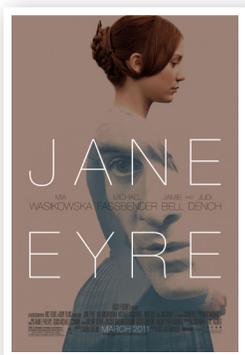




Jane Eyre

Synopsis



In the 19th Century-set story, Jane Eyre suddenly flees Thornfield Hall, the vast and isolated estate where she works as a governess for Adèle Varens, a child under the custody of Thornfield's brooding master, Edward Rochester. The imposing residence – and Rochester's own imposing nature – have sorely tested her resilience. With nowhere else to go, she is extended a helping hand by clergyman St. John Rivers and his family. As she recuperates in the Rivers' Moor House and looks back upon the tumultuous events that led to her escape, Jane wonders if the past is ever truly past.

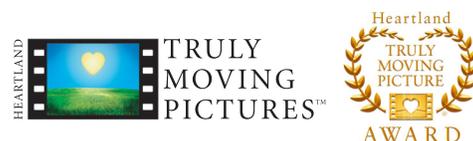
Discussion Questions

- Had you read the novel *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë before viewing this adaptation of the film? If so, how did reading the book impact your appreciation of the film? If not, are you now inspired to read the novel?
- How did this adaptation of the film differ from other adaptations you might have seen in the past? What elements of this version stood out as unique to this interpretation?
- For a novel written in the 1800s, what do you think of the character of Jane Eyre? Does she impress you as a strong female character? If *Jane Eyre* had been written today, do you believe her character would still be considered strong? Why?
- What events led to Jane running away from Thornfield? What series of events led to Jane leaving her new, safe life with St. John Rivers and his family and returning to Thornfield?
- A visually stunning movie, *Jane Eyre* is both beautiful and haunting. How did some of the visual elements of the film affect your viewing and appreciation of Jane's story and circumstances?
- In the end, Jane returns to Rochester. How did you view her return to him?



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Jane Eyre

Do Your Research

- *Jane Eyre* was written by Charlotte Brontë in 1847. Are you familiar with the work of Charlotte Brontë? What about the work of Emily or Anne Brontë? Research these three sisters and learn the impact they each had on literature during their tragically short lives during the 1800s.
- Charlotte Brontë wrote *Jane Eyre* under a pen name. Do some research about other authors who have written under pen names. Why do you believe Brontë used a pen name?
- Research peers of Charlotte Brontë. What were her contemporaries writing about? What other timeless tales were created during the time during which *Jane Eyre* was written?
- Research other strong female characters in literature throughout the ages? Of these strong female characters, who are some of your favorite? Why?

Get Involved

- Jane is a governess. She gives her pupil Adèle not only an education, but also the attention and kindness she desperately needs. The work that teachers and mentors do goes well beyond education. These individuals can impact the lives of children and teens in very important ways. Find a school or afterschool organization in your community where you can become a reading tutor or be simply a friend to a youth who needs you.



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