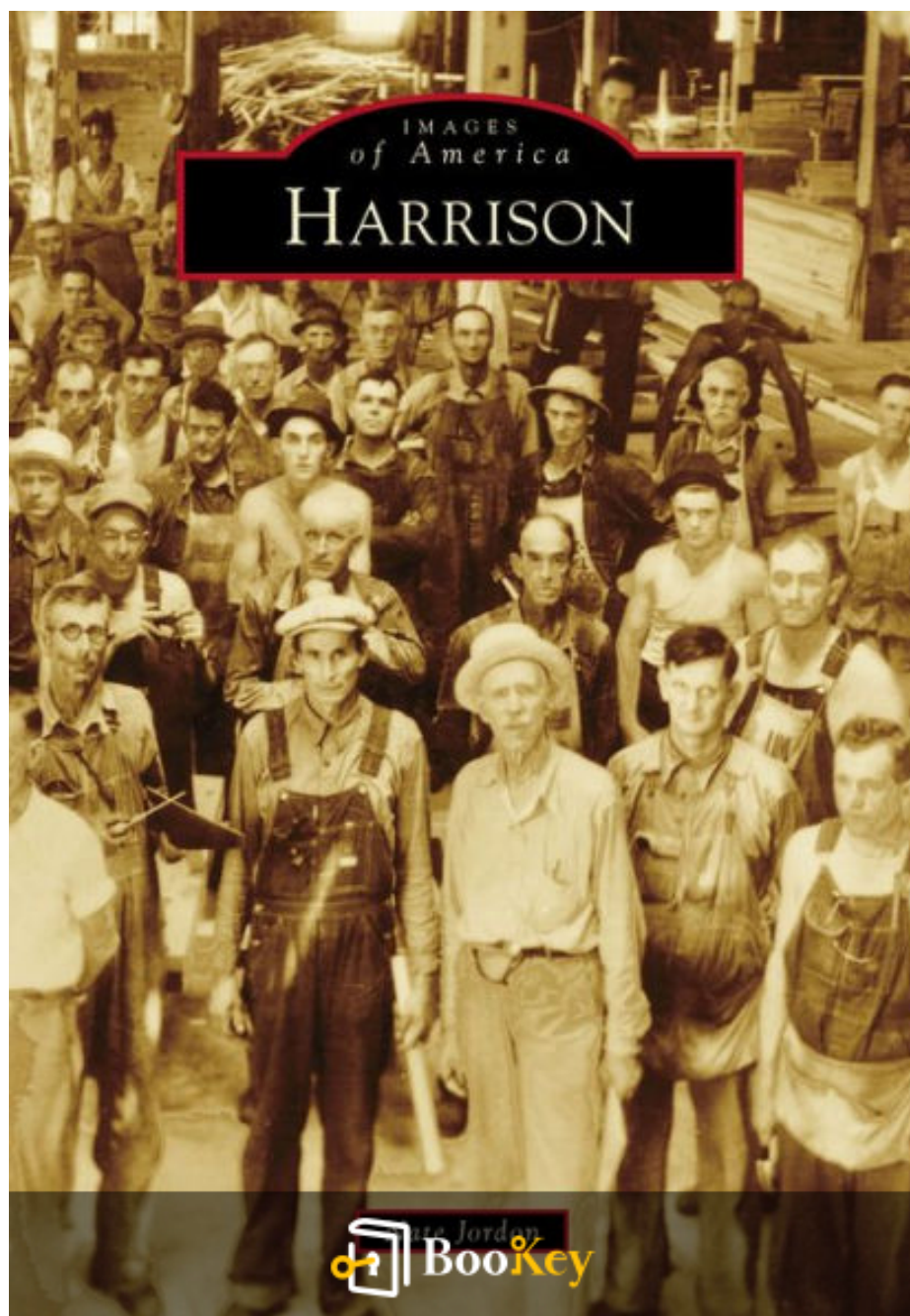


Harrison PDF (Limited Copy)

Nate Jordon



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Harrison Summary

A Journey of Identity and Resilience in Adversity.

Written by Books OneHub

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About the book

In "Harrison" by Nate Jordon, readers are plunged into a gripping exploration of the human spirit and the intricate web of relationships that define our existence. Set against a backdrop of profound societal challenges, the story follows Harrison, a reluctant hero burdened by his family's expectations and his own insecurities, as he embarks on a transformative journey of self-discovery. Through Jordon's poignant prose, readers are invited to witness Harrison grapple with the definitions of courage, love, and redemption, ultimately asking the question: what does it truly mean to be free? This compelling narrative not only captivates with its emotional depth but also resonates as a powerful reflection on the choices we make and the legacies we leave behind. Dive into "Harrison" and uncover the extraordinary in the ordinary as the journey unfolds.

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About the author

Nate Jordon is an accomplished author and storyteller known for his compelling narratives that often weave together elements of human experience, emotion, and imagination. With a background in both creative writing and journalism, Jordon's works reflect his keen observations of contemporary issues and personal struggles, making them relatable and thought-provoking. His literary style encapsulates a vivid blend of poetic language and engaging prose, drawing readers into the worlds he creates. Through his novels, including the much-anticipated "Harrison," Jordon explores themes of identity, resilience, and the quest for belonging, establishing himself as a distinctive voice in modern literature.

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Chapter 1 Summary: The Town Square

Chapter 1 of "Harrison" by Nate Jordon vividly takes us through the evolution of Harrison, a town thriving in the 1890s and into the early 20th century. Set against a backdrop rich with history, the town square becomes the heart of community life, showcasing key locations like the Speer Hotel, the Boone County Courthouse, and various businesses that populate the area.

The narrative begins with historical snapshots that anchor us in the town's past, highlighting the rarity of bank robberies due to the armed citizenry and the sturdy construction of local banks. This sturdy resolve is mirrored in the community's spirit as depicted through the Harrison Silver Cornet Band, which played frequently at events, enhancing a sense of camaraderie among residents.

We meet notable figures such as Lafayette Lee Coffman, the state land commissioner, who brings a personal touch to the civic administration, emphasizing the importance of local governance as new infrastructures, like the Federal Building, symbolize progress and stability. As time passes, residents witness significant events like parades, fires, blizzards, and the celebrations of local and national histories, each adding layers to the town's character. Noteworthy is the unseasonal blizzard in 1913, a testament to the residents' resilience, as they relied on their resourcefulness to weather the storm.

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The story also tells of a nation on the verge of war, with hints of World War I beginning to loom as the town prepares to send off its young men. The Armistice Day parades encapsulate the emotional highs and lows of a community deeply engaged in the socio-political currents of the day.

As we journey through various local businesses like Hudson's Grocery and the Coffman Kirby Drug Store, we get a taste of daily life, where moments of personal connections flourish amid the backdrop of historical transformations. The chapter paints a picture of a town evolving while holding on to its roots, emphasizing themes of community, resilience, and the intertwined nature of personal and collective histories in shaping Harrison's identity. The progression through time showcases both the trials and triumphs that define the spirit of its citizens, setting the stage for deeper stories to unfold as the town grows into the modern era.

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Chapter 2 Summary: Industry and Business

Chapter 2 of "Harrison" by Nate Jordon paints a vivid picture of community life and industry in Harrison, Arkansas, during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It begins with the Bower Brothers Wagon Manufacturing Company, established in 1888, highlighting the roles of George Bower and his sons as key figures in local industry, reflecting the town's reliance on hand-crafted goods like wagons and buggies. The narrative then shifts to the Phoenix Mill, showcasing the resilience of the Basore family, who rebuilt after a devastating flood that threatened their livelihood.

As the chapter unfolds, various businesses emerge, documenting the town's evolving landscape. The Jersey Roller Mill stands out for its significance in processing grain, reflecting the agricultural foundation of the community. The well drilling crew emphasizes the importance of water supply, while Safer Drug Store illustrates the pharmacist's role as a vital health resource.

Street scenes capture the hustle of local commerce, with horse-drawn wagons delivering essential equipment for the thriving agricultural sector. Clothing and general stores, like Walter's and the Fair Store, reveal the community's fashion choices and shopping practices before the rise of mass production and big department stores.

Barbershops become social hubs, showing how communities gathered not

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just for grooming but also to share news and forge connections. The introduction of steam-powered tractors marks a turning point in agriculture, saving labor while still relying on community cooperation for tasks like threshing, echoing the spirit of teamwork and mutual aid that defined rural life.

By the 1920s and 30s, innovations continue with the advent of the first power company truck and the influence of automobiles on daily life, changing the way people accessed goods and services. Old establishments like Bennett's Drugstore and Tim's Chili Kitchen capture the essence of small-town America, where dining and socializing were integral parts of life.

Amidst legal challenges, like those faced by the Myers Milling Company after the railroads withdrew, the resilience of local businesses is evident. Each anecdote, from Dewey Erwin's contribution to threshing on local farms to the establishment of the Boone County Telephone Company, reflects the hardworking spirit of the residents who adapted and thrived through changing times.

As the chapter closes, the community continues to evolve, characterized by an intertwining of tradition and innovation, showing how interdependent relationships shaped their economy and way of life. This rich tapestry not only showcases the history of Harrison but also highlights themes of resilience, community cooperation, and the transformative power of industry



in shaping everyday lives.

Section	Summary
Introduction to Industry	Highlights Bower Brothers Wagon Manufacturing Company and the significance of handcrafted goods in the local economy.
Community Resilience	Focuses on the Phoenix Mill and the Basore family's recovery after a flood, illustrating perseverance.
Evolving Businesses	Documents the rise of various local businesses, emphasizing their roles in the community's economic landscape.
Agricultural Foundations	The Jersey Roller Mill's importance in grain processing signifies agriculture's central role in the town's economy.
Community Services	Safer Drug Store exemplifies the essential health resources available to residents, underlining the importance of local commerce.
Social Hubs	Barbershops serve as social gathering spots, fostering community connections beyond grooming services.
Agricultural Innovations	Introduction of steam-powered tractors signifies advancements that still relied on community cooperation.
Transportation Changes	The 1920s and 30s bring innovations like power company trucks and automobiles that transform local life and commerce.
Resilience in Business	Local businesses, including Myers Milling Company, face and adapt to legal and economic challenges, showcasing community resilience.
Conclusion	The chapter culminates in the community's evolution, blending tradition with innovation, and emphasizing resilience and cooperation.



Chapter 3: The Railroad

In Chapter 3 of "Harrison" by Nate Jordon, we delve into the significant role of railroads in the development of the town named after Marcus LaRue Harrison. The chapter opens by highlighting the essential work of a railroad survey crew, which Marcus was a part of, painting a picture of the industrial revolution's ambitious spirit that transformed America socially, politically, and economically.

The narrative shifts to the Missouri Pacific Railroad crew laboring on a railroad bed, emphasizing the arduous manual work before modern machinery made such tasks easier. As the chapter progresses, we see a milestone moment—the arrival of the first train in Harrison on March 22, 1901. This event marks a new era for the town, spurred by local businessmen who invested \$40,000 to connect it with Little Rock.

The development continues with the reorganization of the St. Louis & North Arkansas Railroad into the Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad Company in 1906, which led to greater economic hopes for Harrison. The railroad

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Chapter 4 Summary: Education and Religious Life

In Chapter 4 of "Harrison" by Nate Jordon, we explore the educational and religious foundations of the town through a series of historical snapshots. The chapter opens with a glimpse into the late 19th century, showcasing the Harrison Academy, a two-schoolhouse complex that catered to children of varied ages. It illustrates the simplicity of schooling during this era, highlighting how students used basic supplies like slates instead of textbooks. Graduation for the class of 1898 is depicted as a significant achievement, illustrating the pride associated with education at that time.

We see character development through the anecdotes of local teachers and students, emphasizing their dedication to learning while navigating limited resources. As the chapter progresses, we encounter various schools and milestones, such as the evolution of Harrison Grammar School and Harrison High School. The excitement is palpable in the story about the first airplane landing in Harrison in 1920, which not only disrupted class but also created a memorable moment for the children.

Religious life in Harrison unfolds through the stories of local churches, particularly the Methodist church led by Rev. William Andrew Dees and the establishment of the Disciples of Christ. The narrative highlights the community spirit as congregants gather for picnics, worship services, and other activities, providing a vivid picture of how religion played a pivotal

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role in forming social connections.

Throughout the chapter, themes of community resilience and continuity resonate strongly. As various churches are built, burned down, and rebuilt, the text captures the evolving nature of faith and fellowship over the decades. We also witness moments of joy—like children riding in fire trucks on Halloween—juxtaposed with the more solemn aspects of life, like church ceremonies and community meetings.

By the end of the chapter, we have traveled through time, witnessing the growth of education and religion in Harrison. The essence of community, tradition, and progress weaves through the lives of those who walked the streets, attended the schools, and participated in the gatherings, leaving a rich tapestry of history and shared experiences.

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Critical Thinking

Key Point: The importance of community and tradition in fostering resilience and growth

Critical Interpretation: Imagine standing in the midst of a tight-knit community where every face tells a story of shared struggles and triumphs. In Chapter 4 of 'Harrison,' you witness how education and religion are not just institutions, but the very bedrock of this community's spirit. This chapter inspires you to recognize the power of togetherness and heritage in your own life. The dedication to learning amidst adversity and the warmth of congregational bonds show you that, regardless of the challenges you face, leaning on your community and honoring your traditions can help you navigate through life's storms. You realize that nurturing these connections can lead to personal growth and resilience in your own journey.



Chapter 5 Summary: Civic and Professional Clubs

In Chapter 5 of "Harrison" by Nate Jordon, the focus shifts to the vibrant civic and professional clubs that form the backbone of the community in Harrison, Arkansas. The chapter opens with a historical nod to the Freemasons, highlighting their integral role in the state's foundation, noting how many early Arkansas leaders were members. It paints a picture of Freemasonry as a moral fraternal organization aiming to better men through allegorical teachings.

The narrative then transitions to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, established in the 18th century. This group stands out because of its mission to provide aid and promote altruism, something quite unusual at the time. The "Three Links" symbolically represents the core values of friendship, love, and truth, emphasizing the fraternity's commitment to humanitarian efforts.

Next, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is introduced, a fraternal organization with a substantial membership across the country. The mention of Harrison Lodge No. 2311 showcases Harrison's participation in broader social networks, reinforcing community and fellowship.

The chapter features Dr. Leonidas Kirby during a Railroad Surgeons meeting in 1915, illustrating not just the professional ties among medical



practitioners of the time but also Kirby's significant contributions as a well-regarded doctor in Harrison.

Further on, the founding of the Rotary Club in 1919 is noted, highlighting how even in a small town, such organizations can emerge to foster local leadership and connection. J. Sam Rowland, the club's first president, symbolizes the spirited engagement of residents in community service and collaboration.

The Philanthropic Educational Organization (PEO) is introduced, emphasizing its dedication to women's education and empowerment, a crucial theme in the continued support of female progression in society. The Mother's Club of Harrison, founded around 1920, showcases grassroots activism aimed at supporting local education, demonstrating the community's commitment to improving facilities and providing resources to students in need.

Lastly, the Apollo Club meeting in 1929 captures a moment of social engagement among women in the community, underscoring their important role in both civic life and cultural enrichment.

Overall, this chapter beautifully illustrates how these clubs are not merely social gatherings; they embody the spirit of cooperation, charity, and progressiveness in Harrison, reflecting wider themes of community, support,



and dedication to bettering both individuals and society as a whole. Each organization and its members contribute uniquely to the fabric of the town, underlining the importance of civic engagement in shaping the region's history.

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Chapter 6: The People

In Chapter 6 of "Harrison" by Nate Jordon, the narrative unfolds through a vivid tapestry of historical figures and events that shaped the small town of Harrison, Arkansas. The chapter introduces key characters, starting with Isaac and Rebecca Belfield Milam, who established the first water mill in the area, highlighting their significance in the local economy and community during the mid-19th century. Their contributions provide a backdrop to the Civil War era, a time they both lived through, impacting their lives and the lives of those around them.

As the text progresses, various figures connected to Harrison's history emerge, each carrying their own stories of resilience and impact. For instance, William Twitty Baker, a young survivor of the notorious Mountain Meadows Massacre, embodies the trauma and survival of that dark chapter, gaining a sense of family under the care of the Ingraham family. Figures like James Richard Buckley, representing those who served in the Confederate army, and Union officer Lt. John Woody, reflect the division and tumult of the Civil War, illustrating the complex loyalties and outcomes in the Ozarks.

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