Pamela, Or Virtue Rewarded
Samuel Richardson’s epistolary novel Pamela, or Virtue Rewarded, published in 1740, tells the story of a young woman’s resistance to the desires of her predatory master. Pamela is determined to protect her virginity and remain a paragon of virtue; however, the heroine’s moral principles only strengthen the resolve of Mr. B and Pamela soon finds herself imprisoned against her will. The young woman’s affection for her captor gradually grows and she becomes aware of a love that combines eros and agape. Richardson’s classic novel created a sensation upon its publication: the novel’s radical departure from the traditional comic plot violated convention and its portrayal of a young female servant daring to assert herself proved to be even more controversial. Clare Corbett and cast read from the original, unrevised text that left an indelible mark on the conscience of an entire nation.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

I am writing this a few months after having read the ENTIRE book and must now give the book a higher rating overall. Once you get past the convoluted manner of writing and speech, this book is actually quite DELIGHTFUL and is a valuable artifact. The manner of speech, clothing, social mores are nicely illustrated in the prose, as well as male-female relationships, brother-sister, wife/sister-in-law...some things are quite different from today and others show that human nature is the same regardless of time periods, country, culture etc. Since I was not under any time or classroom pressure to finish the book, I actually found it to be a bit of a treasure and certainly more
than I was lead to believe. I now understand why it is considered a "classic". I would recommend to someone who enjoys: Dickens, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy...anyone who enjoys long books, that expound on human nature in detail will truly enjoy this book. I am reading this book to help a friend of mine out and out of curiosity. What's that expression "Curiosity killed the..."; in this case almost bored to sleep...just kidding (guess i'm just exhausted). Anyhow the prose is rather convoluted which I suppose is a mirror of the language used at the time. The story is written in the form of letters to the young teen's parents in the spoken voice so sometimes have to reread as she is quoting what is being said to her and this is unclear on first reading. What keeps the reader going is whether or not she will eventually fall victim to the "wiles" of the perverse "master" (olden 50 shades of...ho hum) as well as wondering about the sincerity of someone who clearly is uncomfortable but sticking around for the "ride"...

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