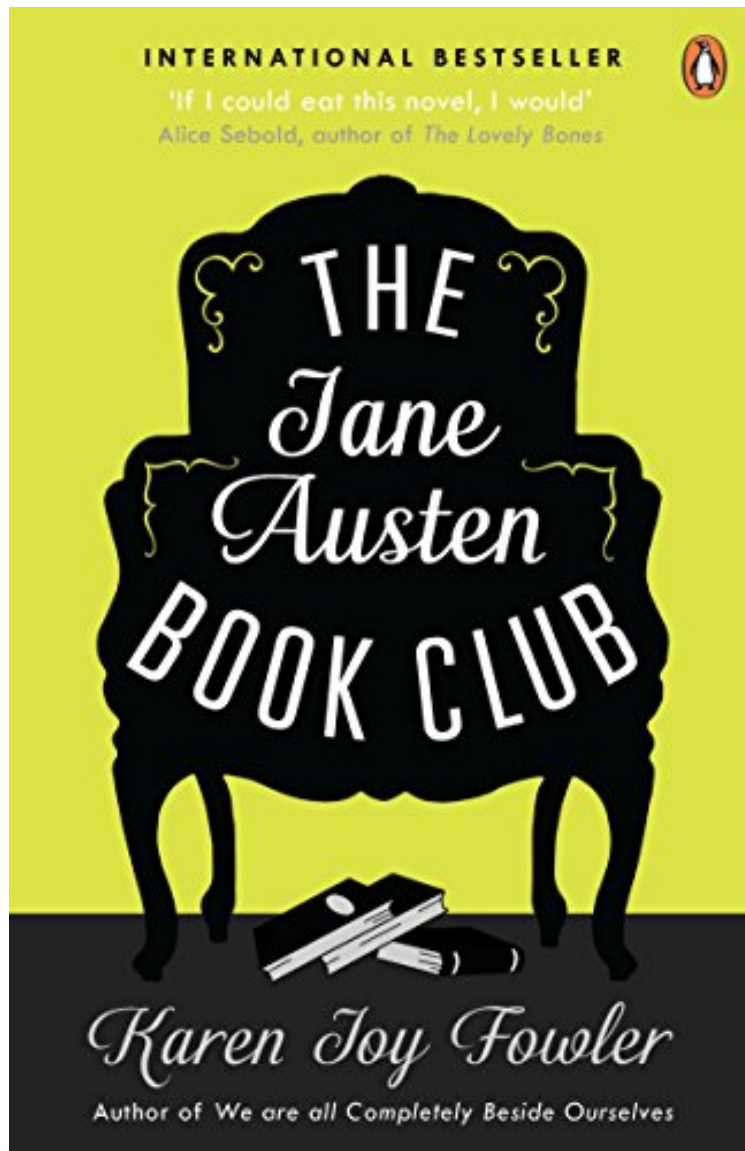


(Free pdf) The Jane Austen Book Club

## The Jane Austen Book Club

Von *Karen Joy Fowler*  
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**Von Karen Joy Fowler : The Jane Austen Book Club** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The 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 A moving, wise and delightfully modern comedy of manners from the bestselling, Man Booker shortlisted author Karen Joy Fowler. Six people - five women and a man - meet once a month in California's Central Valley to discuss Jane Austen's novels. They are ordinary people, neither happy nor unhappy, but each of them is wounded in different ways, they are all mixed up about their lives and relationships. Over the six months they meet, marriages are tested, affairs begin, unsuitable arrangements become suitable - under the guiding eye of Jane Austen a couple of them even fall in love... 'A thoroughly delightful comedy of contemporary manners' Entertainment Weekly Karen Joy Fowler is the Man Booker shortlisted, bestselling author of *Sister Noon* (a PEN/Faulkner prize finalist), *Sarah Canary*, *The Sweetheart Season*, *The Jane Austen Book Club*, *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* and the story collection *Black Glass*. She is a PEN/Faulkner Prize finalist and lives in Davis and Santa Cruz, California. 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