

Personal information

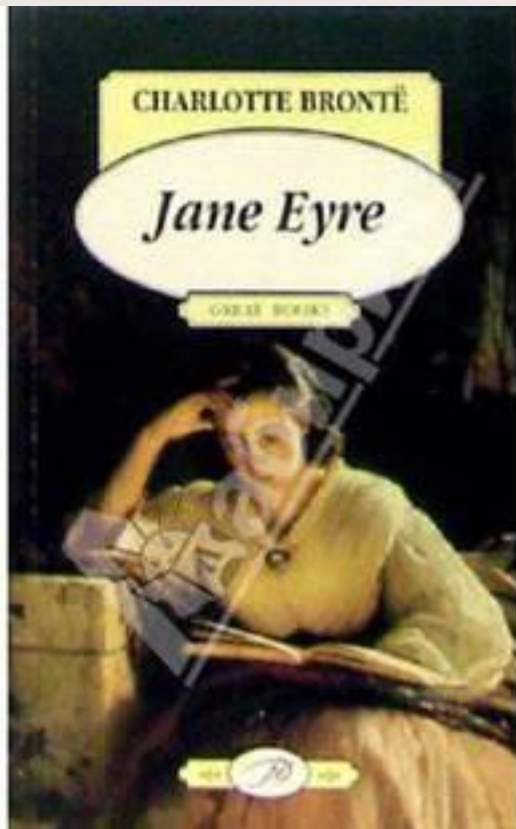
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2***

***Nomination: English
language***

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Jane Eyre

- originally published as *Jane Eyre: An Autobiography*
- is a novel by English writer *Charlotte Brontë*

It was published on 16 October 1847

Genre: Victorian novel. *Jane Eyre* combines Gothic mystery, a romantic marriage plot, and a coming-of-age story

A ground breaking novel

Why?

- 1. The heroine is small, plain and poor.**
- 2. The heroine is the first female character to claim the right to feel strongly about her emotions and act on her convictions**
- 3. This romantic ground had previously been reserved for males**
- 4. Such a psychologically complex heroine had never been created before**

The main ideas of this book *are:*

- *Morality*
- *Family and Home*
- *Independence*
- *Love and Passion*
- *Social Class*





- *The long-lasting popularity of the book and its appreciation by contemporary audience may be explained by the topicality and everlasting interest to the main problems tackled by the authoress, such as "gap between the rich and the poor", the methods of educating girls, and, certainly, the role of a woman in society*
- *'How can a girl, no family that she knows of, and no special talents and no money, make her way in the world?' - this question continues to be actual*

Characters

• *Jane Eyre*





Jane Eyre—the protagonist and narrator, Jane is an orphaned girl caught between class boundaries, financial situations, and her own conflicted feelings. In her youth and again as a governess, Jane must depend on others for support. Jane feels isolated, and strives for her personal freedom and meaningful connections with others—to find the loving family she never had. Jane is intelligent, imaginative, and principled.

She defies many restrictive social conventions, especially those affecting women. As the novel progresses, Jane learns to temper her passions with self-control—she controls her feelings with judgment based on self-respect and Christian humility. She must reconcile her contradictory desires to be both independent and to serve a strong-willed man. Religion helps Jane to gain a mature understanding of herself as a self-respecting individual who credits



- *Edward Fairfax Rochester*



The wealthy master of Thornfield Hall and Jane's employer and, later, her husband. Over the course of his life, he grows from a naive young man, to a bitter playboy in Europe, to a humble yet still strong man worthy of Jane.



Both share similar virtues and seek their personal redemption. Yet Rochester errs in giving more rein to his feelings than his judgment and in expecting the world to submit to his will, as when he tries to marry Jane while still concealing Bertha and his secrets. In his distress after losing his eyesight, Rochester comes to accept his need of guidance and respect for God. His final strength comes from his newfound humility.

Secondary characters

- *Adèle Varens* — Jane's young pupil at Thornfield, who is Mr. Rochester's ward.
- *Mrs. Reed* — Jane's aunt by marriage, and the matron of Gateshead Hall. Mrs. Reed feels threatened by Jane, who has superior qualities to her own children. Mrs. Reed represents the anxiety of a wealthy and conservative social class, which acts defensively to protect itself from independent minds like Jane's
- *Mrs. Fairfax* — The housekeeper at Thornfield Hall

And many others:

- *Blanche Ingram*
- *Richard Mason*
- *Uncle Reed*
- *St. John Rivers*
- *Diana and Mary Rivers*
- *Rosamond Oliver*
- *John Eyre*
- *Grace Poole*
- *Bertha Mason*



- The novel has been adapted into a number of popular forms, including film, television and theatre. However, perhaps more importantly, the novel has been the centre of a number of rewritings and reinterpretations. Most notably reinterpreted and rewritings by notable authors have become important within British and American literature, including novels such as Jean Rhys' *Wide Sargasso Sea*.

- *This is a book about a woman's life from the age of ten to twenty-two. You will enjoy this book if you don't mind romance and crying. It is easy to understand why this is a classic. Jane is sent to a horrible boarding school by her malicious aunt, then becomes a governess working at a mysterious manor. Love is around the corner, and she must avoid it at all costs.*





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