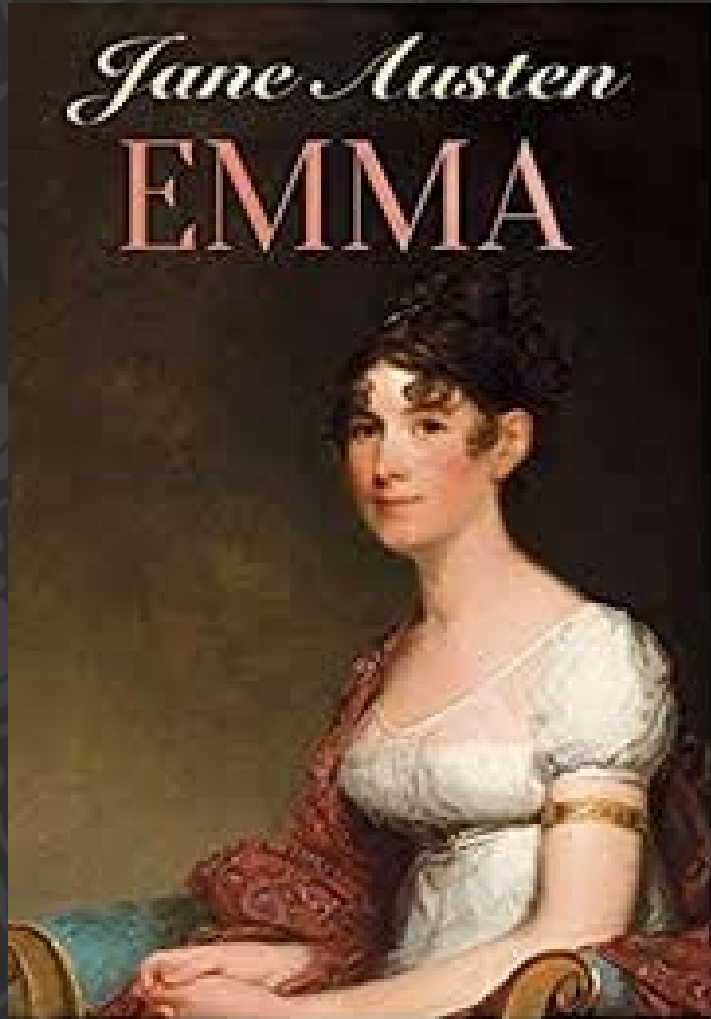


# Emma by Jane Austen



Born- 16 December 1775  
Steventon Rectory, Hampshire, England

Died - 18 July 1817 (aged 41)  
Winchester, Hampshire, England

Resting place- Winchester Cathedral,  
Hampshire, England

Education- Reading Abbey Girls' School

Period- 1787 to 1809–11

By:-  
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# BIOGRAPHY

*Jane Austen was an English novelist whose books, set among the English middle and upper classes, are notable for their wit, social observation and insights into the lives of early 19th century women.*

Jane Austen was born on 16 December 1775 in the village of Steventon in Hampshire.

She was one of eight children of a clergyman and grew up in a close-knit family. She began to write as a teenager. In 1801 the family moved to Bath. After the death of Jane's father in 1805 Jane, her sister Cassandra and their mother moved several times eventually settling in Chawton, near Steventon.

Jane's brother Henry helped her negotiate with a publisher and her first novel, 'Sense and Sensibility', appeared in 1811. Her next novel 'Pride and Prejudice', which she described as her "own darling child" received highly favourable reviews. 'Mansfield Park' was published in 1814, then 'Emma' in 1816. 'Emma' was dedicated to the prince regent, an admirer of her work. All of Jane Austen's novels were published anonymously.

- In 1816, Jane began to suffer from ill-health, probably due to Addison's disease. She travelled to Winchester to receive treatment, and died there on 18 July 1817. Two more novels, 'Persuasion' and 'Northanger Abbey' were published posthumously and a final novel was left incomplete.

- Jane Austen's official works (1811- 1817)
  - *Northanger Abbey*: Funniest
  - *Sense and Sensibility*: Most well-rounded
  - *Pride and Prejudice*: Most charming
  - *Mansfield Park*: Most psychologically complex
  - *Emma*: Cleverest
  - *Persuasion*: Most beautiful



## Principal Character List

- **Emma Woodhouse** - The protagonist of the novel
- **Mr. George Knightley** - Emma's brother-in-law and the 'Woodhouses' trusted friend and advisor.
- **Mr. Woodhouse** - Emma's father and the patriarch of Hartfield
- **Harriet Smith** - A pretty but unremarkable seventeen-year-old woman of uncertain parentage,
- **Frank Churchill** - Mr. Weston's son and Mrs. Weston's stepson. Frank Churchill lives at Enscombe with his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Churchill.
- **Jane Fairfax** - Miss Bates's niece, whose arrival in Highbury irritates Emma. Jane rivals Emma in accomplishment and beauty
- **Mrs. Weston** - Formerly Miss Taylor, Emma's beloved governess and companion. Known for her kind temperament and her devotion to Emma

## Summary

➤ *Emma*, by [Jane Austen](#), is a novel about youthful [hubris](#) and romantic misunderstandings. It is set in the fictional country village of Highbury and the surrounding estates of Hartfield, Randalls, and Donwell Abbey and involves the relationships among people from a small number of families.

➤ The novel was first published in December 1815, with its title page listing a publication date of 1816. As in her other novels, Austen explores the concerns and difficulties of genteel women living in [Georgian–Regency](#) England. *Emma* is a [comedy of manners](#), and depicts issues of marriage, [sex](#), age, and [social status](#). Before she began the novel, Austen wrote, "I am going to take a heroine whom no one but myself will much like".

In the first sentence, she introduces the title character as "Emma Woodhouse, handsome, clever, and rich, with a comfortable home and a happy disposition... and had lived nearly twenty-one years in the world with very little to distress or vex her."

## Summary

- Emma is spoiled, headstrong, and self-satisfied; she greatly overestimates her own matchmaking abilities; she is blind to the dangers of meddling in other people's lives; and her imagination and perceptions often lead her astray.
- *Emma*, written after Austen's move to Chawton, was her last novel to be published during her lifetime

while *Persuasion*, the last novel Austen wrote, was published posthumously.

This novel has been adapted for several films, many television programmes, and a long list of stage plays.



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