

# Tess of the D'urbervilles

*By Thomas Hardy*

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## **Tess of the D'urbervilles** By Thomas Hardy

Though it is now considered a masterpiece of English literature, Thomas Hardy's novel, "Tess of the d'Urbervilles", was originally at odds with the moral codes of Victorian England. Set in rural England in the last quarter of the 19th century, the novel was originally published in a censored version in the British weekly newspaper, "The Graphic ". However, when given the opportunity to publish the novel in book form, Hardy jumped at the chance to insert scenes that had been deleted in the serialized version. He also added the subtitle, "A Pure Woman" defiantly defending the purity of his heroine, Tess, in spite of her rape. Despite the controversy, the novel remains a brilliant tale of seduction, love, betrayal, and murder, and is regarded by many as Hardy's finest work.

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## **Tess of the D'urbervilles By Thomas Hardy Bibliography**

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Anna Bentinck ratchets up the melodrama for this full-blooded reading of Hardy's classic—a staple of high-school English classes everywhere. Students desperate to penetrate Hardy's notoriously slow masterpiece should turn to Bentinck, who gives it an intense emotional coloring. She makes Hardy sound like a brother to the Brontë sisters: passionate and brooding. Bentinck alternates between a crisp, precise narrative voice that sounds like Helen Mirren, and Tess's own voice, quavering, shallow and meek. Bentinck retains her composure throughout, and her assured performance may be a welcome rescue for struggling 11th graders across the country. (*June*)

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From Library Journal

This edition of the Hardy classic includes a complete authoritative text plus biographical and historical contexts, critical history, essays by five scholars, and a glossary. A fine scholarly edition for the academic crowd.

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Review

“[*Tess of the D'Urbervilles* is] Hardy's finest, most complex and most notorious novel . . . The novel is not a mere plea for compassion for the eternal victim, though that is the banner it flies. It also involves a profound questioning of contemporary morality.” –from the Introduction by Patricia Ingham

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Nathan Jackson:**

Book is written, printed, or outlined for everything. You can understand everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. We all know that that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Close to that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A guide Tess of the D'urbervilles will make you to end up being smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about almost everything. But some of you think in which open or reading some sort of book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they can be thought like that? Have you searching for best book or acceptable book with you?

**Mary Killgore:**

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**Kay Newberry:**

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**Diana Slama:**

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