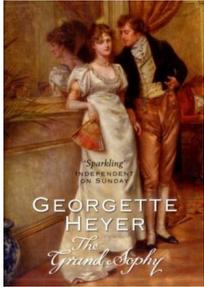




Discussion Guide

About the Book



Book Title: *The Grand Sophy*

Author: Georgette Heyer

Published by: Heineman, London, 1950

Author Website: <http://www.georgette-heyer.com/>

Questions for Discussion

1. What were your general impressions of this book?
2. A novel like this transports you into a different time and place. What do you think of Regency England? Would you like to live there? Why or why not?
3. What did you think of the language in the book? Did it make it difficult to follow the story?
4. Have you read other Regency England novels? If so, how does this compare to them?
5. Which of the characters did you most identify with and why?
6. Did the book seem predictable to you? Why or why not?
7. Heyer seems particularly skilled at the use of humor. What were some funny episodes you enjoyed in this book? What did she do to make you laugh?
8. Read over the MAMs comments on the book. Which of them do you most agree with and why?
9. In what ways, if any, will this book change your life or perspective?

Other Links...

Read more about the Regency Romance Genre here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regency_romance

Plot summary of *The Grand Sophy* Top 9 Facts; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EO4ugHDQs8>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Georgette-Heyer/111952292154314#>

Georgette Heyer Tribute: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXn9mYEQgs>

NANCY: *"You have fallen into a fit of despondency, and there is not the least need! In fact, nothing could be more fatal, in any predicament! It encourages one to suppose that there is nothing to be done, when a little resolution is all that is wanted to bring matters to a happy conclusion."*



A very fun book! I enjoyed getting back into the romance genre where the MAMs started and where I have escaped many times. Once again I see the familiar pattern that romance bashers seem to ignore. This genre resounds with strong heroines overcoming obstacles to set life aright. In this novel, Georgette Heyer introduces us to delightful problem solver who throws the English Regency society to the wind and captures the heart of those ready to do likewise. And once again the female lead doesn't need a man but attracts one who enjoys her spunk and nonconventional ways. Hats off to Heyer who reminds me that I need to read romance novels now and again to add some enjoyment to my life.



SALLIE: *"Cecy, help me to collect the ducklings, and put them back into the box! If we were to place your muff on top of them they will very likely believe it to be their mother, and settle down!"*

Always I look at the children and Sophy did, too. So of course I fell in love with the Grand Sophy and rooted for her against the evil fiancé of her cousin. She brought them a monkey, nursed the sick one and always gave them some fun. My kind of MAM!



ABIGAIL: *"I find it a marvellous circumstance, cousin, that no one has yet strangled you!"*

Hilarious novel. I laughed so hard. Thank you, Georgette, for such a funny read.



MOLLY: *"It is abominable, Sophy!" ... "Yes, if the motive were not pure!"*

Well, the English ton society was very class oriented. Did you notice how they put down people without money? I would not have liked to live in this era one bit. All about titles, inheritance, who's who. And that scene with the money lender, Goldhanger, really portrayed Jewish people in a negative light. I understand that has been cut from some editions because of the outcry of the Anti-Semitism in that scene. But Sophy seemed to transcend it all and find a way through to love. Yes, I liked Sophy!



PRISCILLA: *"Your strength lies in being precisely the kind of man who can procure one a chair when it has come on to rain."* Oh my! Those Victorians were very proper, weren't they? I think I would have fit into that era very well. I'm more Euphenia than Sophia. I wish our society were a little more those Regency English today.



KATHARINE: *"He never allowed himself to think about unpleasant things, which answered very well, and could be supported in times of really inescapable stress by his genius for persuading himself that any disagreeable necessity forced upon him by his own folly, or his son's overriding will, was the outcome of his own choice and wise decision."*

The old English language in this book eloquently expressed the humorous banter among this gentry people. So I just really enjoyed her expertise in using this archaic form of English in the novel. It's worth reading just for the language!



JANE: *"Is it not unsupportable to be held down to a canter when you long to gallop for miles?"*

Straight up, Sophy! She's my kind of MAM, too, because of the way she flew in the face of convention, buying her own horses and high carriage, taking care of business, meddling in affairs and getting her way, the better way. I agree with Nancy. Once again the feminist shines victorious in the romance genre.