

# Emma



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## Book Description

This new critical edition of Jane Austen's comic masterpiece is based on the 1816 text, which has been carefully edited in light of later editions, including the Chapman edition. "Backgrounds" supplies an abundance of documents that shed light on Austen's life and reveal some of her private attitudes toward her writing. Readers should enjoy comparing real events in her life with her fictionalized accounts in the novel. "Reviews and Criticism" presents a wide variety of perspectives, both contemporary and recent, including essays by Sir Walter Scott, Henry James, A.C. Bradley, E.M. Forster, Robert Alan Donovan, Marilyn Butler, Mary Poovey, Claudia Johnson, Juliet McMaster, Ian Warr and Suzanne Juhasz. New to this edition are essays by Maggie Lane, Edward Copeland and Linda Troost and Sayre Greenfield, the last of which discusses the film adaptations of "Emma". A chronology and selected bibliography are included.

Amazon.com

Of all Jane Austen's heroines, Emma Woodhouse is the most flawed, the most

infuriating, and, in the end, the most endearing. *Pride and Prejudice*'s Lizzie Bennet has more wit and sparkle; *Catherine Morland* in *Northanger Abbey* more imagination; and *Sense and Sensibility*'s Elinor Dashwood certainly more sense--but Emma is lovable precisely because she is so imperfect. Austen only completed six novels in her lifetime, of which five feature young women whose chances for making a good marriage depend greatly on financial issues, and whose prospects if they fail are rather grim. Emma is the exception: "Emma Woodhouse, handsome, clever, and rich, with a comfortable home and happy disposition seemed to unite some of the best blessings of existence; and had lived nearly twenty-one years in the world with very little to distress or vex her." One may be tempted to wonder what Austen could possibly find to say about so fortunate a character. The answer is, quite a lot.

For Emma, raised to think well of herself, has such a high opinion of her own worth that it blinds her to the opinions of others. The story revolves around a comedy of errors: Emma befriends Harriet Smith, a young woman of unknown parentage, and attempts to remake her in her own image. Ignoring the gaping difference in their respective fortunes and stations in life, Emma convinces herself and her friend that Harriet should look as high as Emma herself might for a husband--and she zeroes in on an ambitious vicar as the perfect match. At the same time, she reads too much into a flirtation with Frank Churchill, the newly arrived son of family friends, and thoughtlessly starts a rumor about poor but beautiful Jane Fairfax, the beloved niece of two genteelly impoverished elderly ladies in the village. As Emma's fantastically misguided schemes threaten to surge out of control, the voice of reason is provided by Mr. Knightly, the Woodhouse's longtime friend and neighbor. Though Austen herself described Emma as "a heroine whom no one but myself will much like," she endowed her creation with enough charm to see her through her most egregious behavior, and the saving grace of being able to learn from her mistakes. By the end of the novel Harriet, Frank, and Jane are all properly accounted for, Emma is wiser (though certainly not sadder), and the reader has had the satisfaction of enjoying Jane Austen at the height of her powers.

--Alix Wilber

Amazon.co.uk Review

"I should like to see Emma in love, and in some doubt of return; it would do her good," remarks one of Jane Austen's characters in *Emma*.

Quick-witted, beautiful, headstrong and rich, Emma Woodhouse is inordinately fond of match-making select inhabitants of the village of Highbury, yet aloof and oblivious as to the question of whom she herself might marry. This paradox multiplies the intrigues and sparkling ironies of Jane Austen's masterpiece, her comedy of a sentimental education through which Emma discovers a capacity for love and marriage.

From Library Journal

This is another case where a classic is being reprinted simply as a tie-in to a TV/feature film presentation. Libraries, nonetheless, can benefit by picking up a quality hardcover for a nice price.

Book Dimension:

length: (cm)20.9 width:(cm)13.3

## 作者介绍:

简·奥斯丁，1775年12月16日生于斯蒂文顿乡一教区牧师家庭。受到较好的家庭教育，主要教材就是父亲的文学藏书。奥斯丁一家爱读流行小说，多半是庸俗的消遣品。她少女时期的习作就是对这类流行小说的滑稽模仿，这样就形成了她作品中嘲讽的基调。她的六部小说《理智与感伤》(1811)《傲慢与偏见》(1813)《曼斯菲尔德花园》(1814)《爱玛》(1815)以及作者逝世以后出版的《诺桑觉修道院》(1818)和《劝导》(1818)，大半以乡镇上的中产阶级日常生活为题材，通过爱情婚姻等方面的矛盾冲突反映了18世纪末、19世纪初英国社会的风貌。作品中往往通过喜剧性的场面嘲讽人们的愚蠢、自私、势利和盲目自信等可鄙可笑的弱点。奥斯丁的小说出现在19世纪初叶，一扫风行一时的假浪漫主义潮流，继承和发展了英国18世纪优秀的现实主义传统，为19世纪现实主义小说的高潮做了准备，起到了承上启下的重要作用。

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## 标签

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## 评论

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## 书评

一切都是生意。

婚姻就是两个人彼此达成的契约而已，记得恩格斯的理论吗，家庭，私有制和国家的起源，瞧瞧，这可是位大哲学家的深刻见解呦！而且这个男人只是和女友同居，那么另外一位更伟大的哲学家也是他的朋友，那位犀利的解剖资本的男人马克思，更是一位和女仆有私生子，葬...

Emma或许是Jane 在小小虚荣心的作祟下构思出的人物. Jane 先于Emma  
创造了才智颇高的Elizabeth, 稳重内敛的Elinor,  
不切实际的Catherine, 楚楚可怜的Fanny  
，这些人物都有各自的过人之处也有许多无法补足的缺点，而其中每位人物所共通的最大弱势便在于她们既没财产也无地位。J...

这书写于1815年，只比《红楼梦》晚30年左右。想象一个水平很一般但态度很认真的  
英文读者读《红楼》，就可以知道我读《爱玛》时碰到的困难。陌生的字眼，陌生的句  
式，很多长句复句，很多双重否定，无处不在的讽刺，含蓄委婉的褒贬...  
...200年前的英国小乡绅，真的都是这么说话...

As her usual focus on the description of the provincial aristocratic-bourgeois life of the  
late 18th-century England, the gentry families to be specific, Jane Austen writes Emma,  
with an ever more conspicuous and trenchant view, and in meticulous detail...

读过奥斯汀小说的人都知道：散步，谈话，舞会，书信……是奥斯汀小说的情节。爱情  
，婚姻，家产，门第……是奥斯汀小说的主题。这些东西，足足写满了她的六本小说。  
难怪夏洛蒂·勃朗特会说，奥斯汀不知激情为何物。但不可否认，那些散步、舞会……

，那些门第、婚姻……，还真…

虽然很喜欢《傲慢与偏见》，但看《爱玛》却是因为我很喜欢很喜欢的一部漫画《爱玛》（又名《英国恋物语》）。那时候这部漫画还没完结，于是很急切地搜到了小说《爱玛》，才知道此爱玛非彼爱玛。但更喜欢。

喜欢奥斯汀，喜欢她的庸俗热切，喜欢她追寻的真实的真善美，纯粹的…

《爱玛》被认为是“与莎士比亚平起平坐”的简·奥斯丁最成熟的作品，然而，读完却多少有一些失望，究其原因，也许是因为爱玛这个主角被有意塑造的并不完美。爱玛出身高贵，家庭富有，虽然心地善良，热情直率，但一方面十分固守等级偏见，另一方面清高自傲，自以为是，相比…

本书刻画了三个主要女性，Emma、Harriet、Fairfax。毫无疑问，Emma是集万千宠爱于一身的，现代意义上的“白富美”，而另两位出身相对低贱的美好女性，很可能就被尊称为“女屌丝”了。

我并不喜欢Emma。自恃高人一等，忙着给Harriet和Mr.Elton做媒。当Mr.Elton求婚时她果断拒绝…

“爱玛·伍德豪斯，漂亮、聪明、富有，还有舒适的家庭和快活的性情，生活中一些最大的幸福，她似乎都齐备了。她在世上过了将近二十一年，很少有什么事情使她痛苦和烦恼过。”《爱玛》的开头和《傲慢与偏见》的开头是如出一辙的语气。这样的语气，使人愉悦，使人发笑，又使人…

爱玛——真实的我们

其实，在我看来，简·奥斯汀与其他名著作家很不一样。她的作品似乎从来都很容易理解。某种程度上，似乎有些崇尚Happy ending这位女士很言情小说风。这当然同其家庭，环境及历史背景有着紧密的联系。但

不同的是，简奥斯汀有着非凡的观察力，我们从之灵动的各式...

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最先认识奥斯丁是通过《傲慢与偏见》，原因也不必多说了。我在早期曾看了BBC的连续剧，对达西的扮演者Colin Firth情有独钟，我觉得他把达西演活了，没人能比得上。后来迷上了BJ日记，Colin Firth在剧中的人名也叫达西，可见他演的达西是多么的深入人心。在奥斯丁心目中，门当户...

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我是看了Austen的《傲》慕名来看《爱玛》的。书上写这是Austen最成熟的一本书。然而我几乎是硬着头皮看的，到最后才有一点兴趣。爱玛为人撮合，自己却不想结婚。当然，她的撮合每次都是旨在为女伴找到一个好归宿。这倒没什么。可是当后来哈丽埃塔爱上奈特利先生时...

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购买于新加坡国立大学Central Forum Co-op，不知道写在这里合不合适，我个人感觉翻译版本基本上不如原版的好。

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