

Jane Austen

By: Brianna Lutz



Life



Jane Austen was born on December 16, 1775 in the Steventon Rectory, where her father was the minister, in Hampshire, England. She had eight siblings, six brothers and one sister, Cassandra, with whom she was very close. As a form of family entertainment, Jane began to write.

As a young woman, Jane also enjoyed dancing and going to balls, which can be seen in many of her novels. She also enjoyed nature and walks along the countryside. In January of 1805, Rev. Austen died, leaving his wife and two daughters nothing. Thankfully her kind brother's took them in. Early in 1816 Jane began to feel ill. Ignoring her symptoms Jane continued to write and live her quiet lifestyle. However, on July 18, 1817 Jane died of Addison's disease in Winchester, England.



In 2007, “Becoming Jane”, was released. The movie depicts a young, pre-fame 20-year-old Jane Austen and her love affair with Tom Lefroy. Although, Tom Lefroy was a real person, their love story was overly dramatized in the movie. They did fall in love in real life, but Tom was sent away soon

after and she never saw him again. Jane also fell in love again, however, the young man died soon after. Later, she received and accepted a marriage proposal from Harris Bigg-Wither, a wealthy landowner and brother of Jane’s closest friends. However, Jane changed her mind the next morning and was very upset about the whole situation. After all of this Jane never fell in love or married.



MIKE
HAWAY
JAMES
MAYNOR
JANE
WALTERS
DAMEL
CRAWFELL
JANE
SMITH
BECOMING JANE

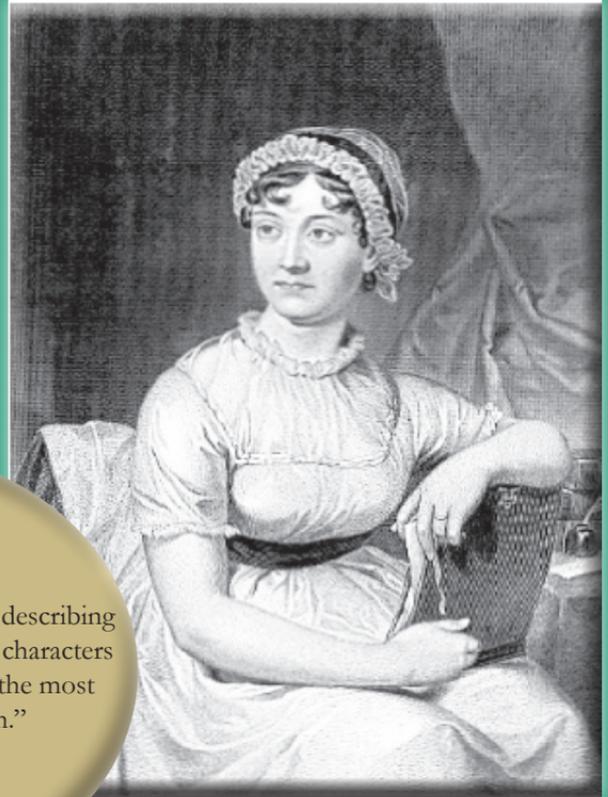


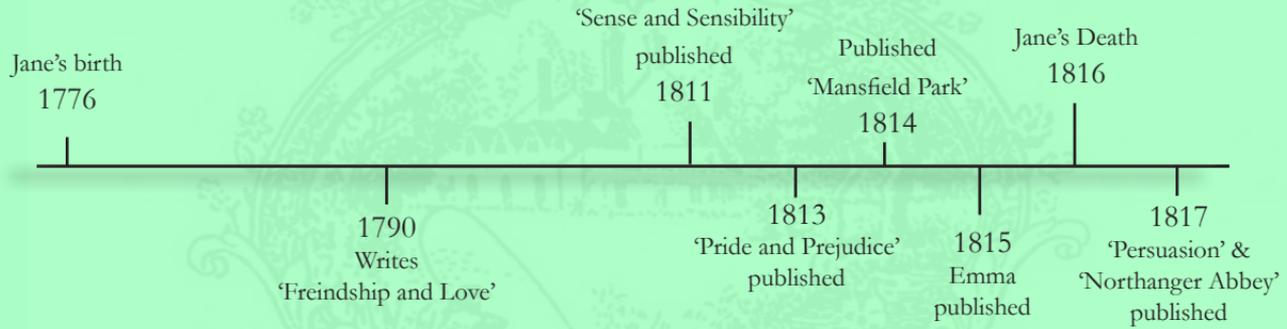
Novels

Jane Austen's writing is known for its brilliant irony and wit. She was not afraid of writing bluntly about reality and focusing on many everyday social scenes of her time. Of Austen's six published novels, four were published anonymously during her lifetime under the alias, A Lady. *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion* were published posthumously, when the name of the writer was finally divulged. Although all of Jane's novels were popular during her lifetime, a true appreciation of them was not acknowledged until after her death.

"That young lady has a talent for describing the involvements of feelings and characters of ordinary life which is to me the most wonderful I ever met with."

-Sir Walter Scott





Movies

Pride and Prejudice, being Austen's most-read and popular novel, has two of the best adaptations made. One, a mini tv series on A&E in 1996 with Colin Firth, the other a movie came out in 2005 with a reputable cast, including Keira Knightley and Donald Sutherland. In January 2008 BBC aired new adaptations of each of Austen's six published novels. Many of the movie adaptations of Austen's novels are criticized heavily, it is truly difficult to write a script that gives her original novels the credit that they deserve. Many movies have also been made about Jane's life, such as 'Becoming Jane.' Other movies, such as 'Clueless' with Alicia Silverstone are loose adaptations of her original novels, in this case 'Emma.' However, nothing can truly compare to the novels which they are based upon.



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