

APPENDIX I

SUMMARY OF *THE NICKEL BOYS*

The Nickel Boys is a novel about the atrocities of racism at a fictional school called Nickel Academy. The novel was written by Colson Whitehead, who was inspired by a true story of atrocities at a reform school in Florida. The story is set in the early 1960s and follows the life of Elwood Curtis, a black teenager in Tallahassee whose aspirations are shaped by the civil rights speeches of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elwood is a diligent student and has dreams of going to college, but his life takes a drastic turn when he is sentenced to Nickel Academy.

At Nickel Academy, Elwood quickly realizes that the school is a terrible place where violence and corruption are rampant. Black and white students were segregated, with black students facing worse conditions and cruelty. Despite being in an oppressive environment, Elwood sticks to his ideals and his belief in justice, influenced by the teachings of Dr. King. He befriends Turner, a more cynical kid who has learned to survive the school's violent reality with a code of silence and survival.

Furthermore, Elwood and Turner agreed to establish a friendship and make a plan to escape from Nickel Academy. Elwood began to record all activities and events occurring at Nickel Academy. Among them, the incident about Elwood and the black students who experienced violence, the difference in treatment between white students and black students, the peratungan that has been set by Nickel Academy between black students and white students, the separation of dormitories on the students, until the incident of many black students who disappeared. This novel tells about the types of racism and the struggle to deal with racism, as well as the friendship between the main characters named Elwood and Turner. This novel describes how the types of racism found in Nickel Academy and how the main character's way of dealing with racism.

APPENDIX II

BIOGRAPHY OF COLSON WHITEHEAD

Colson Whitehead, was born on November 6, 1969, in New York City, is an acclaimed American author whose diverse body of work spans multiple genres, including speculative fiction, historical fiction, and contemporary literature. A graduate of Harvard University, Whitehead began his writing career at *The Village Voice*. His debut novel, *The Intuitionist* (1999), introduced readers to his innovative storytelling techniques and sharp social commentary. Over the years, Whitehead has published several notable works such as *John Henry Days* (2001), *The Colossus of New York* (2003), *Apex Hides the Hurt* (2006), *Sag Harbor* (2009), and *Zone One* (2011).

His novel *The Underground Railroad* (2016) earned him widespread acclaim, winning both the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the National Book Award. This novel reimagines the historical network of safe houses and routes used by enslaved African Americans seeking freedom as an actual underground train system, blending history with speculative elements to powerful effect. Whitehead's success continued with *The Nickel Boys* (2019), which also won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, highlighting his profound ability to explore themes of history, memory, and social justice. His most recent work, *Harlem Shuffle* (2021), further cements his reputation as a versatile and compelling storyteller.



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