

Addicted to Austen

Jane Austen's brother characterized her life as having been uneventful, but nearly 200 years after her death, her novels continue to thrill and fascinate us. In truth, she was a keen observer of life and relationships, endowed with time to watch the byplay of society and the imagination and wit to write down her observations for posterity. Her insightful views of her time and place resonate with human foibles and traits as modern as today's newspaper.

The Basic Works

(Most are available in regular print, large print, simplified editions, audio versions and on DVD)

Emma (1816)

Lady Susan / The Watsons / Sanditon

(Lady Susan is a short novel. The Watsons and Sanditon are unfinished)

Mansfield Park (1814)

Northanger Abbey (1818)

Persuasion (1818)

Pride and Prejudice (1813)

Sense and Sensibility (1811)

Critical Reference Works

823.7 AUS

A Fine Brush on Ivory: an Appreciation of Jane Austen

Richard Jenkyns

REF 823.7 AUS

Who's Who in Jane Austen and the Brontës

Glenda Leeming

Y 823.7 REA

Readings on Jane Austen

Clarice Swisher

Biographies

823.009 AUS

A Portrait of Jane Austen

Lord David Cecil

823.7 AUS

Jane's Fame: How Jane Austen Conquered the World

Claire Harman

VIDEO 823.7 AUS

Jane Austen, Novelist 1775-1817

Malcolm Hossick

Y 823.7 AUS

England's Jane: the Story of Jane Austen

Juliane Locke

823.7 AUS

Jane Austen: a Life

David Nokes

823.7 AUS
Jane Austen
Carol Shields

823.6 AUS
Becoming Jane Austen: a Life
Jon Spence

823.7 AUS
The Life & Times of Jane Austen
Brian Wilks

Life in Austen's Time

641.5941 BLA
The Jane Austen Cookbook
Maggie Black

CD 784.2184 JAN
The Jane Austen Companion (music)

823.7 WAT
Jane Austen's Town and Country Style
Susan Watkins

Adaptations and Sequels Set in Regency England

The "Fitzwilliam Darcy, Gentleman" series

Aidan, Pamela

Pride and Prejudice retold from Mr. Darcy's perspective. The trilogy includes: An Assembly Such as This, Duty and Desire, and These Three Remain.

Eliza's Daughter

Aiken, Joan

A continuation of Sense and Sensibility. After being abandoned by Mr. Willoughby, Eliza dies in childbirth. Her daughter Liz grows into a young woman as spirited as the Dashwood sisters.

Jane Fairfax: Jane Austen's Emma, Through Another's Eyes

Aiken, Joan

The world of Highbury as seen by Emma's rival and friend, Jane.

Mansfield Park Revisited: a Jane Austen Entertainment

Aiken, Joan

Four years after the conclusion of Austen's Mansfield Park, Fanny Price and her husband Edmund Bertram head to Antigua, leaving Fanny's younger, more spirited sister to serve as Lady Bertram's companion. Romance, scandal and redemption follow.

Mrs. Goddard, Mistress of a School (Canadian edition) or A Visit to Highbury (US edition)

Austen-Leigh, Joan

Born in Victoria, B.C., Joan Austen-Leigh was Jane Austen's great-great-grandniece. She retells Emma from the view of Mrs. Goddard, who was merely a minor character in the original novel.

North by Northanger, or, The Shades of Pemberley: a Mr. & Mrs. Darcy Mystery

Bebris, Carrie

In this gothic mystery, Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy are invited to stay with a man who claims that his mother and Darcy's were friends. At the end of the visit, Darcy is found in possession of a stolen necklace. How will he clear his name?

Mr. Darcy Takes a Wife: Pride and Prejudice Continues

Berdoll, Linda

A sexy sequel for anyone who ever wished Jane Austen's novels could show what happened in the bedrooms as well as in the parlours.

Lost in Austen: Create Your Own Jane Austen Adventure

Campbell Webster, Emma

You are Elizabeth Bennett. In order to find love, you must make a series of choices that will take you into the plots and romances of all of Jane Austen's novels, perhaps with very different results.

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies: the Classic Regency Romance, Now with Ultraviolent Zombie Mayhem

Grahame-Smith, Seth

The title really says it all.

Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters

Winters, Ben H.

Another 'classic novel/monster story' mash-up, with hilarious results.

Fiction with Jane Austen as a Character

The "Jane Austen Mystery" series

Barron, Stephanie

Full of period detail, these historical mysteries show a fictional Jane setting her considerable intellect to solving murders in between writing some of the most beloved novels of all time.

By a Lady: Being the Adventures of an Enlightened American in Jane Austen's England

Elyot, Amanda

Actress C.J. Welles is preparing to play Jane Austen on Broadway, when she is mysteriously transported back in time to Bath in 1801, where she finds romance—and Jane herself.

The Lost Memoirs of Jane Austen

James, Syrie

Jane Austen's sister burned most of her personal correspondence. Imagine if Jane had kept a diary detailing a secret love affair, and this long-lost memoir was found?

Cassandra & Jane

Pitkeathley, Jill

A fictional biography of Jane Austen, as told by her beloved older sister, Cassandra.

Books with Modern Settings, Inspired by Jane Austen

Jane Austen in Scarsdale: or Love, Death, and the SATs

Cohen, Paula Marantz

In a tale inspired by *Persuasion*, guidance counselor Anne Ehrlich works to help privileged high school students with their college admissions. She must face her own troubles when a new student turns out to be the nephew of her first love—a man her family had persuaded her to reject years before.

Austenland: a Novel

Hale, Shannon

Jane is a thirty-something singleton with a problem: her relationships fail due to her obsession with Mr. Darcy—in particular, Mr. Darcy as portrayed by Colin Firth in the BBC adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*. When her aunt dies, Jane is given a trip to an English resort where the guests experience life as it was in Regency England. Will this be Jane's chance to find true love?

Bridget Jones's Diary: a Novel

Fielding, Helen

Single, thirty-something Bridget is convinced her life would be perfect if she could lose weight, stop smoking and develop "Inner Poise." Her love life begins to parallel that of Elizabeth Bennet when she falls for her caddish boss Daniel, while sparring with uptight lawyer Mark Darcy.

The book became a very popular movie starring Renée Zellweger as Bridget, Hugh Grant as Daniel Cleaver and—in a cheeky bit of casting—Colin Firth as Mark Darcy. (Firth played Fitzwilliam Darcy in the BBC adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*). Available on DVD.

The sequel, *Bridget Jones: the Edge of Reason*, continues Bridget's misadventures in love, and is loosely based on *Persuasion*. It was also made into a movie with the same cast, and is available on DVD.

The Jane Austen Book Club

Fowler, Karen Joy

Six people are brought together in a book club devoted to the novels of Jane Austen. As their relationships unfold, elements of Austen's novels and characters become apparent. In 2008, the novel was adapted into a critically-acclaimed movie, available on DVD.

Confessions of a Jane Austen Addict: a Novel

Rigler, Laurie Viera

Reeling from a broken heart, Los Angeles career-woman Courtney Stone's life is turned upside down when she awakens to find herself in the body of a woman named Jane Mansfield in Regency England. Her obsession with *Pride and Prejudice* helps her navigate the social confines of her new Austenesque world.

The sequel, *Rude Awakenings of a Jane Austen Addict*, tells the parallel story of Jane Mansfield, a nineteenth-century woman who is transported into the fast-paced world left behind by Courtney Stone. Though Jane enjoys her new-found freedom, she also longs for the comforting rules of her own time.

First Impressions

Smith, Debra White

A Christian "chick lit" retelling of *Pride and Prejudice*, set in modern-day Texas.

Films Inspired by Jane Austen

Becoming Jane

Starring Anne Hathaway as a young Jane Austen, this 2008 romantic comedy blends fact with fiction. Twenty-year-old Jane is an aspiring author. When she meets dashing young law student Tom Lefroy, sparks fly; however, their parents disapprove of the relationship. The film also stars James McAvoy, Maggie Smith and James Cromwell.

Clueless

Jane Austen's *Emma* set in 1990's Beverly Hills. Alicia Silverstone is charming as Cher, a popular high-schooler who loves to meddle in the affairs of everyone around her, while being clueless in her own search for love. With a fantastic cast, this smart, satirical film is a cult classic.

Updated: lu/July 2010