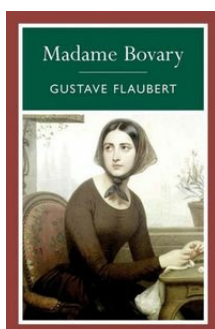


MADAME BOVARY

The novel, with the subtitle *Moeurs de province* ("Provincial Customs"), first appeared in installments in the *Revue* from October 1 to December 15, 1856. It ushered in a new age of realism in literature. In *Madame Bovary*, Flaubert took a commonplace story of adultery and made of it a book that has continued to be read because of its profound humanity. Emma Bovary is a bored and unhappy middle-class wife whose general dissatisfaction with life...



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Madame Bovary

Author	Gustave Flaubert
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Peek Inside the Book

What baffled him was that there should be all this fuss about something so simple as love. Gustave Flaubert, *Madame Bovary* //

Reader's Opinions

Before marriage she thought herself in love; but the happiness that should have followed this love not having come, she must, she thought, have been mistaken. And Emma tried to find out what one meant exactly in life by the words felicity, passion, rapture, that had seemed to her so beautiful in books. You might be surprised to learn...

Perhaps she would have liked to confide in someone about all these things. But how does one express an uneasiness so intangible, one that changes shape like a cloud, that changes direction like the wind? She lacked the words, the occasion, the courage. Some blame it on novels packed with sentimentalist kitsch; some point out her too-lofty...