

WORDSWORTH CLASSICS

Tom Jones

HENRY FIELDING



COMPLETE AND UNABRIDGED

The History of
TOM JONES
A Foundling

◆

Henry Fielding

With an Introduction and Notes by
DOREEN ROBERTS
University of Kent at Canterbury



WORDSWORTH CLASSICS

First published 1992 by Wordsworth Editions Limited
8b East Street, Ware, Hertfordshire SG12 9HJ
New introduction and notes added in 1999

Text © Wordsworth Editions Limited 1992
Introduction and notes © Doreen Roberts 1999

ISBN 1 85326 021 5

Wordsworth® is a registered trade mark of
Wordsworth Editions Ltd

4 6 8 10 9 7 5 3

All rights reserved. This publication may not be reproduced, stored
in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means,
electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise,
without the prior permission of the publishers.

Typeset by Antony Gray
Printed and bound in Great Britain
by Mackays of Chatham plc, Chatham. Kent

CONTENTS

BOOK I

Containing as much of the birth of the foundling as is necessary or proper to acquaint the reader with in the beginning of this history

I	<i>The introduction to the work, or bill of fare to the feast</i>	7
II	<i>A short description of squire Allworthy, and a fuller account of Miss Bridget Allworthy, his sister</i>	9
III	<i>An odd accident which befel Mr Allworthy at his return home. The decent behaviour of Mrs Deborah Wilkins, with some proper animadversions on bastards</i>	10
IV	<i>The reader's neck brought into danger by a description; his escape; and the great condescension of Miss Bridget Allworthy</i>	13
V	<i>Containing a few common matters, with a very uncommon observation upon them</i>	15
VI	<i>Mrs Deborah is introduced into the parish with a simile. A short account of Jenny Jones, with the difficulties and discouragements which may attend young women in the pursuit of learning</i>	16
VII	<i>Containing such grave matter, that the reader cannot laugh once through the whole chapter, unless peradventure he should laugh at the author</i>	20
VIII	<i>A dialogue between Mesdames Bridget and Deborah; containing more amusement, but less instruction, than the former</i>	23
IX	<i>Containing matters which will surprise the reader</i>	25
X	<i>The hospitality of Allworthy; with a short sketch of the characters of two brothers, a doctor and a captain, who were entertained by that gentleman</i>	27
XI	<i>Containing many rules, and some examples, concerning falling in love: descriptions of beauty, and other more prudential inducements to matrimony</i>	30
XII	<i>Containing what the reader may, perhaps, expect to find in it</i>	33
XIII	<i>Which concludes the first book; with an instance of ingratitude, which, we hope, will appear unnatural</i>	36

BOOK II

Containing scenes of matrimonial felicity in different degrees of life; and various other transactions during the first two years after the marriage between Captain Blifil and Miss Bridget Allworthy

- I *Showing what kind of a history this is; what it is like, and what it is not like* 39
- II *Religious cautions against showing too much favour to bastards; and a great discovery made by Mrs Deborah Wilkins* 40
- III *The description of a domestic government founded upon rules directly contrary to those of Aristotle* 42
- IV *Containing one of the most bloody battles, or rather duels, that were ever recorded in domestic history* 45
- V *Containing much matter to exercise the judgement and reflection of the reader* 49
- VI *The trial of Partridge, the schoolmaster, for incontinency; the evidence of his wife; a short reflection on the wisdom of our law; with other grave matters, which those will like best who understand them most* 53
- VII *A short sketch of that felicity which prudent couples may extract from hatred: with a short apology for those people who overlook imperfections in their friends* 58
- VIII *A receipt to regain the lost affections of a wife, which hath never been known to fail in the most desperate cases* 61
- IX *A proof of the infallibility of the foregoing receipt, in the lamentations of the widow; with other suitable decorations of death, such as physicians, etc., and an epitaph in the true stile* 63

BOOK III

Containing the most memorable transactions which passed in the family of Mr Allworthy, from the time when Tommy Jones arrived at the age of fourteen, till he attained the age of nineteen. In this book the reader may pick up some hints concerning the education of children

- I *Containing little or nothing* 67
- II *The heroine of this great history appears with very bad omens. A little tale of so low a kind that some may think it not worth their notice. A word or two concerning a squire, and more relating to a gamekeeper and a schoolmaster* 68
- III *The character of Mr Square the philosopher, and of Mr Thwackum the divine; with a dispute concerning —* 73
- IV *Containing a necessary apology for the author; and a childish*

	<i>incident, which perhaps requires an apology likewise</i>	75
v	<i>The opinions of the divine and the philosopher concerning the two boys; with some reasons for their opinions, and other matters</i>	77
vi	<i>Containing a better reason still for the before-mentioned opinions</i>	81
vii	<i>In which the author himself makes his appearance on the stage</i>	84
viii	<i>A childish incident, in which, however, is seen a good-natured disposition in Tom Jones</i>	85
ix	<i>Containing an incident of a more heinous kind, with the comments of Thwackum and Square</i>	87
x	<i>In which Master Blifil and Jones appear in different lights</i>	89

BOOK IV

Containing the time of year

i	<i>Containing five pages of paper</i>	93
ii	<i>A short hint of what we can do in the sublime, and a description of Miss Sophia Western</i>	95
iii	<i>Wherein the history goes back to commemorate a trifling incident that happened some years since; but which, trifling as it was, has some future consequences</i>	98
iv	<i>Containing such very deep and grave matters, that some readers, perhaps, may not relish</i>	100
v	<i>Containing matter accommodated to every taste</i>	102
vi	<i>An apology for the insensibility of Mr Jones to all the charms of the lovely Sophia; in which possibly we may, in a considerable degree, lower his character in the estimation of those men of wit and gallantry who approve the heroes in most of our modern comedies</i>	107
vii	<i>Being the shortest in this book</i>	110
viii	<i>A battle sung by the muse in the Homerican stile, and which none but the classical reader can taste</i>	111
ix	<i>Containing matter of no very peaceable colour</i>	115
x	<i>A story told by Mr Supple, the curate. The penetration of Squire Western. His great love for his daughter and the return to it made by her</i>	118
xi	<i>The narrow escape of Molly Seagrim, with some observations for which we have been forced to dive pretty deep into nature</i>	121
xii	<i>Containing much clearer matters; but which flowed from the same fountain with those in the preceding chapter</i>	125
xiii	<i>A dreadful accident which befel Sophia. The gallant behaviour of Jones, and the more dreadful consequence of that behaviour</i>	

	<i>to the young lady; with a short digression in favour of the female sex</i>	127
XIV	<i>The arrival of a surgeon. — His operations, and a long dialogue between Sophia and her maid</i>	130

BOOK V

Containing a portion of time somewhat longer than half a year

I	<i>Of the serious in writing, and for what purpose it is introduced</i>	135
II	<i>In which Mr Jones receives many friendly visits during his confinement; with some fine touches of the passion of love, scarce visible to the naked eye</i>	138
III	<i>Which all who have no heart will think to contain much ado about nothing</i>	142
IV	<i>A little chapter, in which is contained a little incident</i>	144
V	<i>A very long chapter, containing a very great incident</i>	146
VI	<i>By comparing which with the former, the reader may possibly correct some abuse which he hath formerly been guilty of in the application of the word love</i>	152
VII	<i>In which Mr Allworthy appears on a sick-bed</i>	157
VIII	<i>Containing matter rather natural than pleasing</i>	161
IX	<i>Which among other things, may serve as a comment on that saying of Æschines, that 'drunkenness shows the mind of a man, as a mirror reflects his person'</i>	165
X	<i>Showing the truth of many observations of Ovid, and of other more grave writers, who have proved beyond contradiction, that wine is often the forerunner of incontinency</i>	169
XI	<i>In which a simile in Mr Pope's period of a mile introduces as bloody a battle as can possibly be fought without the assistance of steel or cold iron</i>	171
XII	<i>In which is seen a more moving spectacle than all the blood in the bodies of Thwackum and Blifil, and of twenty other such, is capable of producing</i>	174

BOOK VI

Containing about three weeks

I	<i>Of love</i>	179
II	<i>The character of Mrs Western. Her great learning and knowledge of the world, and an instance of the deep penetration which she derived from those advantages</i>	181
III	<i>Containing two defiances to the critics</i>	186

IV	<i>Containing sundry curious matters</i>	189
V	<i>In which is related what passed between Sophia and her aunt</i>	191
VI	<i>Containing a dialogue between Sophia and Mrs Honour, which may a little relieve those tender affections which the foregoing scene may have raised in the mind of a good-natured reader</i>	194
VII	<i>A picture of formal courtship in miniature, as it always ought to be drawn, and a scene of a tenderer kind painted at full length</i>	197
VIII	<i>The meeting between Jones and Sophia</i>	200
IX	<i>Being of a much more tempestuous kind than the former</i>	202
X	<i>In which Mr Western visits Mr Alworthy</i>	205
XI	<i>A short chapter; but which contains sufficient matter to affect the good-natured reader</i>	209
XII	<i>Containing love-letters, etc.</i>	211
XIII	<i>The behaviour of Sophia on the present occasion; which none of her sex will blame, who are capable of behaving in the same manner. And the discussion of a knotty point in the court of conscience</i>	214
XIV	<i>A short chapter, containing a short dialogue between Squire Western and his sister</i>	217

BOOK VII

Containing about three days

I	<i>A comparison between the world and the stage</i>	219
II	<i>Containing a conversation which Mr Jones had with himself</i>	222
III	<i>Containing several dialogues</i>	224
IV	<i>A picture of a country gentlewoman taken from the life</i>	228
V	<i>The generous behaviour of Sophia towards her aunt</i>	230
VI	<i>Containing great variety of matter</i>	232
VII	<i>A strange resolution of Sophia</i>	236
VIII	<i>Containing scenes of altercation, of no very uncommon kind</i>	240
IX	<i>The wise demeanour of Mr Western in the character of a magistrate. A hint to justices of peace, concerning the necessary qualifications of a clerk; with extraordinary instances of paternal madness and filial affection</i>	243
X	<i>Containing several matters, natural enough, perhaps, but low</i>	246
XI	<i>The adventure of a company of soldiers</i>	250
XII	<i>The adventure of a company of officers</i>	253
XIII	<i>Containing the great address of the landlady, the great learning of a surgeon, and the solid skill in casuistry of the worthy lieutenant</i>	259

XIV	<i>A most dreadful chapter indeed; and which few readers ought to venture upon in an evening, especially when alone</i>	263
XV	<i>The conclusion of the foregoing adventure</i>	268

BOOK VIII

Containing about two days

I	<i>A wonderful long chapter concerning the marvellous; being much the longest of all our introductory chapters</i>	273
II	<i>In which the landlady pays a visit to Mr Jones</i>	278
III	<i>In which the surgeon makes his second appearance</i>	281
IV	<i>In which is introduced one of the pleasantest barbers that was ever recorded in history, the barber of Bagdad, or he in Don Quixote, not excepted</i>	283
V	<i>A dialogue between Mr Jones and the barber</i>	286
VI	<i>In which more of the talents of Mr Benjamin will appear, as well as who this extraordinary person was</i>	289
VII	<i>Containing better reasons than any which have yet appeared for the conduct of Partridge; an apology for the weakness of Jones; and some farther anecdotes concerning my landlady</i>	292
VIII	<i>Jones arrives at Gloucester, and goes to the Bell; the character of that house, and of a petty-fogger which he there meets with</i>	295
IX	<i>Containing several dialogues between Jones and Partridge, concerning love, cold, hunger, and other matters; with the lucky and narrow escape of Partridge, as he was on the very brink of making a fatal discovery to his friend</i>	299
X	<i>In which our travellers meet with a very extraordinary adventure</i>	303
XI	<i>In which the Man of the Hill begins to relate his history</i>	309
XII	<i>In which the Man of the Hill continues his history</i>	316
XIII	<i>In which the foregoing story is farther continued</i>	321
XIV	<i>In which the Man of the Hill concludes his history</i>	326
XV	<i>A brief history of Europe; and a curious discourse between Mr Jones and the Man of the Hill</i>	331

BOOK IX

Containing twelve hours

I	<i>Of those who lawfully may, and of those who may not, write such histories as this</i>	337
II	<i>Containing a very surprising adventure indeed, which Mr Jones met with in his walk with the Man of the Hill</i>	341

III	<i>The arrival of Mr Jones with his lady at the inn; with a very full description of the battle of Upton</i>	344
IV	<i>In which the arrival of a man of war puts a final end to hostilities, and causes the conclusion of a firm and lasting peace between all parties</i>	348
V	<i>An apology for all heroes who have good stomachs, with a description of a battle of the amorous king</i>	352
VI	<i>A friendly conversation in the kitchen, which had a very common, though not very friendly, conclusion</i>	355
VII	<i>Containing a fuller account of Mrs Waters, and by what means she came into that distressful situation from which she was rescued by Jones</i>	359

BOOK X

In which the history goes forward about twelve hours

I	<i>Containing instructions very necessary to be perused by modern critics</i>	363
II	<i>Containing the arrival of an Irish gentlemen, with very extraordinary adventures which ensued at the inn</i>	365
III	<i>A dialogue between the landlady and Susan the chambermaid, proper to be read by all inn-keepers and their servants; with the arrival, and affable behaviour of a beautiful young lady; which may teach persons of condition how they may acquire the love of the whole world</i>	369
IV	<i>Containing infallible nostrums for procuring universal disesteem and hatred</i>	373
V	<i>Showing who the amiable lady, and her unamiable maid were</i>	376
VI	<i>Containing, among other things, the ingenuity of Partridge, the madness of Jones, and the folly of Fitzpatrick</i>	379
VII	<i>In which are concluded the adventures that happened at the inn at Upton</i>	383
VIII	<i>In which the history goes backwards</i>	386
IX	<i>The escape of Sophia</i>	389

BOOK XI

Containing about three days

I	<i>A crust for the critics</i>	395
II	<i>The adventures which Sophia met with after her leaving Upton</i>	398
III	<i>A very short chapter, in which however, is a sun, a moon, a star, and an angel</i>	404

IV	<i>The history of Mrs Fitzpatrick</i>	406
V	<i>In which the history of Mrs Fitzpatrick is continued</i>	410
VI	<i>In which the mistake of the landlord throws Sophia into a dreadful consternation</i>	414
VII	<i>In which Mrs Fitzpatrick concludes her history</i>	416
VIII	<i>A dreadful alarm in the inn, with the arrival of an unexpected friend of Mrs Fitzpatrick</i>	422
IX	<i>The morning introduced in some pretty writing. A stage-coach. The civility of chambermaids. The heroic temper of Sophia. Her generosity. The return to it. The departure of the company, and their arrival at London; with some remarks for the use of travellers</i>	427
X	<i>Containing a hint or two concerning virtue, and a few more concerning suspicion</i>	431

BOOK XII

Containing the same individual time with the former

I	<i>Showing what is to be deemed plagiarism in a modern author, and what is to be considered as lawful prize</i>	435
II	<i>In which, though the squire doth not find his daughter, something is found which puts an end to his pursuit</i>	437
III	<i>The departure of Jones from Upton, with what passed between him and Partridge on the road</i>	440
IV	<i>The adventure of a beggar-man</i>	444
V	<i>Containing more adventures which Mr Jones and his companion met on the road</i>	447
VI	<i>From which it may be inferred that the best things are liable to be misunderstood and misinterpreted</i>	450
VII	<i>Containing a remark or two of our own, and many more of the good company assembled in the kitchen</i>	452
VIII	<i>In which fortune seems to have been in a better humour with Jones than we have hitherto seen her</i>	457
IX	<i>Containing little more than a few observations</i>	460
X	<i>In which Mr Jones and Mr Dowling drink a bottle together</i>	463
XI	<i>The disasters which befel Jones on his departure for Coventry; with the sage remarks of Partridge</i>	467
XII	<i>Relates that Mr Jones continued his journey, contrary to the advice of Partridge, with what happened on that occasion</i>	469
XIII	<i>A dialogue between Jones and Partridge</i>	475
XIV	<i>What happened to Mr Jones on his journey from St Albans</i>	479

BOOK XIII

Containing the space of twelve days

I	An invocation	483
II	What befel Mr Jones on his arrival in London	485
III	A project of Mrs Fitzpatrick, and her visit to Lady Bellaston	489
IV	Which consists of visiting	492
V	An adventure which happened to Mr Jones at his lodgings, with some account of a young gentleman who lodged there, and of the mistress of the house, and her two daughters	494
VI	What arrived while the company were at breakfast, with some hints concerning the government of daughters	498
VII	Containing the whole humours of a masquerade	503
VIII	Containing a scene of distress, which will appear very extraordinary to most of our readers	507
IX	Which treats of matters of a very different kind from those in the preceding chapter	510
X	A chapter which, though short, may draw tears from some eyes	513
XI	In which the reader will be surprised	515
XII	In which the thirteenth book is concluded	520

BOOK XIV

Containing two days

I	An essay to prove that an author will write the better for having some knowledge of the subject on which he writes	523
II	Containing letters and other matters which attend amours	526
III	Containing various matters	530
IV	Which we hope will be very attentively perused by young people of both sexes	533
V	A short account of the history of Mrs Miller	536
VI	Containing a scene which we doubt not will affect all our readers	539
VII	The interview between Mr Jones and Mr Nightingale	543
VIII	What passed between Jones and old Mr Nightingale; with the arrival of a person not yet mentioned in this history	547
IX	Containing strange matters	552
X	A short chapter, which concludes the book	555

BOOK XV

In which the history advances about two days

I	<i>Too short to need a preface</i>	557
II	<i>In which is opened a very black design against Sophia</i>	558
III	<i>A further explanation of the foregoing design</i>	561
IV	<i>By which it will appear how dangerous an advocate a lady is when she applies her eloquence to an ill purpose</i>	565
V	<i>Containing some matters which may affect, and others which may surprise, the reader</i>	566
VI	<i>By what means the Squire came to discover his daughter</i>	571
VII	<i>In which various misfortunes befel poor Jones</i>	575
VIII	<i>Short and sweet</i>	580
IX	<i>Containing love letters of several sorts</i>	582
X	<i>Consisting partly of facts, and partly of observations upon them</i>	587
XI	<i>Containing curious, but not unprecedented matter</i>	590
XII	<i>A discovery made by Partridge</i>	592

BOOK XVI

Containing the space of five days

I	<i>Of prologues</i>	595
II	<i>A whimsical adventure which befel the Squire, with the distressed situation of Sophia</i>	596
III	<i>What happened to Sophia during her confinement</i>	602
IV	<i>In which Sophia is delivered from her confinement</i>	605
V	<i>In which Jones receives a letter from Sophia, and goes to a play with Mrs Miller and Partridge</i>	608
VI	<i>In which the history is obliged to look back</i>	614
VII	<i>In which Mr Western pays a visit to his sister, in company with Mr Blifil</i>	616
VIII	<i>Schemes of Lady Bellaston for the ruin of Jones</i>	618
IX	<i>In which Jones pays a visit to Mrs Fitzpatrick</i>	621
X	<i>The consequence of the preceding visit</i>	625

BOOK XVII

Containing three days

I	<i>Containing a portion of introductory writing</i>	629
II	<i>The generous and grateful behaviour of Mrs Miller</i>	630
III	<i>The arrival of Mr Western, with some matters concerning the paternal authority</i>	633

IV	<i>An extraordinary scene between Sophia and her aunt</i>	638
V	<i>Mrs Miller and Mr Nightingale visit Jones in the prison</i>	642
VI	<i>In which Mrs Miller pays a visit to Sophia</i>	644
VII	<i>A pathetic scene between Mr Alkworthy and Mrs Miller</i>	647
VIII	<i>Containing various matters</i>	649
IX	<i>What happened to Mr Jones in the prison</i>	654

BOOK XVIII

Containing about six days

I	<i>A farewell to the reader</i>	659
II	<i>Containing a very tragical incident</i>	660
III	<i>Alkworthy visits old Nightingale; with a strange discovery that be made on that occasion</i>	664
IV	<i>Containing two letters in very different styles</i>	667
V	<i>In which the history is continued</i>	670
VI	<i>In which the history is farther continued</i>	675
VII	<i>Continuation of the history</i>	678
VIII	<i>Further continuation</i>	681
IX	<i>A further continuation</i>	688
X	<i>Wherein the history begins to draw towards a conclusion</i>	693
XI	<i>The history draws nearer to a conclusion</i>	697
XII	<i>Approaching still nearer to the end</i>	702
THE LAST	<i>In which the history is concluded</i>	707

GLOSSARY	712
----------	-----

NOTES TO THE TEXT	714
-------------------	-----

TOM JONES

TO THE HONOURABLE
GEORGE LYTTLETON, ESQ;¹
ONE OF THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE TREASURY

SIR – Notwithstanding your constant refusal, when I have asked leave to prefix your name to this dedication, I must still insist on my right to desire your protection of this work.

To you, Sir, it is owing that this history was ever begun. It was by your desire that I first thought of such a composition. So many years have since passed, that you may have, perhaps, forgotten this circumstance: but your desires are to me in the nature of commands; and the impression of them is never to be erased from my memory.

Again, Sir, without your assistance this history had never been completed. Be not startled at the assertion. I do not intend to draw on you the suspicion of being a romance writer. I mean no more than that I partly owe to you my existence during great part of the time which I have employed in composing it: another matter which it may be necessary to remind you of; since there are certain actions of which you are apt to be extremely forgetful; but of these I hope I shall always have a better memory than yourself.

Lastly, It is owing to you that the history appears what it now is. If there be in this work, as some have been pleased to say, a stronger picture of a truly benevolent mind than is to be found in any other, who that knows you, and a particular acquaintance² of yours, will doubt whence that benevolence hath been copied? The world will not, I believe, make me the compliment of thinking I took it from myself. I care not: this they shall own, that the two persons from whom I have taken it, that is to say, two of the best, and worthiest men in the world, are strongly and zealously my friends. I might be contented with this, and yet my vanity will add a third to the number; and him one of the greatest and noblest, not only in his rank, but in every public and private virtue. But here,