
Jane Austen

Lady Susan



Title: Lady Susan

Author: Jane Austen

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Description

Lady Susan is a selfish, attractive woman, who tries to trap the best possible husband while maintaining a relationship with a married man. She subverts all the standards of the romantic novel: she has an active role, she's not only beautiful but intelligent and witty, and her suitors are significantly younger than she is. Although the ending includes a traditional reward for morality, Lady Susan herself is treated much more mildly than the adulteress in *Mansfield Park*, from Jane Austen's novel *Sense and Sensibility*, who is severely punished.

Insightful reviews

E. Chainey (Bookowski): ??te bu! Beklenen kitap geldi...

Inspired Kathy: And I thought the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society was such an original book. Little did I know Jane Austen wrote a book solely in letters long ago. This book is quite short, less than 80 pages. An easy, enjoyable, one sitting read.

Lourdes:

Jane Austen dijo una vez que Emma Woodhouse, la protagonista de su novela *Emma*, sería quizás la heroína menos querida por sus lectores, debido a la presunción y al carácter caprichoso del personaje. Con el perdón de la autora, me tomo la libertad de disentir: no recuerdo haber leído, en toda mi vida, un libro cuya protagonista fuese tan mala persona como Lady Susan. Jamás. Ninguna tan falsa, manipuladora y egoísta, y sin posibilidad alguna de redención. Pese a todo (y eso es lo increíble del caso), se trata de un personaje construido con tanta solidez que no puede menos que fascinar a cualquiera (tanto fuera del relato como dentro de él). Porque lo confieso: una vez que empecé, me fue imposible abandonar este libro.

Por medio una serie de cartas entre los personajes, Lady Susan cobra vida a los ojos del lector, en toda su elegante y refinada crueldad: a los 35 años, hermosa y seductora, es capaz de destruir familias con sus encantos, de abandonar y calumniar a los de su propia sangre, y de llevar a los hombres a la ruina. Ni siquiera su hija, a quien fuerza a casarse con un hombre sin mérito alguno solamente por dinero, escapa a las imposturas y los planes maquiavélicos de esta aristocrática dama. Empobrecida tras la muerte de su esposo, solamente le preocupa mantener su reputación de viuda respetable, mientras busca, a menos de 4 meses del deceso de su esposo, otra abultada billetera con quien unirse en matrimonio. La mujer es, a todas luces, adúltera por deporte.

Las versiones sobre un mismo hecho (o sobre la propia Lady Susan) varían de una carta a la otra y los contrastes, afilados como navajas, no pueden más que divertir al lector: resulta tragicómico comparar las descripciones casi hagiográficas que la protagonista hace de sí misma con lo que sobre su conducta dicen los demás. En todo caso, Austen (con sólo 19 años) aprovecha estas divergencias magistralmente para criticar, con ironía y humor, a la sociedad de su época, donde la ambición, las apariencias, la posición social y el dinero constituían los valores más importantes. En ciertos círculos, al menos. (Nada demasiado alejado de nuestra civilizada sociedad contemporánea, en realidad). Con frecuencia, la mujer quedaba relegada a

la perpetua caza del pretendiente perfecto (léase lo suficientemente millonario) y el matrimonio se reducía a un simple contrato comercial. Por fortuna, los personajes de la novela se rebelan contra este orden de cosas y, quizás, eso es lo que la hace tan interesante.

Pese a lo escandaloso del personaje, me divertí muchísimo leer esta novela. Muy, muy recomendada.

Meli: Muy sarcástico y muy entretenido. Me sorprendió girl Susan, tremenda bruja se mandó Jane con ese personaje. Buenísimo, el personaje más despreciable de Austen me parece. Tiene varios con complejo de bruja, pero manipuladores e insensibles como esta señora ninguno!

Helle: the place there's disposition to dislike rationale will not be wanting. This epistolary novella in regards to the immodest coquette, woman Susan, is pleasant and akin to Choderlos de Laclos's *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. Even the acidic, viper-like tongue of our major personality has anything in universal with the scheming, self-absorbed Mme Merteuil of that novel. even though the tone could be harsher, the nature of woman Susan darker, than what was once to come, it really is in actual fact the precursor of the irony and satire that pervaded all of Austen's significant works. As we learn letters written via numerous characters and listen to opposing issues of view, we commence to piece jointly girl Susan's personality and the little goings-on within the wings of the story. woman Susan's unfaltering convictions abound, and Jane Austen's linguistic gem stones shine already here: Consideration and esteem as absolutely persist with command of language, as admiration waits on beauty. I'm heading a short lived ebook membership at my neighborhood library devoted to Jane Austen at the celebration of the bicentenary of Emma in November. ahead of assembly for the 1st time, the participants have been assigned, by means of me, woman Susan, which I knew to be one in every of Austen's earliest works yet probably not thought of a part of her significant oeuvre. i think now, having learn it, that it is just because of its size and its particularly unsatisfying finishing as the leisure is totally as much as par – a beneficial forerunner of her six princesses (as Forster referred to as her six significant novels). I can't imagine why I hadn't learn this beforehand – and that i name myself a Janeite?! (P.S. a brand new movie adaption of girl Susan is on its way!)

Misty: I, who has spent decades making mockery of all issues Jane Austen, am afraid i have to admit to having loved this book. i really have by no means controlled to make it via a unmarried Jane Austen book, even if i have begun delight and *Prejudice* approximately 50 instances I simply could not get into it. So, what changed, you could ask? Well, i discovered myself with a library expense and desiring a brand new book. i will be able to obtain audiobooks from the library with no paying the fee, so i began perusing the selection. it really is really limited, yet this one used to be on hand and it appealed to me for 2 reasons. 1. it is the shortest Jane Austen book. I figured if i used to be going to get via certainly one of her books i'd to boot test the shortest one. 2. i've got a pal with a weblog known as woman Susan. i've got no suggestion if this e-book used to be the foundation at the back of her web publication identify yet i'll need to ask her approximately it now. Turns out...it used to be wickedly delightful. I laughed out loud numerous instances and located that it appears not anything has replaced on the planet of women, meddling and gossip within the final 2 hundred years. other than that we do not have to depend upon the put up workplace anymore. we will be able to simply call, email, text...in fact, I

wager the sheer velocity with which we will touch one another now motives extra issues of gossiping than there has been again then. Lady Susan herself is admittedly relatively terrible. She's an adulteress, she does not like her personal daughter, she likes to control humans and events for her personal leisure and he or she does not appear to have any own emotions of guilt or unease over any of this. yet her scheming comes out in any case and everyone finally ends up okay. I loved the letter format. i am comfortable I listened to it simply because every one personality had their very own voice and it used to be really entertaining. The language used to be enjoyable as soon as I received used it and that i locate myself desirous to finish any destiny letters I write with I am, etc. etc. ~MistyToo undesirable no one writes letters anymore. So... I hereby revoke my hatred of Jane Austen during this example and should most likely try out examining one other of her books.

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