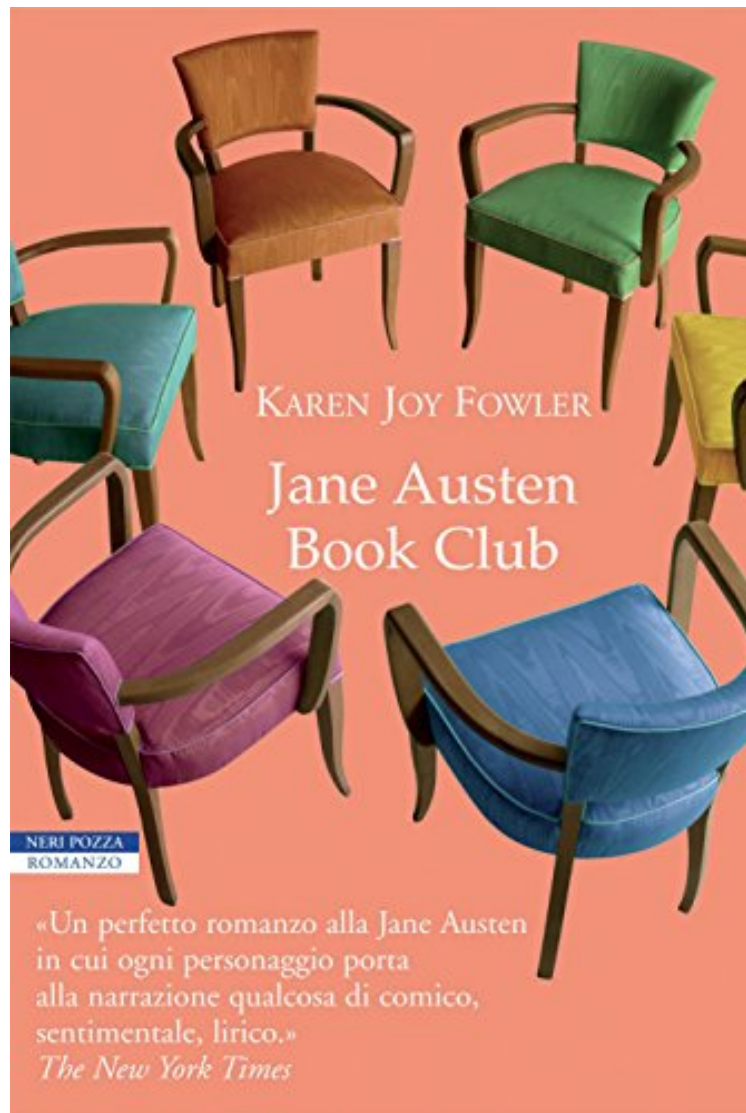


Jane Austen Book Club

Von Karen Joy Fowler

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Von Karen Joy Fowler : Jane Austen Book Club before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jane Austen Book Club:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen10 von 10 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Interesting interweaving of 5 women and 1 one manVon Ein KundeJocelyn sets up the Jane Austen Book Club to distract her best friend Sylvia from her husband's desertion. 3 more women and 1 man make up the club. Each time they meet to discuss one of Austen's books you also get an inside into the life of the host's life.While this is certainly an enjoyable read and had me smiling several times at the beginning, I was left feeling that the potential of the set up

had not fully been realized. I'd rather have seen a bit more work gone into the life chameos or in the book discussions than have the collection of Austen critic at the end of the book. Nonetheless it has made me want to pick up my Austen books and reread them with a view of the points made by the book's characters. 11 von 13 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. 6 character studies somewhat reflecting Jane Austen's novels Von Wombatsbooks "The Jane Austen Book Club" started out great, but turned out to be nothing special. It was an good read, but I had expected a lot more. I wasn't disappointed because this book is most definitely *not* about Jane Austen's novels, but disappointed because this book is simply not unique. Like Jane Austen published six novels, "The Jane Austen Book Club" has six members (Jocelyn, Sylvia, Allegra, Grigg, Bernadette and Prudie). While they meet monthly at one of the member's places to discuss Austen's novels, their lives are reflected. This book has six chapters, in each chapter there are tidbits of Austen hidden in between the character studies/bios of one of the club members. "The Jane Austen Book Club" is a nice read: the characters are nicely drawn and the setting is quite charming, but I kept wondering which point I must have missed, to make this book special. I still don't know what it is ;-(. And there is another matter that still irks me: the story is told by a first-person-narrator. You never get to know who of the six members of the book club is the narrator and that spoiled the fun quite a bit for me. Hence only an average read ;-(. Result: Give it a try, although I am still a bit ambivalent about it ;-) 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Austen updated - but not surpassed Von Peter Berlin This is a very charming novel to read, with a cast of interesting, if quirky characters, and it makes you want to read one of six Austen novels again. It takes place in California which is far removed from Austen-country, but it just goes to show that human nature doesn't change much over distance or time. The book does stand by itself since these novels are just a starting point for Fowler's novel. I did enjoy reading it and do recommend it though it is no match for the real master.

Kurzbeschreibung Jocelyn ha passato i cinquanta, ma non smette di partorire un'idea bizzarra dopo l'altra. Un giorno Sylvia, la sua migliore amica, le confessa che, dopo trentadue anni di matrimonio, suo marito le ha chiesto il divorzio. Trentadue anni di gioie e soddisfazioni svaniti improvvisamente nel nulla, le ha detto singhiozzando. E Jocelyn che cosa fa? Ha la stramba idea di fondare un club del libro, il Jane Austen Book Club, poich, dice citando Kipling, non c'è niente di meglio di Jane quando sei nei pasticci. Che a Jocelyn sia venuta in mente la Austen e nessun altro scrittore naturale. Jane Austen ha scritto meravigliosi romanzi sull'amore e, esattamente come Jocelyn che si prende cura solo dell'amore e delle passioni altrui, non si mai sposata. Che Sylvia abbia accettato anche questo naturale. Jane Austen sempre stata per lei come una sorella o una zia che scriveva i suoi libri in un salottino affollato e li leggeva ad alta voce ai parenti per rincuorarli. Quello che sorprende per l'entusiastica adesione al club di Bernadette, Allegra, Prudie e, soprattutto, di Grigg, un bel quarantenne scapolo con i capelli scuri. Bernadette, sessantasette anni, una donna che se ne frega di tutto e di tutti, una che stata vista al supermercato in ciabatte e con i capelli sparati sulla fronte, ha subito detto che lei ama immensamente la Austen di *Orgoglio e pregiudizio*, il romanzo che rivela il genio della sua grande comicità, ricco di pagine irresistibili e ironiche. Ha proposto perciò di inaugurare il club con la lettura di questo *opera*, ma Jocelyn ha scartato subito l'idea. Come si fa a propinare un tipo sexy come Darcy, il protagonista maschile di *Orgoglio e pregiudizio*, a una che appena stata piantata come Sylvia? Allegra, la figlia di Sylvia, una ragazza che si fa tagliare i capelli da parrucchieri costosi e porta scarpe economiche e sexy, e non si lascia sfuggire un'occasione per dichiararsi lesbica, ha confessato che lei adora soprattutto la Austen che mostra quali terribili conseguenze possano avere le necessità finanziarie sulle vite private delle donne! Prudie, che si sposata da poco, e ha solo ventotto anni, la pelle bianchissima e le guance scavate, ha sussurrato che la sua Austen preferita la scrittrice cupa di *Persuasione*, l'autrice morta a soli quarantuno anni! Grigg, infine, il bel quarantenne scapolo con le ciglia troppo lunghe e fitte per un uomo, si addirittura presentato alla prima riunione con l'opera completa della Austen sotto al braccio. Romanzo irresistibile in cui quattro donne e un uomo, intrattenendosi sul significato del matrimonio, dello status sociale e dell'amore in Jane Austen (*Publisher Weekly*), svelano gli orgogli e i pregiudizi del nostro mondo, Jane Austen Book Club ha rivelato, sulla scena letteraria americana, lo straordinario talento di Karen Joy Fowler. Straordinario, irresistibile, divertente, un romanzo che più di una grande commedia. *San Francisco Chronicle* Un perfetto romanzo alla Jane Austen in cui ogni personaggio porta alla narrazione qualcosa di comico, sentimentale, lirico. *The New York Times* Questo romanzo mi piace talmente che me lo mangerei, se potessi farlo. Alice Sebold Uno di quei rari libri che ci ricorda che cosa significa veramente leggere. *The New York Times* Book Avvincente, delicato, toccante, divertente. *The Washington Post* Una deliziosa commedia di costume contemporanea. *Entertainment Weekly* From *Publishers Weekly* With its many section breaks and point-of-view shifts, Fowler's newest book (following *Sister Noon*) poses significant challenges for a single narrator. But stage actress Schraf overcomes these obstacles with ease, her voice taking on just a touch of haughtiness for the chapters told from the "we" perspective and then switching back to an unassuming tone for the third-person sections. It may take listeners a short while to grasp the story's structure, but once they do, they'll be hopelessly snared by this witty look at the lives and loves of six people, all members of Central Valley, California's "all-Jane-Austen-all-the-time book club." As the members discuss Austen's

stance on marriage, social status and love, the narrative meanders, touching on defining moments in the characters' lives and then drifting back to describe their current dilemmas: single, middle-aged Jocelyn has never been in love; French teacher Prudie can't stop thinking about men other than her husband; chatty Bernadette has decided to "let herself go"; warm-hearted Sylvia still loves her soon-to-be-ex-husband; emotional Allegra has left her girlfriend; and sci-fi aficionado Grigg is infatuated with someone who may not share his affection. Through subtle alterations of tone and inflection, Schraf neatly conveys the emotions and idiosyncrasies of each character, from Prudie's impossibly pretentious French asides to Bernadette's airy, endless storytelling. Playful and intelligent, this audiobook embodies the best of both the written and aural worlds. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From Booklist*Starred * Fowler, a captivating and good-hearted satirist, exuberantly pays homage to and matches wits with Jane Austen in her most pleasurable novel to date by portraying six irresistible Californians who meet once a month to discuss Austen's six novels. Coyly shifting points of view, Fowler subtly uses her characters' responses to Austen as entree into their poignant and often hilarious life stories. The book club is Jocelyn's idea, a fiftysomething gal who seems to prefer the company of her show dogs to men. She has known Sylvia since grade school, and even used to date Sylvia's husband, who has abruptly moved out, inspiring their beautiful, accident-prone, lesbian artist daughter, Allegra, to move back in and join the book club along with her mother. Also on board are disheveled and loquacious Bernadette; Prudie, a high-school French teacher; and Grigg, the only man. Fowler shares Austen's fascination with the power of stories, and explores the same timeless aspects of human behavior that Austen so masterfully dramatizes, while capturing with anthropological acuity and electrifying humor the oddities of our harried world. Fellow Austenites will love Fowler's fluency in the great novelist's work; every reader will relish Fowler's own ebullient comedy of manners, and who knows how many book clubs will be inspired by this charming paean to books and readers. Donna Seaman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved