

Name _____

The Scarlet Letter: A Tale of Sin and Redemption

Short Answer Key

1. Hester Prynne's punishment for her sin is being forced to wear the scarlet letter 'A' on her chest as a symbol of her adultery and shame.
2. Roger Chillingworth plays the role of Hester's husband who seeks revenge against the man responsible for her downfall. He comes to Boston after discovering Hester's affair.
3. Arthur Dimmesdale's guilt affects his health and well-being by causing physical and emotional suffering. He experiences deteriorating health, severe inner turmoil, and mental anguish.
4. At the beginning of the novel, the scarlet letter 'A' symbolizes "Adultery" and Hester's shame. By the end, it comes to symbolize "Angel" and the transformation of Hester's character.
5. The shared tombstone of Hester and Dimmesdale at the novel's conclusion symbolizes their unity in death and the redemption of their souls. It signifies the end of their earthly suffering and the hope of forgiveness.

