

Who Was Jane Austen

This forward-thinking and revealing investigation offers scholars and ardent fans of Jane Austen a wealth of historical facts, while shedding an interpretive light on a new aspect of the beloved writer's work.

Jane Austen in Bath: Walking Tours of the Writer's City is a beautifully illustrated book organized into four walking tours around the city of Bath—where she set both *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion*—two novels that mirrored her own experience: that of an impressionable, optimistic young girl hoping to meet the man she would marry and later, that of a mature woman disappointed in love. It was in Bath that many of Austen's own romantic adventures and misadventures occurred, and this book artfully weaves together the story of Austen's life there with those of her beloved characters. This guidebook describes the places frequented by Austen and her characters. Readers can stroll along the shady, tree-lined walk where Anne Elliot met Captain Wentworth after he returned from seven years at sea, and visit the galleries that hosted the glittering balls where the impressionable young Catherine Moreland made her debut. Bath is an exquisite, perfectly preserved Georgian town located in the stunning countryside just an hour and a half from London. It was a spa town in Austen's day and still is. The streets, crescents, gardens, and buildings look almost exactly the same as they did then. Many of the places that she frequented are still there—visitors can still buy the traditional Sally Lunn rolls at the same bakery/café that Austen frequented; enter the famous Pump Rooms and Assembly Rooms where she drank the waters, gossiped, and danced; stroll the unique Georgian crescents and pleasure gardens where she enjoyed fireworks and lavish public breakfasts; and see the homes Austen and her family lived in, some of which are now open to the public. *Jane Austen in Bath* is the perfect companion to discovering the vibrant and fashionable social scene of Bath during both Austen's time and today.

Lady Susan (1871) is a novel by English author Jane Austen. Originally written in 1794—making it one of Austen's earliest complete works—*Lady Susan* was published posthumously and has since been of interest to readers and scholars alike. It is notable for its epistolary form, a popular style of prose fiction writing in the late-eighteenth century in which the narrative is told in the form of letters between characters embedded in the story itself. The epistolary novel mimics letter writing in order to distance the author from their work, as well as to simulate the secrecy and intimacy of private communication for its reader. Austen's novel, narrated by letters between its cast of characters, follows Lady Johnson's visit to Churchill, the country estate of her brother- and sister-in-law Charles and Catherine Vernon. At Churchill, Lady Susan seduces and denies Catherine's brother Reginald De Courcy, a handsome but gullible man. When Frederica, Lady Susan's teenage daughter, arrives, she begins to fall in love with Reginald. This disrupts not just her mother's control of the young man, but her plan for Frederica to marry Sir James Martin, a wealthy suitor who soon arrives at Churchill himself. As the plot unfolds, and as the bonds of familial and romantic affection are tested, a drama of chaos and comedy ensues which bears the hallmark clarity of Austen's moral vision. *Lady Susan* is an early masterpiece from renowned novelist Jane Austen, a text which not only clears the path for her more famous novels to come, but

carves a space for itself in a truly legendary body of work. With a beautifully designed cover and professionally typeset manuscript, this edition of Jane Austen's *Lady Susan* is a classic of English literature reimagined for modern readers.

* INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER * "This novel delivers sweet, smart escapism." —People "Fans of *The Chilbury Ladies' Choir* and *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* will adore *The Jane Austen Society*... A charming and memorable debut, which reminds us of the universal language of literature and the power of books to unite and heal." —Pam Jenoff, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lost Girls of Paris* Just after the Second World War, in the small English village of Chawton, an unusual but like-minded group of people band together to attempt something remarkable. One hundred and fifty years ago, Chawton was the final home of Jane Austen, one of England's finest novelists. Now it's home to a few distant relatives and their diminishing estate. With the last bit of Austen's legacy threatened, a group of disparate individuals come together to preserve both Jane Austen's home and her legacy. These people—a laborer, a young widow, the local doctor, and a movie star, among others—could not be more different and yet they are united in their love for the works and words of Austen. As each of them endures their own quiet struggle with loss and trauma, some from the recent war, others from more distant tragedies, they rally together to create the Jane Austen Society. A powerful and moving novel that explores the tragedies and triumphs of life, both large and small, and the universal humanity in us all, Natalie Jenner's *The Jane Austen Society* is destined to resonate with readers for years to come.

Who Was Jane Austen? Penguin

Jane Austen is one of England's most enduringly popular authors, renowned for her subtle observations of the provincial middle classes of late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century England. This guide to Austen's much-loved work offers: an accessible introduction to the contexts and many interpretations of Austen's texts, including film adaptations, from publication to the present an introduction to key critical texts and perspectives on Austen's life and work, situated within a broader critical history cross-references between sections of the guide, in order to suggest links between texts, contexts and criticism suggestions for further reading. Part of the Routledge Guides to Literature series, this volume is essential reading for all those beginning detailed study of Jane Austen and seeking not only a guide to her works but also a way through the wealth of contextual and critical material that surrounds them.

A fascinating look into the myths that continue to shape our understanding and appreciation of Jane Austen. Was Jane Austen the best-selling novelist of her time? Are all her novels romances? Did they depict the traditional world of the aristocracy? Is Austen's writing easy to understand? Well into the 21st century, Jane Austen continues to be one of the most compelling novelists in all English literature. Many of her ideas about class, family, history, intimacy, manners, love, desire, and society, have inspired "myths" that are often contradictory — she was a Tory who was also a liberal feminist, or, her novels are at once sharply satirical and unapologetically romantic. Myths, like Austen's works, are dynamic, changing over time and impacting how we read and interpret literature. *30 Great Myths about Jane Austen* examines the accepted beliefs — both true and untrue — that have most influenced our readings of Austen. Rather than simply de-bunking, or validating, commonly-held views about Austen, authors

Claudia L. Johnson and Clara Tuite explore how these myths can be used to engage with the life, work, and reception of Jane Austen. Applying the most up-to-date scholarship to better understand how myths shape our appreciation of Jane Austen, this fascinating volume: Introduces readers to the history of Austen reception, both in academic scholarship and in the general public Examines Jane Austen's life and letters, her historical contexts, her texts, and their afterlives Discusses Austen's influence on the development of literary criticism as a discipline Explores each of Austen's main novels, as well as relatively obscure texts such as *Sanditon* and *The Watsons* Offering engaging narrative and original insights, *30 Great Myths about Jane Austen* is a must-read for scholars, instructors, and students of English and Romantic literature, as well as general readers with interest in the life and works of Jane Austen.

"Jane Austen at Home offers a fascinating look at Jane Austen's world through the lens of the homes in which she lived and worked throughout her life. The result is a refreshingly unique perspective on Austen and her work and a beautifully nuanced exploration of gender, creativity, and domesticity."--Amanda Foreman, bestselling author of *Georgianna, Duchess of Devonshire* Take a trip back to Jane Austen's world and the many places she lived as historian Lucy Worsley visits Austen's childhood home, her schools, her holiday accommodations, the houses--both grand and small--of the relations upon whom she was dependent, and the home she shared with her mother and sister towards the end of her life. In places like Steventon Parsonage, Godmersham Park, Chawton House and a small rented house in Winchester, Worsley discovers a Jane Austen very different from the one who famously lived a 'life without incident'. Worsley examines the rooms, spaces and possessions which mattered to her, and the varying ways in which homes are used in her novels as both places of pleasure and as prisons. She shows readers a passionate Jane Austen who fought for her freedom, a woman who had at least five marriage prospects, but--in the end--a woman who refused to settle for anything less than Mr. Darcy. Illustrated with two sections of color plates, *Lucy Worsley's Jane Austen at Home* is a richly entertaining and illuminating new book about one of the world's favorite novelists and one of the subjects she returned to over and over in her unforgettable novels: home.

One of *The Globe and Mail's* Best Books of 2020 "A thoroughly authentic, smart and consoling account of one writer's commitment to another." --*The New York Times* Book Review (editors' choice) "An absolutely fascinating book: I will never read Austen the same way again." —Helen Macdonald, author of *H is for Hawk* An astonishingly nuanced reading of Jane Austen that yields a rare understanding of how to live "About seven years ago, not too long before our daughter was born, and a year before my father died, Jane Austen became my only author." In the turbulent period around the birth of her first child and the death of her father, Rachel Cohen turned to Jane Austen to make sense of her new reality. For Cohen, simultaneously grief-stricken and buoyed by the birth of her daughter, reading Austen became her refuge and

her ballast. She was able to reckon with difficult questions about mourning, memorializing, living in a household, paying attention to the world, reading, writing, and imagining through Austen's novels. *Austen Years* is a deeply felt and sensitive examination of a writer's relationship to reading, and to her own family, winding together memoir, criticism, and biographical and historical material about Austen herself. And like the sequence of Austen's novels, the scope of *Austen Years* widens successively, with each chapter following one of Austen's novels. We begin with Cohen in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she raises her small children and contemplates her father's last letter, a moment paired with the grief of *Sense and Sensibility* and the social bonds of *Pride and Prejudice*. Later, moving with her family to Chicago, Cohen grapples with her growing children, teaching, and her father's legacy, all refracted through the denser, more complex *Mansfield Park* and *Emma*. With unusual depth and fresh insight into Austen's life and literature, and guided by Austen's mournful and hopeful final novel, *Persuasion*, Rachel Cohen's *Austen Years* is a rare memoir of mourning and transcendence, a love letter to a literary master, and a powerful consideration of the odd process that merges our interior experiences with the world at large.

Anne Elliot was once engaged to Captain Frederick Wentworth, but she broke off the engagement when a family friend persuaded her that it was an imprudent match. Several years later, Captain Wentworth returns from the Napoleonic Wars, but his seeming indifference towards Anne convinces her that it is too late to win him back. Meanwhile, the charming Mr. Elliot—Anne's cousin and her father's heir to Kellynch Hall—plots to marry her to ensure he remains the sole heir to the family estate. Will Captain Wentworth rediscover his feelings for Anne, or will she be forced to marry the scheming Mr. Elliot? English author Jane Austen wrote this novel of manners in 1816, one year before her death at the age of 41. This unabridged version of her last completed novel is taken from the 1818 copyright edition.

In a completed version of Jane Austen's unfinished manuscript, a young country woman visits a fashionable seaside resort and gains insight into the complexities of human nature

Emma, first published in 1816, was written when Jane Austen was at the height of her powers. In a novel remarkable for its sparkling wit and modernity, Austen presents readers with two of literature's greatest comic creations—the eccentric Mr. Woodhouse and that quintessential bore, Miss Bates. Here, too, we have what may well be Jane Austen's most profound characterization: the witty, imaginative, self-deluded Emma, a heroine the author declared "no one but myself will much like," but who has been much loved by generations of readers. Delightfully funny, full of rich irony, *Emma* is regarded as one of Jane Austen's finest achievements.

A brilliant, illuminating reassessment of the life and work of Jane Austen that makes clear how Austen has been misread for the past two centuries and that shows us how she intended her books to be read, revealing, as well, how subversive

and daring--how truly radical--a writer she was. In this fascinating, revelatory work, Helena Kelly--dazzling Jane Austen authority--looks past the grand houses, the pretty young women, past the demure drawing room dramas and witty commentary on the narrow social worlds of her time that became the hallmark of Austen's work to bring to light the serious, ambitious, deeply subversive nature of this beloved writer. Kelly illuminates the radical subjects--slavery, poverty, feminism, the Church, evolution, among them--considered treasonous at the time, that Austen deftly explored in the six novels that have come to embody an age. The author reveals just how in the novels we find the real Jane Austen: a clever, clear-sighted woman "of information," fully aware of what was going on in the world and sure about what she thought of it. We see a writer who understood that the novel--until then seen as mindless "trash"--could be a great art form and who, perhaps more than any other writer up to that time, imbued it with its particular greatness.

When Jane Austen died, at the age of 41, she left behind her not only six novels but a large number of manuscripts, ranging from juvenile works to the novel that she was writing at the time of her final illness. The six published novels are now undisputed classics. The manuscripts, however, despite the extraordinary writing they contain and the way in which they illuminate Jane Austen's work as a novelist, are much less well known. From the brilliance of the juvenilia to the urbane modernity of 'Sanditon' these works show Austen pushing the conventional boundaries of fiction, exploring the implications of vulgarity and violence, experimenting with different styles and tones, and practicing and refining her arts of narrative. This Broadview Edition includes "Lady Susan," "The Watsons," "Sanditon," and ten important early manuscript works. Historical appendices include Austen's letters on fiction; continuations written by Austen's niece and nephew of two of her early works; and Sir Walter Scott's important critical appraisal of Austen from 1816.

In *Why She Wrote*, dive into the fascinating, unexpected, and inspiring stories behind the greatest women writers in the English language. This compelling graphic collection features 18 women—including Jane Austen, Louisa May Alcott, Alice Dunbar Nelson, Anne Lister, and more—and asks a simple question: in a time when being a woman writer often meant being undervalued, overlooked, or pigeonholed, why did she write? Why did Jane Austen struggle to write for five years before her first novel was ever published? How did Edith Maude Eaton's writing change the narrative around Chinese immigrant workers in North America? Why did the Brontë sisters choose to write under male pennames, and Anne Lister write her personal diaries in code? Learn about women writers from the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries, from familiar favorites to those who have undeservedly fallen into obscurity, and their often untold histories, including:

- The forgotten mother of the gothic genre
- The unexpected success of *Little Women*
- The diaries of the "first modern lesbian"
- The lawsuit to protect *Little Lord Fauntleroy*
- The personal account of a mastectomy in 1811
- Austen's struggles with writer's block
- And much, much more!

Why She Wrote highlights a significant moment from each writer's life and retells

it through engaging and accessible comics, along with biographical text, bibliographies, and fun facts. For aspiring writers, literary enthusiasts, and the Janeite who has everything, this new collection highlights these incredible women's hardships, their influence, and the spark that called them to write. • GREAT GRAPHIC NOVEL FOR ALL AGES: Librarians and teachers recommend graphic novels for readers of all ages, especially beloved nonfiction titles like Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis* and Raina Telgemeier's *Smile*, *Sisters*, and *Guts*. Immerse yourself in the stories of these fascinating women through the fun, approachable, and dynamic medium of the graphic novel! • CELEBRATION OF WOMEN WRITERS: Want to read more books by historical women writers, but aren't sure where to start? The stories and bibliographies of the women featured in *Why She Wrote* is an inspirational deep dive. • OVERVIEW OF WOMEN'S HISTORY: Add it to the shelf alongside other collections of women's history, including *Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World* by Rachel Ignotofsky, *Brazen: Rebel Ladies Who Rocked the World* by Pénélope Bagieu, and *Amazons, Abolitionists, and Activists: A Graphic History of Women's Fight for Their Rights* by Mikki Kendall and A. D'Amico.

This carefully crafted ebook: "Pride and Prejudice & Sense and Sensibility" is formatted for your eReader with a functional and detailed table of contents. "Pride and Prejudice" – Mr. Bennet of the Longbourn estate has five daughters, but his property is entailed, meaning that none of the girls can inherit it. His wife has no fortune, so it is imperative that at least one of the girls marry well in order to support the others on his death. The story charts the emotional development of Elizabeth Bennet who learns the error of making hasty judgments and comes to appreciate the difference between the superficial and the essential. "Sense and Sensibility" – When Mr. Henry Dashwood dies, his house, Norland Park, must pass directly to his grandson, the son of John Dashwood, the child of the elder Dashwood's first wife. His second wife, Mrs. Dashwood, and their daughters, Elinor, Marianne and Margaret, inherit only a small income, but John makes a promise to his father that he will take care of his half-sisters. However, John's greedy wife, Fanny, persuades him to renege on the promise and the Dashwood women soon become the unwelcome guests in Norland Park. Mrs. Dashwood decides to move her family to Barton Cottage in Devonshire, near the home of her cousin, Sir John Middleton. In a remote Hertfordshire village, far off the good coach roads of George III's England, a country squire of no great means must marry off his five vivacious daughters. At the heart of this all-consuming enterprise are his headstrong second daughter Elizabeth Bennet and her aristocratic suitor Fitzwilliam Darcy -- two lovers whose pride must be humbled and prejudices dissolved before the novel can come to its splendid conclusion.

Thoroughly innovative and occasionally irreverent, this book will appeal in equal measure to book historians, Austen fans, and scholars of literary celebrity.

For the first time, all three volumes of Jane Austen's brilliant early manuscripts are available in beautiful facsimile editions. Fan fiction from the eighteenth century? Jane Austen's stories are as fresh and fun today as they were when she wrote them. Forever immortalized as the author of *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen actually produced her first "books" as a teenager. Taking their names from the inscriptions on their covers? Volume the First, Volume the Second, and Volume the Third? these brilliant little collections include the stories, playlets, verses, and moral fragments she wrote likely from the ages of twelve to eighteen. As a young author, Jane Austen delighted in language, employing it with great humor and surprising skill. She was adept at parodying the popular stories of her day and entertained her readers with outrageous plotlines and characters. Kathryn Sutherland places Austen's earliest works in context and explains how she mimicked even the style and manner in which this contemporary popular fiction was presented and arranged on the page. None of her six famous novels survives in complete manuscript form. This is a unique opportunity to own likenesses of Jane Austen's notebooks as originally written? in her own hand. The *In Her Own Hand* series boxed set is a series of facsimile editions of Jane Austen's fiction in her handwriting. The books include transcriptions by R. W. Chapman first recorded in 1953. Boxed set of all three volumes *In Her Own Hand* Volume the First Volume the Second Volume the Third

Jane Austen is without question, one of England's most enduring and skilled novelists. With her wit, social precision, and unerring ability to create some of literature's most charismatic and believable heroines, she mesmerises her readers as much today as when her novels were first published. Whether it is her sharp, ironic gaze at the Gothic genre invoked by the adventures of Catherine Morland in *Northanger Abbey*; the diffident and much put-upon Fanny Price struggling to cope with her emotions in *Mansfield Park*; her delightfully paced comedy of manners and the machinations of the sisters Elinor and Marianne in *Sense and Sensibility*; the quiet strength of Anne Elliot in *Persuasion* succeeding in a world designed to subjugate her very existence; and *Emma* - 'a heroine whom no one but myself will like' teased Austen - yet another irresistible character on fire with imagination and foresight. Indeed not unlike her renowned creator. Jane Austen is as sure-footed in her steps through society's whirlpools of convention and prosaic mores as she is in her sometimes restrained but ever precise and enduring prose.

Timeless Wisdom from the 19th Century Jane Austen's novels have delighted readers for generations with their keen observations on the human condition and contain a wealth of practical insights and humorous quips on relationships, faith, family, love, character, and virtue. Celebrate Jane's wit and wisdom with this charming collection of quotes from the mouths of some of her most beloved characters and from her own letters. Inside this exquisitely designed book, you'll also enjoy rare photos from the British Library, selected Scripture verses, and personal prayers from the author herself,

making this a must read for you or a welcomed gift for the Jane Austen enthusiast in your life. Join fellow Austenite and author of *The Prayers of Jane Austen*, Terry Glaspey, in revisiting Jane's most memorable and thought-provoking lines. Keep Jane Austen's signature wit right in your pocket with *The Tiny Book of Jane Austen*. In this delightfully tiny book, discover literary icon Jane Austen's famous wit and wisdom. Whether delivering powerful dialogue through characters like Elizabeth Bennet and Emma Woodhouse or powerful sociopolitical commentary in her letters, Jane Austen has been dazzling readers with exceptional intelligence and humor for more than two centuries. *The Tiny Book of Jane Austen* is packed with memorable quotes from one of the most influential writers of all time and is perfect for every Jane Austen fan.

This compendium is a unique and thick volume of all works of the celebrated English novelist Jane Austen, initiated by Project Gutenberg. Read this volume if you are a Jane Austen fan or are simply interested in reading one of the most acclaimed authors of the Victorian era. At her death in 1817, Jane Austen left the world six of the most beloved novels written in English—but her shortsighted family destroyed the bulk of her letters; and if she kept any diaries, they did not survive her. Now acclaimed biographer Claire Tomalin, author of *A Life of My Own*, has filled the gaps in the record, creating a remarkably fresh and convincing portrait of the woman and the writer. While most Austen biographers have accepted the assertion of Jane's brother Henry that "My dear Sister's life was not a life of events," Tomalin shows that, on the contrary, Austen's brief life was fraught with upheaval. Tomalin provides detailed and absorbing accounts of Austen's ill-fated love for a young Irishman, her frequent travels and extended visits to London, her close friendship with a worldly cousin whose French husband met his death on the guillotine, her brothers' naval service in the Napoleonic wars and in the colonies, and thus shatters the myth of Jane Austen as a sheltered and homebound spinster whose knowledge of the world was limited to the view from a Hampshire village.

A #1 International Bestseller "A deeply imagined and deeply moving novel. Reading it made me happy and weepy in equally copious amounts." —Karen Joy Fowler "You can't help feeling that Jane would have approved." —The Guardian For fans of Jo Baker's *Longbourn*, a witty, wonderfully original novel about Cassandra Austen and her famous sister, Jane. Whoever looked at an elderly lady and saw the young heroine she once was? England, 1840. Two decades after the death of her beloved sister, Jane, Cassandra Austen returns to the village of Kintbury and the home of her family friends, the Fowles. In a dusty corner of the vicarage, there is a cache of Jane's letters that Cassandra is desperate to find. Dodging her hostess and a meddlesome housemaid, Cassandra eventually hunts down the letters and confronts the secrets they hold, secrets not only about Jane but about Cassandra herself. Will Cassandra bare the most private details of her life to the world, or commit her sister's legacy to the flames? Moving back and forth between the vicarage and Cassandra's vibrant memories of her years with Jane, interwoven with Jane's brilliantly reimagined lost letters, *Miss Austen* is the untold story of the most important person in Jane's life. With extraordinary empathy, emotional complexity, and wit, Gill Hornby finally gives Cassandra her due, bringing to life a woman as captivating as any Austen heroine.

Whether you're new to Austen's work or know it backwards and forwards already, this book provides a clear, full and highly engaging account of how Austen's fiction works and why it matters. Exploring new pathways into the study of Jane Austen's writing, novelist and academic Jenny Davidson looks at Austen's work through a writer's lens, addressing formal questions about narration, novel writing, and fictional composition as well as themes including social and women's history, morals and manners. Introducing new readers to the breadth and depth of Jane Austen's writing, and offering new insights to those more familiar with Austen's work, Jenny Davidson celebrates the art and skill of

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one of the most popular and influential writers in the history of English literature.

Set in 19th-century England, this engrossing novel satirizes the pretentiousness and duplicity in relationships. Austen's death did not allow her to complete this entertaining piece and it was later finished by another writer.

Step into the world of Georgian England and learn more about the genteel life of the beloved author of such classics as *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility*, and *Emma*. Illustrations. 5 5/16 x 7 5/8.

A comparative analysis of the characteristics applied to the early 19th-century classic author includes coverage of how evolving social views have shaped her reputation, the influence of modern interpretations of her work and her ongoing relevance to the literary world.

Whether you're a devoted Janeite or simply Jane-curious, *The Making of Jane Austen* will have you thinking about how a literary icon is made, transformed, and handed down from generation to generation.

It is a truth universally acknowledged that Jane Austen is eminently, delightfully, and delectably quotable. This truth goes far beyond the first line of *Pride and Prejudice*, which has muscled out many other excellent sentences. So many gems of wit and wisdom from her novels deserve to be better known, from *Northanger Abbey* on its lovable, naive heroine--"if adventures will not befall a young lady in her own village, she must seek them abroad"--to *Persuasion*'s moving lines of love from its regret-filled hero: "You pierce my soul. I am half agony, half hope. Tell me not that I am too late." Devoney Looser, a.k.a. Stone Cold Jane Austen, has drawn 378 genuine, Austen-authored passages from across the canon, resulting in an anthology that is compulsively readable and repeatable. Whether you approach the collection on a one-a-day model or in a satisfying binge read, you will emerge wiser about Austen, if not about life. *The Daily Jane Austen* will amuse and inspire skeptical beginners, Janeite experts, and every reader in between by showcasing some of the greatest sentences ever crafted in the history of fiction.

In *The Real Jane Austen*, acclaimed literary biographer Paula Byrne provides the most intimate and revealing portrait yet of a beloved but complex novelist. Just as letters and tokens in Jane Austen's novels often signal key turning points in the narrative, Byrne explores the small things – a scrap of paper, a gold chain, an ivory miniature – that held significance in Austen's personal and creative life. Byrne transports us to different worlds, from the East Indies to revolutionary Paris, and to different events, from a high society scandal to a case of petty shoplifting. In this ground-breaking biography, Austen is set on a wider stage than ever before, revealing a well-traveled and politically aware writer – important aspects of her artistic development that have long been overlooked. *The Real Jane Austen* is a fresh, compelling, and surprising biography of the author of some of our most enduring classic books – from *Pride and Prejudice* to *Sense and Sensibility*, *Emma* to *Persuasion* – and a vivid evocation of the world that shaped her.

An eloquent memoir of a young man's life transformed by literature. In *A Jane Austen Education*, Austen scholar William Deresiewicz turns to the author's novels to reveal the remarkable life lessons hidden within. With humor and candor, Deresiewicz employs his own experiences to demonstrate the enduring power of Austen's teachings. Progressing from his days as an

immature student to a happily married man, Deresiewicz's *A Jane Austen Education* is the story of one man's discovery of the world outside himself. A self-styled intellectual rebel dedicated to writers such as James Joyce and Joseph Conrad, Deresiewicz never thought Austen's novels would have anything to offer him. But when he was assigned to read *Emma* as a graduate student at Columbia, something extraordinary happened. Austen's devotion to the everyday, and her belief in the value of ordinary lives, ignited something in Deresiewicz. He began viewing the world through Austen's eyes and treating those around him as generously as Austen treated her characters. Along the way, Deresiewicz was amazed to discover that the people in his life developed the depth and richness of literary characters—that his own life had suddenly acquired all the fascination of a novel. His real education had finally begun. Weaving his own story—and Austen's—around the ones her novels tell, Deresiewicz shows how her books are both about education and themselves an education. Her heroines learn about friendship and feeling, staying young and being good, and, of course, love. As they grow up, they learn lessons that are imparted to Austen's reader, who learns and grows by their sides. *A Jane Austen Education* is a testament to the transformative power of literature, a celebration of Austen's mastery, and a joy to read. Whether for a newcomer to Austen or a lifelong devotee, Deresiewicz brings fresh insights to the novelist and her beloved works. Ultimately, Austen's world becomes indelibly entwined with our own, showing the relevance of her message and the triumph of her vision.

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THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A book club discuss the works of Jane Austen and experience their own affairs of the heart in this charming “tribute to Austen that manages to capture her spirit” (*The Boston Globe*). In California’s central valley, five women and one man join to discuss Jane Austen’s novels. Over the six months they get together, marriages are tested, affairs begin, unsuitable arrangements become suitable, and love happens. With her eye for the frailties of human behavior and her ear for the absurdities of social intercourse, Karen Joy Fowler has never been wittier nor her characters more appealing. The result is a delicious dissection of modern relationships. Dedicated Austenites will delight in unearthing the echoes of Austen that run through the novel, but most readers will simply enjoy the vision and voice that, despite two centuries of separation, unite two great writers of brilliant social comedy.

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