

Eng shoeless joes  
greatest fans  
including ray kinsella



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. a true American game and past time that has been part of our lives from the beginning. It has stood the test of time simply because of its purity and infinite list of players that have fostered the game to what it is today. Yet a single blemish remains that took place in 1919 when the World Series was thrown by eight players including Shoeless Joe Jackson.

Shoeless Joe Jackson who last played major league baseball in 1920 and was suspended for life, along with seven of his compatriots, by Commissioner Mountain Landis, for his part in throwing the 1919 World Series Kinsella (6, 7). Many of Shoeless Joes greatest fans including Ray Kinsella were deeply saddened to hear the news that their hero would no longer be playing baseball. The name Kenesaw Mountain Landis became synonymous with the devil Kinsella (7). In the novel Shoeless Joe by W. P Kinsella and the movie Field of Dreams by Phil Alden Robinson differ in terms of relationships, characters, and are similar in plot, and have magical content. In each of the works the relationships between the characters are contrasted. In the novel Annie was very supportive of her hard working husband Ray who ran their farm. When Ray told Annie that he had heard voices in the field she was interested in what he had heard.

The words Ray heard were If you build it he will come Kinsella (5). He could not believe what he was hearing. At first he thought he was dreaming.

Ray knew the voice meant something about the baseball field. When he informed Annie about his dream she gave him her blessings and encouraged Ray one hundred percent. In the movie however Annie's perception of her

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husbands aspirations differed greatly. When Ray suggested the idea to Annie, she thought he was crazy and out of his mind. They had worked so hard to establish their farm that she did not want to give it up for such a risk. In the movie Annie was portrayed some of the characteristics that he brother Mark had shown in the novel.

The relationship between Ray and the voice also differ between the two works. In the novel the novel Ray was instantly able to interpret what the voice was telling him. In the movie however Ray had a difficult time at first in finding out the intentions of the voice. What are you trying to tell me Robinson. These relationships were changed from the novel to the movie. there are many characters in the novel that have been deleted or altered for consumer purposes. In the novel J. D Salinger played a prominent role in Rays journey.

The producer was unable to get permission from J. D Salinger to use his name in the film. Instead the film makers created a fictional character Terrance mann, an African American who allowed the movie to appeal to a broader range of ethnic groups. The novel also had two very important characters, Richard Kinsella who was Rays twin brother and Eddie Scissons who had previously owned their farm. Richard Kinsella is my identical twin brother Kinsella (33). These characters were completely deleted in the movie Field of Dreams.

This was perhaps to prevent complicating the plot. The writers had to allow the script to flow easily enough so that a general audience would understand. Therefore many changes were made to the characters. The

main plot in both of the works *Field of Dreams* and *Shoeless Joe* were identical. Ray was sent on a journey by the voice to allow others to live out their dreams. Ray decided to accept the challenge to build a baseball field in order to allow eight suspended baseball players to fulfill their destiny. He had played free worked for food Kinsella (13).

Shoeless Joe's remark proves how dedicated and aspired he was to the game. In *Field of Dreams* as well as *Shoeless Joe* Ray's real reason for building the field was to bring his father back. If you build it he will come Kinsella (5). These words spoken by the voice were intended for Ray's father John to come.

The plot in each of the works is very similar. In each of the works