



Fanny Burney

Cecilia: Memoirs of an Heiress

### Cecilia: Memoirs of an Heiress

By Fanny Burney (1752-1840)

The plot of *Cecilia* revolves around the heroine, Cecilia Beverley, whose inheritance from her uncle comes with the stipulation that she find a husband who will accept her name. This proves impossible, and she gives up her fortune to marry for love.

Jane Austen referred to *Cecilia* and other novels in her novel, *Northanger Abbey*: "And what are you reading, Miss — ?" 'Oh! It is only a novel!' replies the young lady, while she lays down her book with affected indifference, or momentary shame. 'It is only *Cecilia*, or *Camilla*, or *Belinda*'; or, in short, only some work in which the greatest powers of the mind are displayed, in which the most thorough knowledge of human nature, the happiest delineation of its varieties, the liveliest effusions of wit and humour, are conveyed to the world in the best-chosen language. The title of Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* may have been inspired by a passage at the end of *Cecilia*: "remember: if to pride and prejudice you owe your miseries, so wonderfully is good and evil balanced, that to pride and prejudice you will also owe their termination." (Summary adapted from Wikipedia by Karen Merline)

Total running time: 35:49:39. Book Coordinator: Stav Nisser. Dedicated Proof-Listener: Kehinde, Meta-Coordinator/Cataloging: Mary Anderson. Read by Nikki Sullivan, Missie, Chris Jones, Samatha Di Piero, kristiface, Dawn, Amanda Hindman, valli, Janna, Christine Blachford, Lucy Burgoyne, Bereni, MorganScorpion, Ezwa, Linda McDaniel, Bridget Gage, Raerity, Linda Lee Paquet, Edith Phern, Julie VW, Michelle Crandall, Becca B, Neeru Iyer, Sarah Prusoff, & Frances Marcinkiewicz.

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