



# Tess of the D'Urbervilles (Penguin Classics)

*Thomas Hardy*

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**Tess of the D'Urbervilles (Penguin Classics)** Thomas Hardy

**A heartbreaking portrayal of a woman faced by an impossible choice in the pursuit of happiness**

When Tess Durbeyfield is driven by family poverty to claim kinship with the wealthy D'Urbervilles and seek a portion of their family fortune, meeting her 'cousin' Alec proves to be her downfall. A very different man, Angel Clare, seems to offer her love and salvation, but Tess must choose whether to reveal her past or remain silent in the hope of a peaceful future. With its sensitive depiction of the wronged Tess and powerful criticism of social convention, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, subtitled "A Pure Woman," is one of the most moving and poetic of Hardy's novels.

Based on the three-volume first edition that shocked readers when first published in 1891, this edition includes as appendices: Hardy's Prefaces, the Landscapes of Tess, episodes originally censored from the Graphic periodical version, and a selection of the Graphic illustrations.

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