that goes with it, on the understanding that he is engaged to be married. The miners prefer a married man attending their wives and daughters. Andrew proposes to his girlfriend and is able to take up the position of GP with immediate effect. Observations If this is based in truth, it seems that the system is inadequate. The miners, or shall we say the end users, seem to have too much influence in the running of the practice. Andrew's employer, Dr Page, is kept on as a GP despite the fact that he is unable to perform his duties. This is the result of his patients loyalty allowing him to stay on the company books. This in turn affects the status and pay of Andrew who is running the practice alone but not receiving the financial reward or professional recognition for doing so. There is also the possibility that Dr Page and his sister rely on the fees from the mining company and would not have the financial means to retire. There are a lot of examples of

incompetence by doctors and Public Health representatives. This distrust of new methods becomes more apparent later in the book. As a footnote, the father in law of my Great Aunt was a doctor and surgeon from the late s. He died in The information I have at the moment suggests that he had a surgery in Yorkshire and also worked at the hospital.

Chapter 6 : The Citadel Summary - theinnatdunvilla.com

The Citadel by A J Cronin is one of the best books that I have read in my life. I remember one of my friends saying that he will not read this book because he don't want to break his high expectations about Cronin after reading The Keys of the Kingdom.

Chapter 7 : The Citadel by A. J. Cronin

Synopsis An influential part in laying the foundation of the NHS, The Citadel is a moving story of tragedy, triumph and redemption. When newly qualified doctor Andrew Manson takes up his first post in a Welsh mining community, the young Scot brings with him a bagful of idealism and enthusiasm.

Chapter 8 : BBC Radio 4 Extra - AJ Cronin - The Citadel (Omnibus)

A.J. Cronin has 87 books on Goodreads with ratings. A.J. Cronin's most popular book is The Citadel.

Chapter 9 : The Citadel (novel) - Wikipedia

A.J. Cronin, Writer: Kala Pani. British novelist A.J. Cronin was born in Dumbartonshire, Scotland, in In he entered Glasgow University to study medicine, but his studies were interrupted by World War I, in which he served in the British Navy as a surgeon sublieutenant.