

Charlotte Brontë

Jane Eyre

Read by
Emma Fielding

**Bonus
CD-ROM**

with
**Full Text +
Study Guide**

Know it... enjoy it.



CD 1

1	The house of the Reeds	8:35
2	Punishment in the red room	3:42
3	The soothing presence of Mr Lloyd	11:51
4	An interview with Mr Brocklehurst	10:32
5	I travelled to Lowood	4:22
6	My first days at Lowood – Helen Burns	16:58
7	Advertising for a position	5:27
8	To Millcote, Mrs Fairfax and Adele Varens	13:06
9	Out for a walk	1:41

Total time on CD 1: 76:19

**ALSO ON CD 1 ARE THE STUDY GUIDE,
AND THE ABRIDGED AND UNABRIDGED TEXT.**

(see pages 5–6)

CD 2

1	The first meeting with Mr Rochester	13:40
2	Direct conversation	6:09
3	Dramatic past and present	13:04
4	The party arrives – with Miss Ingram	9:58
5	A stranger arrives	4:05
6	A savage cry in the night	14:13
7	Leave of absence	5:01
8	More deception by my aunt	4:02
9	I return to Thornfield	1:31
10	A proposal	7:47

Total time on CD 2: 79:36

CD 3

1	The day of the wedding	10:40
2	Back to Thornfield	5:42
3	Mr Rochester pleads	8:52
4	I leave Thornfield to wander	4:45
5	A new home with Mr St John Rivers	4:16
6	A surprise fortune	11:32
7	A proposal	4:54
8	An impulse drives me back to Thornfield	13:47
9	A glass of water	8:29
10	Reader, I married him	6:04

Total time on CD 3: 79:08

Total time on CDs 1–3: 3:55:03

The CD-ROM

Jane Eyre

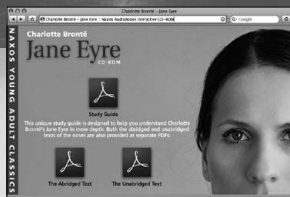
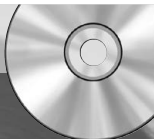
A Study Guide



By Francis Gilbert

This unique study guide is designed to help you understand Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* in more depth. Both the abridged and unabridged texts of the novel are also provided as separate PDFs.

All three PDFs can be found on **CD 1**.



How to use the CD-ROM

To access the study guide, and the abridged and unabridged texts of *Jane Eyre*, put **CD 1** into your computer.

Windows® PC users

Insert the CD into the optical drive. A window with links to the study guide should automatically open. If it does not, double-click on `index.htm` in the CD-ROM (usually the D: drive). Alternatively, the PDFs can be accessed directly from the CD-ROM, and copied to your PC.

Macintosh users

Insert the CD into the optical drive. The CD-ROM window should automatically open. The PDFs can be accessed directly from the CD-ROM, and copied to your computer.

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Why Study Literature?

The famous Greek philosophers Plato (427–347 BC) and Aristotle (384–322 BC) first clashed when answering this age-old question. Plato felt that literature should be banned. He believed that it was a poor copy of the real world and inflamed people to do stupid and wild things in the manner of its heroes. But Plato's pupil Aristotle argued that far from corrupting our minds literature actually improves us, enabling us to become more moral by making us feel both pity and fear for its central characters.

The argument today remains more or less the same. Literature's detractors believe it can lead us astray by making us feel sympathy for evil characters, while literature's defenders take Aristotle's view that by feeling for fictional characters we become better people, better at empathising and imagining ourselves in different situations.

As a teacher and lover of literature, I take Aristotle's view: literature takes us to places that we would never otherwise experience. And reading about murderers doesn't mean we will imitate them; we may actually learn from their grave errors. Literature affords us the chance to live through other people's tragedies and triumphs, as a result of which we ourselves may emerge wiser, more thoughtful and happier than before.

Francis Gilbert

Charlotte Brontë's Life

- 1816** Born on 21 April in Thornton, Yorkshire, England, the third of six children.
- 1821** Moved to Haworth; mother died of cancer.
- 1824** Went with three of her sisters to Lancashire boarding school, which she later used as a basis for *Jane Eyre's* Lowood.
- 1833** Wrote novella *The Green Dwarf* using pen name Wellesley.
- 1839** Became governess to a Yorkshire family.
- 1842–3** Lived in Brussels with her sister Emily and taught English, an experience which provided background material for her novels *The Professor* and *Villette*.
- 1844** Returned to Haworth.
- 1846** Charlotte, Emily and Anne published a collection of poetry under the pseudonyms of Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell: only two copies were sold. But the sisters were determined to continue writing.
- 1847** *Jane Eyre* published 'by Currer Bell': it became a great success.
- 1847** *Wuthering Heights* by Emily published under the name of Ellis Bell.

1847 *Agnes Grey* by Anne published under the name of Acton Bell.

1848 Charlotte and Anne visited their publishers and revealed their real names.

1848 Charlotte's brother Branwell died in September.

1848 Emily Brontë died of tuberculosis in December.

1849 Anne Brontë died of tuberculosis.

1849 *Shirley* published (under Charlotte's real name).

1853 *Villette* published.

1854 Charlotte married Arthur Bell Nicholls, her father's curate, and became pregnant.

1855 Charlotte died on 31 March, with her unborn child, possibly of tuberculosis.

1857 *The Professor* published (written before *Jane Eyre* but rejected by publishers).

1857 *The Life of Charlotte Brontë* by Elizabeth Gaskell published.



Emma Fielding trained at RSAMD. She has worked for the Royal National Theatre in Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* and the RSC in *Twelfth Night* and John Ford's *The Broken Heart*, for which she won the Dame Peggy Ashcroft Award for Best Actress. She has also read *The Turn of the Screw*, *Fanny Hill* and *Rebecca* and appears on classic dramas such *Othello*, *Lady Windermere's Fan* and *Hamlet*, all for Naxos AudioBooks.



Francis Gilbert has taught English literature in the UK for nearly two decades and has published four books, including the bestselling *I'm A Teacher*, *Get Me Out Of Here* and *Yob Nation*. He lives in London, teaches part-time and writes. He regularly appears on television and radio, commentating about education.

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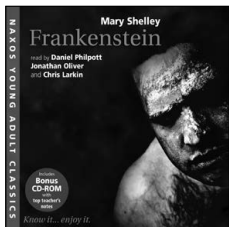
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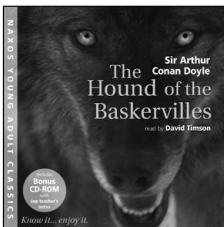
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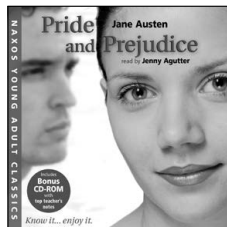
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