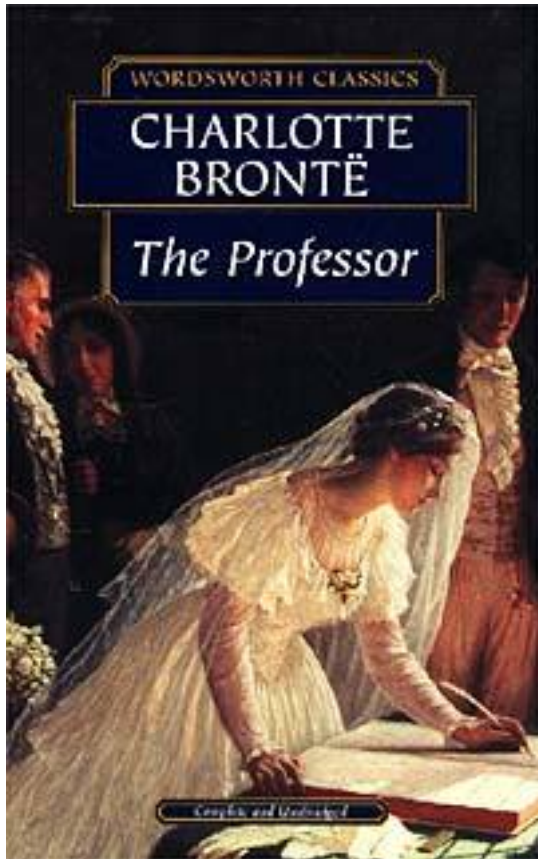

Charlotte Brontë

The Professor



Title: The Professor

Author: Charlotte Brontë

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Description

The Professor is Charlotte Brontë's first novel, in which she audaciously inhabits the voice and consciousness of a man, William Crimsworth. Like Jane Eyre he is parentless; like Lucy Snowe in *Villette* he leaves the certainties of England to forge a life in Brussels. But as a man, William has freedom of action, and as a writer Brontë is correspondingly liberated, exploring the relationship between power and sexual desire.

William's first person narration reveals his attraction to the dominating directress of the girls' school where he teaches, played out in the school's 'secret garden'. Balanced against this is his more temperate relationship with one of his pupils, Frances Henri, in which mastery and submission interplay. *The Professor* was published only after Charlotte Brontë's death; today it gives us a fascinating insight into the first stirrings of her supreme creative imagination.

Insightful reviews

Shauna: I adored the first few chapters of this book. The protagonist hated his job/everything, which I strongly identified with. Furthermore, a scene in one of these early chapters had a slew of wonderful old-timey insults ("Hypocrite and twaddler! Smooth-faced, snivelling greasehorn!"), which I shall save for future reference.

But a few chapters in, he got a job he actually liked and became a boring teacher who only sort of hated some things and also fell in love, and then for the rest of the book the camaraderie was gone. We could have had it all, professor.

Henry Avila: Mr. William Crimsworth, newly graduated from exclusive, Eton College, writes a letter to his one and only friend Charles, about his adventures since both left the school (Charles never receives it, having departed for parts unknown). William's late mother was an aristocrat, but having married "beneath her," had been shunned by her family, something common in mid 19th century England. His father was a wealthy businessman, until going bankrupt, also deceased. What to do? William, has an older brother by ten years, Edward, a cold tyrant, but rich mill owner, he has little seen. Rejecting an offer from Lord Tynedale, and the Honorable John Seacombe, his maternal uncles, to become a man of the cloth, a rector in a church controlled by Seacombe, and even marry one of his six unappealing daughters, young Crimsworth, does not like his cousins, they in turn cut loose the ungrateful boy, no longer supporting him. So the reluctant, distant Edward, gives him a job as a low paying clerk, in a northern English, dirty, polluted, ugly town, when you can see it, through the thick, noxious fumes, translating foreign language, business letters, the jealous brother hates the better educated William, shows no love, the rich man, has little contact with the poor one, kept from Crimsworth Hall, proper etiquette, must be maintained, between the two ... The letter ends but life continues, disaster, William is dismissed by his enraged brother, when an acquaintance, Mr. Hunsden, gossips about the ill treatment receives by the younger Mr. Crimsworth. To make amends Mr. Hunsden (his nefarious plan successful), tells William to travel to Brussels, Belgium, seek better employment, and gives him a letter of introduction. Since no other prospects are on the horizon, and always wanting to see the continent, he complies, receives

an offer as an English teacher, from the seemingly affable, Monsieur Francois Pelet, a Frenchman who owns a boys school, in the Belgium capital, does well, and later teaches a class at the next door girls school of charming, older, Mademoiselle Zoraider Reuter, a native of the country. But conflict appears, a love triangle, William and M.Pelet, are enamored of the fetching Mademoiselle Reuter, though not beautiful, neither is the professor, she does sparkle, during their romantic walks, in her institutes gardens, and enjoys being wanted by the suitors, playing a fun game of causing the men, pain...still the emotions are complicated more, when another enters, Frances Henri, a Swiss seamstress, living with her old aunt, employed by Mademoiselle Reuter, becomes a pupil in William's English class, the not well educated girl, somehow is brilliant, the best of his students, impossible... the mystery is solved, she had a English mother. The professor, starts to like the young, shy lady, and Zoraider, doesn't like this, she is not happy at all. And the school mistress can do much harm... The perplexing Mr. Hunsden arrives in town, curious to discover what his protege, has been up to, and his stories, revealed...they have not been dull. The inexperienced in life, William, learns (even teachers must too), the mendacity of people ...

La Petite Américaine: Every time I finish a Charlotte Bronte novel, my heart pounds and my mind is disoriented. After reaching the end of her stories, closing her pages for the last time, and remembering the long passages written out in long-hand, it's all like slowly surfacing from the depths of another world, and you're back home in reality, not quite sure you want to be there.

Although it doesn't have the exquisite tragedy of *Villette* or the kick-ass karate-chop combos of romance, ghosts, crazy ladies in the attic, religious nut-jobs, and true love found in *Jane Eyre*, *The Professor* is still one hell of a novel.

Its themes are common to Bronte's novels: Catholic wickedness (aka, "Romish wizardcraft" in this book -- HAHAHA!), relationships among the different social classes, social-restraint, and independence. Illustrating these themes are our upright, plain, poor, and virtuous narrator and his love interest, who are contrasted by the so-goddamn-evil-i-love-her Zoraide Reuter and her equally two-faced and back stabbing boyfriend, M. Pelet.

In many ways inferior to *Jane Eyre*, and in many other ways a "rough draft" of *Villette*, this novel is probably not the author's best. But I loved it. Why? Because Charlotte Bronte wrote it.

Bronte famously wrote that Jane Austen's writing was like "a carefully fenced, highly cultivated garden, with neat borders and delicate flowers: but no glance of a bright, vivid physiognomy, no open country, no fresh air, no blue hill, no bonny beck ... rather, comprehensive, measured, balanced, certainly "highly cultivated.""

What is Bronte then? Her writing is wild, like weeds, growing out of control and wrapping around you eyes, heart, and mind, but she planted those weeds and cultivated them just as carefully as Austen cultivated her garden -- but with more skill. Bronte gets you in a snare from which you cannot break free. Her words, her writing, her storytelling are all overpowering in their savageness. When you try to release yourself (it's called putting the book down) you'll find your heart beating from the rapid ride that she has taken you on ... and you want to jump right back

in.

Seriously, I love this woman. Favorite writer EVER!!

Amerynth: Charlotte Bronte made a number of unsuccessful makes an attempt to have "The Professor," her earliest paintings published. i will be able to see why it used to be simply released after her dying (and a number of rewrites) because it quite is not a superb novel. The tale follows William Crimsworth, a guy (like her lady characters) who's thrown to the wild and compelled to discover his personal fortune. He turns into a instructor in Brussels and the plot strikes on from there. It relatively takes decades for the booklet to get going -- her lengthy blocks of descriptive passages turn into a grind quite quickly. whereas there's an engaging tale buried within the book, it simply drags out at this type of sluggish speed that it quite wasn't an stress-free read. Also disappointing that this version doesn't have a translation of the French words within the back. whereas i'll persist with the overall gist of the conversations in French, there's a an important scene with Frances Henri that actually had to be translated (or learn via anyone who is familiar with French, which I don't.) Overall, this is often e-book for Charlotte Bronte completists only.

Joana Gonçalves: "O professor" foi o primeiro romance escrito pela célebre escritora britânica Charlotte Bronte, publicado em 1857, sob um pseudónimo masculino. Decidi "embarcar" neste romance pois pensei, inicialmente, que seria a obra perfeita para começar a ler Bronte. Sempre quis ler "Jane Eyre" e, como nunca tinha ouvido falar deste romance da autora, decidi descobrir por mim mesma e dar uma oportunidade a esta obra pouco divulgada. Posso dizer-vos que gostei muito da história em si. Achei também curioso o livro tratar-se de uma carta que a personagem principal, William Crimsworth, escreve a um seu velho amigo, Charles. É-nos dada a conhecer a história de vida deste homem, sendo-nos despertados facilmente sentimentos e emoções em relação a esta personagem que nos fazem questionar os valores morais do "Homem do século XXI". É realmente curioso comparar a mentalidade e evolução do comportamento humano ao longo deste período de pace decorrido desde a elaboração da obra. Aconselho a leitura, não só aos apaixonados por clássicos, mas também àqueles que procuram iniciar a sua viagem no mundo de Bronte (tal como eu). Apresenta uma escrita bastante acessível e envolvente. 3,5 estrelas! recomendo! :)

Joseph: My first Charlotte Bronte booklet and back i'm wondering how i may have ignored this booklet or overlooked this writer for thus long. even supposing Anne continues to be my favourite within the early a part of my reading, Charlotte's The Professor follows a similar kind of tale telling. the most important characters are good built and likable or unlikable because the case maybe. Minor characters should not developed, comparable to William's buddy Charles. William is the most character, an Englishman with an schooling who rejecting going into the clergy to develop into a trades man. William, an orphan, is raised by way of shut relatives and we find he has a truly unlikable brother. Persuaded by means of Hunsden to do whatever higher along with his lifestyles than be his brother's clerk, William leaves for Belgium. the vast majority of the tale takes areas in Belgium and facilities round William and his task as a professor, which easily capacity teacher. the tale does comprise quite a lot of traces of French, so a dictionary can be convenient for non-French speakers. Luckily, no Flemish is spoken. it truly is an relaxing tale although it isn't really thought of Charlotte's greater works. She turns out

to stick clear of a few of the social topics that Anne wrote into her stories. Like different Victorian novels i've got read, the publication leaves you with an outstanding and gratifying feeling All in all a truly likable story.

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