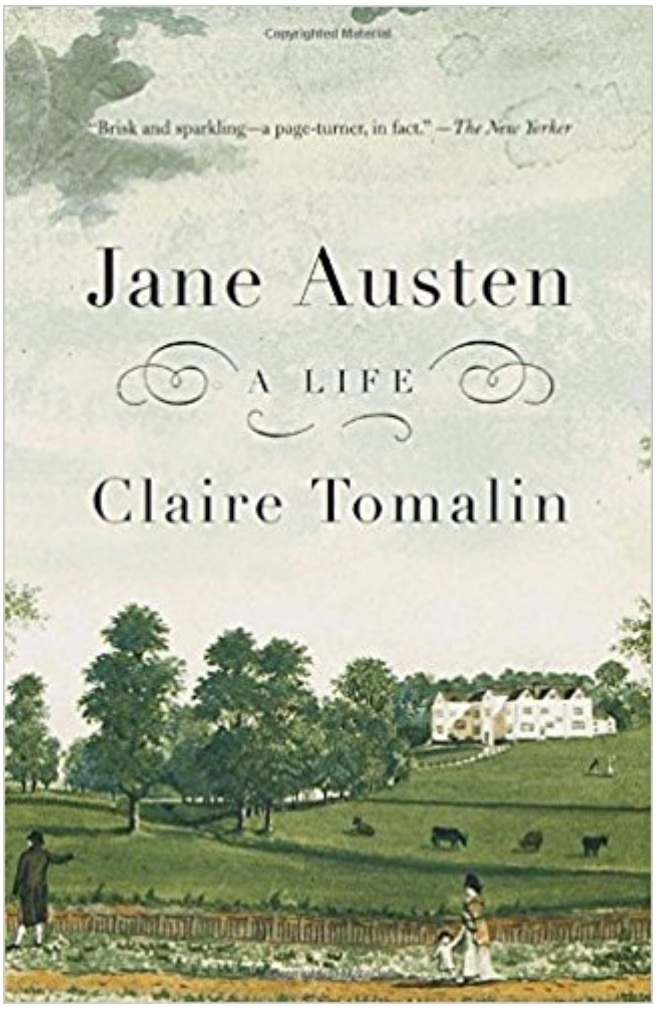
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Jane Austen: A Life



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

At her death in 1817, Jane Austen left the world six of the most beloved novels written in EnglishÃ¢â ¬â •but her shortsighted family destroyed the bulk of her letters; and if she kept any diaries, they did not survive her.Ã Â Now acclaimed biographer Claire Tomalin has filled the gaps in the record, creating a remarkably fresh and convincing portrait of the woman and the writer.Ã Â While most Austen biographers have accepted the assertion of Jane's brother Henry that "My dear Sister's life was not a life of events," Tomalin shows that, on the contrary, Austen's brief life was fraught with upheaval.Ã Â Tomalin provides detailed and absorbing accounts of Austen's ill-fated love for a young Irishman, her frequent travels and extended visits to London, her close friendship with a worldly cousin whose French husband met his death on the guillotine, her brothers' naval service in the Napoleonic wars and in the colonies, and thus shatters the myth of Jane Austen as a sheltered and homebound spinster whose knowledge of the world was limited to the view from a Hampshire village.Ã Â

Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Vintage (April 27, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679766766

ISBN-13: 978-0679766766

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 54 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #116,059 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #267 inÃ Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe > Great Britain #512 inÃ Â Books > History > Europe > Great Britain #524 inÃ Â Books > History > World > Women in History

Customer Reviews

The author of Pride and Prejudice, Persuasion, and other comedies of manners gets a biography similar in tone to her own books: intelligent but not intellectual, witty without being nasty. Claire Tomalin, author of four previous biographies of notable British women, treats Jane Austen (1775-1817) with the respect her genius deserves. Tomalin eschews gossip and speculation in favor of a sober account of the writer's life that nonetheless sparkles with sly humor. Perceptive analyses of each of Austen's novels, with autobiographical links suggested but never insisted upon,

add to the value of Jane Austen: A Life. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Despite only a few surviving personal papers and letters, no autobiographical notes, and no diaries written by Jane Austen, attempts to piece together the life and personality of the author abound. An experienced biographer, Tomalin makes do by focusing more on the Austen family, acquaintances, and friends than on Austen herself, forthrightly acknowledging, "It is only because of her writing that we think them worth remembering; and yet she is at almost every point harder to summon up than any of them...she is as elusive as a cloud in the night sky." Like David Nokes's recent biography, Jane Austen (LJ 9/1/97), Tomalin's presents an engaging story of the life and times of the Austen family. Although Tomalin's biography is not as detailed as Nokes's, it offers a freshness in its attention to, and compassion regarding the child-rearing practices of the Austens, the physical demands on child-bearing women, and to the portrayal of Austen's will, determination, and energy in her final days. Recommended for literature collections for its perspective and minimal speculations.?Jeris Cassel, Rutgers Univ. Libs., New Brunswick, N.J.Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Excellent biography. I learned a great deal about Austen and her time, which go hand in hand. Ms. Tomalin seems to be telling the story with ease and then you look at the notes to see the tremendous research behind it all .(which is where the ease comes from) Ms. Tomalin has read about and thought about and read Austen for a long time and has distilled it beautifully in her book Those authors written about Ms. Tomalin are lucky

A highly readable, infinitely well-researched life of Austen. Especially impressive was the background on all the families in the Austen neighborhood. Superior grasp of time period and very insightful sympathy into what it must have been like for a gifted young Jane Austen to grow up female. A MUST for Austen lovers and scholars.

Claire Tomalin did an excellent job of writing about the life of an amazing woman and author. This biography grabbed me from page one and kept me until the end. I highly recommend this work.

Jane Austen: A Life by Claire Tomilan is an excellent biography. For one thing, Ms. Tomilan writes about the facts of Jane Austen's life and doesn't try to embellish her existence. As the she points

out in the beginning, Jane Austen's life was one of sorrow and hardship. Although Jane Austen is famous for her wry take on life and detached sense of humor, she lead a life that had many difficulties, Although these days being single is a common option for women, in Jane Austen's day it was not. In the Eighteenth Century, most women married and had many children. Often, the wives were worn out bearing so many babies and died in childbirth. Jane Austen saw at first hand the situation because of her brothers, their wives, and their children. Cassandra, her sister, and she remained "old maids." Because of this, they relied on their family for lodging and care. They were forced to submit to the finances of their family. Even though, Jane Austen produced many famous novels, she had to wait until her father and brother helped her with their publishing.This is the second time that I read the biography and this time I found it very moving. The scenes are fresh and filled with family members. The English countryside is rendered as a vivid place. The trauma that made Jane Austen stop writing for eight years still comes as a shock. This event occurred when her mother and father decided after many years of living in the small town of Steventon, Hampshire, to suddenly move to Bath. Jane, who loved the countryside, her house, and her friends, became unable to continue writing her novels. During this time, Mr. and Mrs. Austen and Jane and Cassandra, traveled a great deal and lived in rented houses. After many years, the family returned to this area of England and eventually settled into a cottage; and Jane once again resumed writing.The book is a wonderful introduction to Jane Austen. The Ms. Tomalin makes a careful study of her many novels, and also shows us the strength that Jane Austen manifested through humor, warmth, and constancy to her family even under stress.

I highly recommend it. The book is very well written, well researched and puts the little we know about Jane Austen's life in context. In so doing, you learn a lot about her circumstances, her family and friends, and thus gain insight into Jane Austin's life. It gave me a better idea of who she was as a person and as s writer. Besides that, the book is very engaging :)

Being an Austen fan, this book gives the reader a good insight into the life and times of the great writer

1997's "Jane Austen: A Life" is Claire Tomalin's highly readable, even dramatic account of the life of the popular romance novelist. Jane Austen left little for her future biographers beyond her published novels and some surviving letters and manuscripts. Tomalin addresses Jane in the context of her large and interesting family and their Hampshire friends and relatives. The result doesn't necessarily

add a great deal to our limited store of knowledge about Jane Austen; it does provide some interesting insights into her context, and should bury forever any concerns about the source of Austen's acute understanding of human nature or the material for her novels.The good news about "Jane Austen: A Life" is that Claire Tomalin is a gifted writer and her book will be a page-turner for many fans. Tomalin has done her extensive research. In addition, Tomalin is not shy about speculating when it comes to the signficant gaps in our knowledge of Austen's life. Her speculation is generally reasonable and plausible, and almost always fascinating to read. It is less clear how much of the book is reasonable inference from the limited record and how much edges toward historical fiction.Tomalin includes her own literary criticism on Jane Austen's various works. This criticism is frankly hit or miss. Her comments on "Lady Susan" highlight its unusual leading character. Her analysis of the novel fragment "The Watson" explains why Jane Austen never finished it. However, she unfairly slights one of the main characters in "Sense and Sensibility", misreads the fate of Mr. Wickham and Lydia in "Pride and Prejudice", and perhaps misses the point of "Mansfield Park." Readers familiar with Jane Austen's novels can draw their own conclusions.Jane Austen is as vivid as Claire Tomalin can make her in this biography, a clever, acutely observant woman who must on occasion have been a little intimidating in person. She is very much a family person, at the beck and call of brothers, cousins, nieces and nephews all her life. We come to appreciation for how difficult Austen's life was after her father died. Her failure to marry lfet her, her spinster sister Cassandra, and her widowed mother in genteel poverty, dependent on support from her brothers and with few choices about where and how they would live. Unfortunately, Jane's writing did not begin to produce real income before her early death in 1817."Jane Austen: A Life" is highly recommended as an interesting, even dramatic biography. The book includes an excellent selection of portraits of Jane Austen's family members. It is perhaps ironic that the one verified portrait of Jane Austen in life was said by her family to be inadequate, just as the person behind the novels continues to be elusive to biographers and fans alike.

An interesting read before traveling in the area of England where she lived.

Download to continue reading...

What Would Jane Do?: Quips and Wisdom from Jane Austen Jane Austen: A Life The Jane Austen Handbook: Proper Life Skills from Regency England Jane Austen's England: Daily Life in the Georgian and Regency Periods All Roads Lead to Austen: A Year-long Journey with Jane Pride & Prejudice: An Adult Coloring Book with Romantic Country Scenes, Historical English Women, and Vintage Floral Dresses (Inspired by the Best-Selling Novel by Jane Austen) Novel Destinations,

Second Edition: A Travel Guide to Literary Landmarks From Jane Austen's Bath to Ernest Hemingway's Key West Jane Austen Paper Dolls: Four Classic Characters The Jane Austen BBC Radio Drama Collection: Six BBC Radio Full-Cast Dramatisations Jane Austen Unabridged CD Collection: Pride and Prejudice, Persuasion, Emma Who Was Jane Austen? Jane Austen (Classic BBC Radio Full Cast Drama) The Jane Austen Collection (A CSA Word Recording) Jane Austen's Persuasion (Talking Classics) Jane Austen Collection Jane Austen's Northanger Abbey (Talking Classics) Classic Coloring Jane Austen 2018 Calendar Bitch In a Bonnet: Reclaiming Jane Austen From the Stiffs, the Snobs, the Simps and the Saps (Volume 1) Jane Austen in Hollywood Jane Austen on Screen

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help