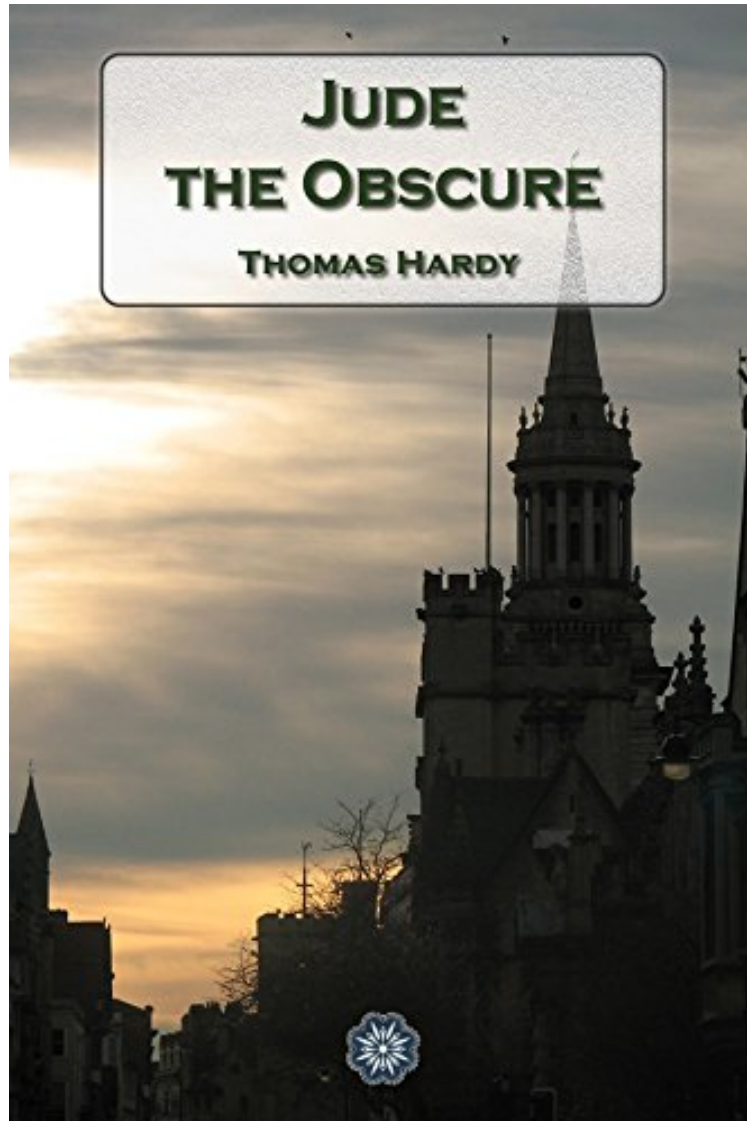


[Download pdf] Jude the Obscure

Jude the Obscure

Von Thomas Hardy

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Von Thomas Hardy : Jude the Obscure before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jude the Obscure:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen7 von 8 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A rainy story for pessimistsVon holly@witty.comPoor Jude, literally and figuratively. He is the ultimate trapped man waiting and hoping for redemption that never comes. He wants education, love, and a future for his children. These are all thwarted by both society and individuals. His first wife abandons him within weeks of their marriage. He eventually finds his one true love only to have her abandon him and deny herself and her love for him. He gives up any hope of

further education and burns and buries his books in his grief. His children are murdered and he is left alone to die. This book is wonderfully sad and depressing, perfect for a rainy weekend ALONE. This is not the book to read in the throes of love and optimism. Hardy's language draws you in and keeps you reading. I threw down the book five times in anger and frustration but HAD TO keep reading to find what happens next, I finished it within two days! The writing evokes the mood of the novel and the people involved so vividly that I could almost smell the pigs, hear the stonemason's tapping and feel the cold fog of Christminster. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Beautiful Reading by Jenny Sterlin Von Donald Mitchell "For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish." -- Galatians 5:17 (NKJV) I always avoided Jude the Obscure, largely due to its title that just doesn't appeal to me (although I like it better now after understanding its references). But with several long driving trips planned, I thought it would be worth giving it a shot with the unabridged CDs narrated by Jenny Sterlin for Recorded Books. I am happy I made that choice. I'm not sure I would have been able to finish reading the book, with its painful portrayals of how Jude Fawley and his cousin, Sue, struggle with trying to overcome the flesh to live spiritual lives. The morality that Thomas Hardy portrays isn't quite that simple, suggesting that perhaps the road to happiness includes more fleshly satisfactions than those who are committed to living in the spirit might enjoy. Ms. Sterlin's reading kept those conflicts fresher and more interesting for me than the printed page would have done. I found the book much more appealing in the beginning as Jude explored his dream of becoming a learned man . . . up until the time he met the manipulative flirt, Arabella. From then on, I found myself instead admiring the astonishing plot design more than I was immersed in feeling as though I identified with the characters or was attracted by Thomas Hardy's philosophies. Should you decide that Jude the Obscure is a must for your reading list, do yourself a favor and enjoy this reading. 4 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Hardy needed help! Von muchadoaboutlisa@yahoo.com When I first read this book, all I could think was "Oh my God. Another tragedy!" I've come to the conclusion after reading this, 'The Mayor of Casterbridge' and 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles', that Hardy must have either hated life, hated women, or both. However, my appreciation of this book has risen slightly since I have had to study it within the context of the ideologies it represents. (I am currently doing a unit on Victorian Ideologies at the best uni in Western Australia.) This still doesn't make the tragic ending any less horrific and unsatisfying and frustrating and just plain awful!!! Thinking about it now makes me cry! I couldn't cry when I was reading it because I was so mad! But in retrospect, how sad. Please take my advice and DO NOT read this book if you're feeling depressed! But for an insight into the ideologies that trapped both men and women of the Victorian era, 'Jude The Obscure' is certainly well worth a read.

Kurzbeschreibung "Jude the Obscure" is the last of Thomas Hardy's novels. Its hero, Jude Fawley, is a working-class young man who dreams of becoming a scholar. The other main character is his cousin, Sue Bridehead, who is also his central love interest. Themes include class, scholarship, religion, marriage, and the modernisation of thought and society. The novel develops multiple intertwined themes. Most controversially, during England's Victorian era, Hardy criticized revered institutions like marriage and Christianity. He also criticizes the bourgeois values associated with marriage through the tragedy of his star-crossed lovers, Jude and Sue, whose attempts to defy social conventions for the sake of love leads to their misery. Another major thematic focus of the novel is the issue of fixed class boundaries, particularly with regard to access to higher education for students from the working class. Although Jude wishes to attend the university, he can't afford to get his degree and is thereby shut out from having any economic mobility out of the working class. From Library Journal Jude the Obscure created storms of scandal and protest for the author upon its publication. Hardy, disgusted and disappointed, devoted the remainder of his life to poetry and never wrote another novel. Today, the material is far less shocking. Jude Fawley, a poor stone carver with aspirations toward an academic career, is thwarted at every turn and is finally forced to give up his dreams of a university education. He is tricked into an unwise marriage, and when his wife deserts him, he begins a relationship with a free-spirited cousin. With this begins the descent into bleak tragedy as the couple alternately defy and succumb to the pressures of a deeply disapproving society. Hardy's characters have a fascinating ambiguity: they are victimized by a stern moral code, but they are also selfish and weak-willed creatures who bring on much of their own difficulties through their own vacillations and submissions to impulse. The abridgment speeds Jude's fall to considerable dramatic effect, but it also deletes the author's agonizing logic. Instead of the meticulous weaving of Jude's destiny, we get a somewhat incoherent summary that preserves the major plot points but fails to draw us into the tragedy. Michael Pennington reads resonantly and skillfully, his voice perfectly matching the grim music of Hardy's prose, but this recording can only be recommended for larger public libraries. -John Owen, Advanced Micro Devices, Sunnyvale, CA Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. Pressestimmen "Cedric Watts's edition of Jude the Obscure is one of an extremely interesting set of literary works from Broadview Press, distinguished by wise editorial choices and inclusion of a variety of documents contemporary with the works. Watts is one of our era's most resourceful and level-headed analysts of literature, and his introduction richly sketches the angles of several controversies current in Hardy's time.

There are numerous selections from writings which influenced Hardy (science, philosophy, poems, the Bible) excerpts from essays and poems from the late nineteenth century, and materials in categories such as divorce, and university education, all of which amplify and add to Watts' comments, and stimulate thinking about Hardy and nineteenth-century subjects, as well as about our own time."--Dale Kramer

"This is an informative and scholarly edition of the novel which brings out its explosive nature, why it so scandalised Hardy's contemporaries. Professor Watts provides a clear, lively introduction, helpful notes and a wealth of material on the textual history of *Jude the Obscure*, its contemporary reception and its intellectual and social context. Readers of Hardy will find it immensely useful."--T.R. Wright

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