

JANE AUSTEN



*Jane Austen was one of the most popular novelists of English literature. With the publications of the books *Sense and Sensibility* (1811), *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), *Mansfield Park* (1814) and *Emma* (1815) she was established as a writer. She*

also wrote the Northanger Abbey and the Persuasion which were published after her death in 1817.

Jane Austen's works are a transition to the realism of the 19th century. The plot of her books most of the times is sarcastic and emphasizes in the dependence of women to marriage in order to have a nice and easy life.

Jane Austen's books didn't have much fame and good critics and when they had they were minimal and they would refer to the moral of the story. Usually Jane wrote her books anonymously until her nephew published in 1870 a book for her life and her identity became known. After a while in the 1940s Jane Austen was considered one of the greatest writes in England.

Personal Life

Jane Austen was born on December 16th 1775 in Hampshire in England. Her father was a teacher in Oxford and a cleric. She had seven siblings, which one of them was a sister, Cassandra. Jane and her sister were very close and they lived together until her death.

Her family lived in Stevenson, Bath, Southampton and Chawton. In Chawton it was when Jane gave the final form of the novels Pride and prejudice, and Sense and Sensibility and also where she wrote Mansfield Park, Emma and Persuasion.

Jane Austen as her sister never got married. When she was 27 she accepted the proposal of a successor of a wealthy family but she changed her mind afterwards. Jane also in one of her letters to her niece she said that she would marry him only if there was love by her side.

The love life of Jane Austen became later became movie with the name "Becoming Jane" that show the love between Jane and Tom Lefroy. Jane in a letter to her sister says that it there was a flert between her and Tom and Lefroy by himself in an old age admitted that he loved Jane but there's not enough evidence to support the movie's plot.

Illness and death

Austen was felling unwell by early 1816 but she didn't pay any attention to the signs. When her uncle died she suffered a relapse but despite her illness she continued working. She rewrote the ending of "The Elliots" which she finished in 6 August 1816. Then she began "The Brothers" in 1817 January (titled as Sanditon, published after her death) but she stopped probably because of her illness. She put down the pen on 18 March 1817. As her illness progressed she started having difficulty in walking and lacked energy. In Mid-April she was confined to bed. In May she was transferred to Winchester where she died on 18th of July 1817.

"In vain have I struggled, it will not do. My feelings will not be suppressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you"

- *Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen*

Cleo Sklarou

