



Appendix

## **Summary of Jane Austen's Novel:**

### ***"Sense and Sensibility"***

The Dashwood family is introduced; Mr. and Mrs. Dashwood and their three daughters live at Norland Park, an estate in Sussex. Elinor, one of the Dashwood girls, is entirely sensible and prudent; her sister, Marianne, is very emotional and never moderate. Margaret, the youngest sister, is young and good-natured. One day Mr. Dashwood died, he left his estate and his family to John Dashwood, his son from his first marriage. John Dashwood was married and had one son, Harry. John Dashwood's wife, Fanny Ferrars is selfish and does not like his family.

One day Fanny's brother, Edward Ferrars visited Norland and he seems interested to Elinor. Fanny displeased by their acquaintance. Marianne does not like their acquaintance because Edward does not have any taste in art, but Elinor does not care about it.

A relative of Mrs. Dashwood's, Sir John Middleton, offered them a cottage at Barton Park in Devonshire; Mrs. Dashwood decided to accept to separate Edward and Elinor. In Devonshire the Dashwoods met Sir John Middleton a very kind and obliging host and his wife, Lady Middleton, who is cold and passionless.

The Dashwoods met Mrs. Jennings, Sir John's mother-in-law, a merry, somewhat vulgar older woman, and Colonel Brandon, a gentleman and a bachelor. The Colonel is soon taken with Marianne, but Marianne objects to Mrs. Jennings attempts to get them together, and to the "advanced" age (35) and serious attitude of the Colonel.

One night Marianne fell and twisted her ankle while walking; she was lucky enough to be found and carried home by a charming man named Willoughby. Marianne and Willoughby are attracted to one another because they have a similar romantic temperament, a passion for art, poetry, and music. Willoughby and Marianne's attachment developed steadily, though Elinor believes that they should be more restrained in showing their regard publicly. Later, Willoughby left Marianne without any reason.

Sir John and Mrs. Jennings soon introduced Mrs. Jennings' other daughter, Mrs. Palmer, and her husband to the family. Elinor and Marianne met the Middletons' new guests, the Miss Steeles, apparently cousins; Lucy Steele is very pretty but not much better company.

Elinor, unfortunately, becomes the preferred companion of Lucy. Lucy inquires of Mrs. Ferrars, which prompts Elinor to ask about her acquaintance with the Ferrars family; Lucy then confesses that she is secretly engaged to Edward

Mrs. Jennings invites Marianne and Elinor to spend the winter with her in London. Marianne is determined to go to see Willoughby, and Elinor decided she must go too, because Marianne needs Elinor's polite guidance. They accepted the invitation, and left in January.

In London Marianne found that Willoughby will get married with Miss Grey, and Marianne was very sad. On the other hand, Lucy's sister told Fanny that Lucy was engaged with Edward. The Ferrars' threw the Steeles out. Edward is to be disinherited if he chose to marry Lucy; unfortunately, Edward is too honorable to reject Lucy, even if he no longer loves her.

One day Edward came to Barton Cottages and he wanted to propose Elinor. At first Elinor was surprised because she thought that he was married. Edward told Elinor that Lucy decided to marry Robert Ferrars, his brother. Elinor accepted and he gained Mrs. Dashwood's consent to the match.

Marianne realized and she does finally change her mind about the Colonel, and accepted his offer of marriage. The Colonel becomes far more cheerful, and soon Marianne grows to love him as much as she ever loved Willoughby. Mrs. Dashwood remains at Barton with Margaret, now fifteen, much to the delight of Sir John, who retains their company. And Elinor and Marianne both live together at Delaford, and remain good friends with each other and each other's husbands.

## About Jane Austen

Jane Austen was born on December 16, 1775 at Steventon, England. She was the seventh child of the rector of the parish at Steventon, and lived with her family until they moved to Bath when her father retired in 1801.

Her father, Reverend George Austen, was from Kent and attended the Tunbridge school before studying at Oxford and receiving a living as a rector at Steventon. Her mother, Cassandra Leigh Austen, was the daughter of a patrician family. Among her siblings she had but one sister, Cassandra, with whom she kept in close contact her entire life. Her brothers entered a variety of professions: several joined the clergy, one was a banker, while several more spent time in the military. Although her family was neither noble nor wealthy, Rev. Austen had a particular interest in education, even for his daughters. Although her novels focus on courtship and marriage, Jane Austen remained single her entire life. She died in Winchester on July 8, 1817.

Jane Austen published four novels anonymously during her lifetime: *Sense and Sensibility* (1811), *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), *Mansfield Park* (1814), *Emma* (1815). Two novels, *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion* were published posthumously in 1817. These novels are prominent for her satiric depiction of English society and manners.