

## LEVEL 5: JAMAICA INN Read Free



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Daphne du Maurier  
136 pages  
24 Apr 2008  
Pearson Education Limited  
9781405862578  
English  
Harlow, United Kingdom



Forgotten password Please enter your email address below and we'll send you a link to reset your password.

Not you? Reset password. Download Now Dismiss. Simply reserve online and pay at the counter when you collect. Available in shop from just two hours, subject to availability. There is an all-pervading sense of foreboding and gloom; the overpowering feeling of the novel at this point is unnervingly claustrophobic. Mary's thoughts and emotions are shared with the reader throughout the novel, although sometimes there are comments within the narration that sound more like an omniscient viewpoint. This is an unusual style for a modern novel, which typically uses a third person narration, switching from character to character, to give the sense of a fully rounded view of events. In *Jamaica Inn*, however, the viewpoint character never varies, but we do have hints of an authorial voice.

Not all the points of view appear to originate with Mary, who feels trapped, mostly by her duty and fears for her aunt, and also by what she repeatedly expresses as her sense of frailty as a woman. The moors themselves have a life of their own in this novel; there is a strong primal, almost atavistic sense, "The moors were even wilder than she had at first supposed. Like an immense desert they rolled from east to west, with tracks here and there across the surface and great hills breaking the skyline. Where was their final boundary she could not tell, except that once, after climbing the highest tor behind Jamaica, she caught the silver shimmer of the sea. It was a silent desolate country though, vast and untouched by human hand; on the high tors the slabs of stone leant against one another in strange shapes and forms, massive sentinels who had stood there since the hand of God first fashioned them.

The dark tors held their sleeping faces to the sky, the granite features softened and smoothed by the light that bathed them. Theirs was a peaceful mood, and the old gods slept undisturbed. There is much use of the pathetic fallacy, as in much of Daphne Du Maurier's writing, so that the natural environment is bound up with and echoes the events in the novel. There was nothing left now of the Christmas spirit. Inanimate objects are personified, to exaggerate the sense of threat, "There was no other sound except the husky wheezing of the clock in the hall and the sudden whirring note preparatory to the strike.

It rang the hour - three o'clock - and then ticked on, choking and gasping like a dying man who cannot catch his breath. Even without using the pathetic fallacy, Daphne du Maurier makes the reader see an apparent connection between a character and a natural phenomenon, "Why does your aunt look like a living ghost - can you tell me that? Ask her, next time the wind blows from the north-west. It is put to Mary by Joss's brother Jem, who resembles his brother in many ways. Mary does not know whether she can trust him; she is both attracted and repelled by this daring, swashbuckler of a view spoiler [horse-stealer. She spends a day with him in Launceston where Jem sells a horse he stole from Squire Bassat back to the squire's unwitting wife.

But perhaps he is something even worse than a petty thief. Daphne du Maurier manipulates the reader to also sway to and fro, never hinting at which side Jem will end up. There follows one of the most terrifying parts of the novel, after the idyllic day they spend together. The coach is waylaid by the gang of wreckers, and the coach driver is killed. Mary, jeered at, is brutally treated, as the wreckers, led by her Uncle Joss, trick a ship into steering itself on to the rocks. Bound and gagged, she is forced to watch helplessly, as they murder any survivors of the shipwreck trying to swim ashore. The house gaped out of the night like a live thing. Whatever lay beyond her and above must rest there undisturbed. Death had come upon the house tonight, and its brooding spirit still hovered in the air. She felt now that this was what Jamaica Inn had always waited for and feared.

The damp walls, the creaking boards, the whispers in the air, and the footsteps that had no name; these were the warnings of a house that had felt itself long threatened. It goes some way to convey the extremely intimate and personal connection with a real house, "Ferryside", one of the great obsessive loves of her life. From now on the novel increases in pace. From its almost overwhelming feelings of imprisonment, we watch Mary struggling to right the wrongs she sees, and take risks to inform on those she knows to have committed unspeakable crimes. The Cornish landscape is dramatically conveyed; its presence in this novel being of equal value to any of the characters. The number of characters is quite small, which serves to increase the feelings of intimacy. There is Squire Bassat and his wife, those few already mentioned, and the wreckers most of whom could be substituted for each other, as their characters come across as less than human. There is a betrayal, which the reader may, or may not, guess correctly.

There is a bloodbath, which has seemed inevitable. Is there a "happy ending"? Well, that all depends. As the end approaches, Daphne du Maurier interestingly draws attention to the enmeshing and reflecting of the events of the story, with the natural elements, "Mary walked alone on Twelve Men's Moor, and she wondered why it was that Kilmar, to the left of her, had lost its menace, and was now no more than a black scarred hill under the sky. It might be that anxiety had blinded her to beauty, and she had made confusion in her mind with man and nature; the austerity of the moors had been strangely interwoven with the fear and hatred of her uncle and Jamaica Inn. The moors were bleak still, and the hills were fiendish, but their old malevolence had vanished and she could walk upon them with indifference.

Thanks to her powers of imagination, she makes some historical events have great drama and emotional depth, strongly appealing to a modern reader's sensibility. Not everybody is drawn to historical novels as a genre. But Daphne du Maurier skilfully uses literary devices to manipulate the reader, creating our interest in a particular time and place in history. Her narrative technique engages us, and encourages each reader to identify with the viewpoint character. Focusing on the specific time and culture within which the main character is trapped, the author therefore limits Mary's actions and even to some extent her perceptions. There is a great deal in the novel about the boundaries between men and women, a question very close to Daphne du Maurier's own personal agonies; those of her true identity. In a letter to a close friend, the author referred to herself as, "neither girl nor boy but disembodied spirit. The Gothic feeling of the novel serves to heighten this portrayal of Mary as a powerless female.

There are numerous links with the Gothic genre, not only used to raise the issue of gender. The horror the modern reader feels at the depiction of such brutal inhuman actions is given an extra frisson by incorporating the overblown imagery of gothic themes. What is the point of making Francis Davey, the Vicar of Altarnun, an albino, for instance, other than to heighten the grotesquerie and thereby emphasise his alienness to Mary. As Daphne du Maurier tried to reconcile the various parts of her life, as an army wife, a mother and what she called a "career woman", Cornwall

became ever more significant, principally for the special freedom it represented.

She was to stay in Cornwall all her life, because it was here that she felt the freedom to write. Daphne du Maurier's passion for Cornwall comes through in every sentence in this particular book. In many of her stories she explores various personal issues through her writing. This story is not autobiographical as such, but her own perceptions of reality and sense of place are strong throughout. At a symbolic level, the text is rich and complex. Underneath the imagery, the atmosphere, the thrill of the story, the descriptive flair and the superb writing style, Daphne du Maurier's subtext is as fascinating as the surface story. So may I make a plea for the fiction of Daphne du Maurier. The covers of her books are often sentimental. Her books are generally shelved in bookshops among popular fiction - sometimes even among the more trashy romances. Yet she always vigorously stressed that she was not a romantic writer. Her view of her classic, "Rebecca", for instance, was that it is a study in jealousy and power.

It questions the balance of power, both in marriage and society. Far from her writing being, "a glossy brand of entertaining nonsense", in the words of a critic in "The Spectator" in , we can now perceive that her works are well worth a closer analysis. In a way, her very accessibility has stymied her reputation as a serious writer. Daphne du Maurier's novels are mostly read on a superficial level and consequently, the critics often fail to detect any psychological depths to her writing. This one, as with so many of her novels, can be read on many levels. Read it for its entertainment value by all means. Ultimately though, not only is it a rattling good story, but one by a writer of great skill. Here on the summit the wind fretted and wept, whispering of fear, sobbing old memories of blood shed and despair, and there was a wild, lost note that echoed in the granite. Their minds would be twisted too, their thoughts evil, dwelling as they must amidst marshland and granite, harsh heather and crumbling stone.

View all 55 comments. Upping my rating to 5 stars on reread. I have to hand it to Daphne du Maurier: she takes the fusty old gothic novel conventions and tropes, and amps them up in this novel. The real Jamaica Inn, built in , which inspired this novel An isolated, orphaned young woman, 23 year old Mary Yellan, comes to stay with the pr Upping my rating to 5 stars on reread.

The real Jamaica Inn, built in , which inspired this novel An isolated, orphaned young woman, 23 year old Mary Yellan, comes to stay with the pretty and outgoing aunt and handsome uncle that she remembers hearing about in letters that her mother received years ago, but finds that he is a hulking, abusive man and her aunt is now beaten and downtrodden. Something terrible is going on at Jamaica Inn, where her brutal uncle is the innkeeper, and Mary can't resist trying to figure it out. Even though she's warned off by, well, pretty much everyone. The only person Mary is willing to trust is the softspoken, albino vicar of a nearby village, who helps Mary a couple of times when she's lost or in trouble, but he lives a few miles away from the inn. Her Aunt Patience aptly named is an abused woman who stays with and takes care of her bully of a husband.

Du Maurier also includes a very dubious romantic interest for Mary, her uncle's younger brother Jem, a habitual horse thief in whose lawless way of life and his rather careless treatment of Mary I could see some seeds of what his older brother became. It's not a book that left me entirely comfortable in the end Well played, Daphne! I strongly recommend that you avoid spoilers, including the Wikipedia article, which gives away the goings on right up front. I had great fun speculating on what exactly was going on at the inn. I was close, but it was worse than I thought. The final twist I guessed, but it was still creepy. Some of the elements in this story reminded me powerfully of a movie that in a few ways is like a 20th century version of Jamaica Inn : view spoiler [ with Kurt Russell and Kathleen Quinlan hide spoiler ] View all 22 comments.

I wish I had picked up this book on a chilly, gray and dreary fall day so I could have curled up on the sofa next to the fire with a blanket and a cup of tea. That would have created the perfect environment for reading this one! Nevertheless, it was still a satisfying reading experience. As always, du Maurier does a superb job of evoking the sensations of the surroundings and we see the contrast between the tranquility of Helford with the hostility of the moors for which she is bound. No trees here, save one or two that stretched bare branches to the four winds, bent and twisted from centuries of storm, and so black were they by time and tempest that, even if spring did breathe on such a place, no buds would dare to come to leaf for fear the late frost should kill them.

Their minds would be twisted, too, their thoughts evil, dwelling as they must amidst marshland and granite, harsh heather and crumbling stone. Mary finds Aunt Patience a changed and nearly unrecognizable person. Her eyes were large and staring, as though they asked perpetually a question, and she had a little nervous trick of working her mouth. . . Was this poor tattered creature the bewitching Aunt Patience of her dreams, dressed now like a slattern, and twenty years her age? Like her aunt, will Mary now languish as her surroundings drain the life out of her?

Perhaps made of stronger stuff, Mary perseveres and manages to even wander the moors unattended trying to find answers to the mysteries that plague her sanity. On these solitary ventures where the treacherous marshes place her at increasing risk, Mary encounters two more singular individuals that seem to be quite adapted to the danger of the moors. Jem Merlyn, brother to her infamous uncle, is a bit of an enigma with his charlatan ways, coarse appearance and sharp tongue yet irresistible, ruggedly handsome, and lively bearing. Despite her better judgment, Mary falls for this man. Mary also meets Francis Davey, the Vicar of Altarnun out on the moors where he rescues her as she finds herself lost and confused when trying to return to the inn.

She could trust him; that at least was certain. Still she hesitated, turning the words over in her mind. The houses in Jamaica Inn appear to live and breathe of their own accord and I loved reading about them. The furniture, the table in the centre, the pictures on the walls, were without that look of solid familiarity belonging to the day. They were like sleeping things, stumbled upon at midnight by surprise. Even the kitchen, the one room in the house to possess some measure of warmth and normality, gaped back at her as she left it, yellow and sinister in the candle-light.

Will she be able to save herself and Aunt Patience from the horrors of the moors and the madness of the inn? Grab a copy of this book, find a cozy corner, and hunker down for a very captivating read! View all 59 comments. Jun 26, Dem rated it really liked it Shelves: historical-fiction , gothic-fiction. Dramatic, compelling and full of twists and turns, Jamaica Inn is an atmospheric gothic tale which chills and thrills in equal measures. An intriguing page turner that had me hooked from the very first chapter.. When it comes to suspense and mystery with a little romance thrown in Daphne du Maurer certainly gives the reader what they are looking for. When she Dramatic, compelling and full of twists and turns, Jamaica Inn is an atmospheric gothic tale which chills and thrills in equal measures. When she arrives, the warning of the coachman begins to echo in her memory,

for her aunt Patience cowers before hulking Uncle Joss Merlyn.

The story was inspired by du Maurier's stay at the real Jamaica Inn, which still exists as a pub in the middle of Bodmin Moor in Cornwall, England. I just loved the bravery of the heroine Mary Yellan, a 23 year old who squares up to the her uncle and the bullies of the day, a woman who kicks ass with her words and actions and I loved every moment spent with this character. The plot was intriguing and fast paced. I knew very little about this period of history where groups of murderous wreckers run ships aground, kill the sailors and steal the cargo.

There is humor in the story and although it is dark and menacing, I had many laugh out loud moments at some of the old fashioned phrases and sentences. I listened to this one on audible and it was superbly performed by Tony Britton and I just did not want this book to end. Although this was written s this is a book that still stands the test of time when it comes, to suspense and intrigue and just good old fashioned story telling. If you have this one sitting on your TBR list, bump it up your list as its well worth the read.

It was later made into a film, also called Jamaica Inn, directed by Alfred Hitchcock. It is a period piece set in Cornwall in It was inspired by du Maurier's stay at the real Jamaica Inn, which still exists and is a pub in the middle of Bodmin Moor. The plot follows a group of murderous wreckers who run ships aground, kill the sailors and steal the cargo. View all 5 comments. Jun 21, Amalia Gavea rated it it was amazing Shelves: favorites , historical-fiction , cornwall , british-literature , britain , gothic-fiction , classics , 19th-century , england , united-kingdom. The tale of a land haunted by terrible crimes, where the souls of the lost cry for justice. A story of obsession, secrecy and violence. I first read Jamaica Inn at the age of thirteen and since then, Cornwall has occupied a significant place in my heart.

Images of moonlit rocks, stormy waves and a lantern flickering in the dark View all 6 comments. Overall, I liked it, however I wasn't totally enthralled. I'm not sure what exactly was missing for me, but I wasn't able to really connect with the characters and the story. Still enjoyable, but wishing I didn't feel so detached while reading it. View all 4 comments. Bad things. Evil things. I dare not even admit them to myself. The main protagonist is Mary Yellan, a young women who after the death of her mother, takes the long and lonely journey over the moors to the isolated and almost desolate Jamaica Inn, where her Aunt Patience resides with her husband, Joss Merlyn.

Mary soon discovers that Joss is an abominable man who has "broken" her Aunt Patience though his roguish and abusive ways: "But I tell you this, Mary Yellan; I'll break that mind of yours if you let it go astray, and I'll break your body too. Even though the darkness and isolation of her seemingly trapped life makes her feel alone, Mary meets an enigmatic man who she starts falling for, despite being someone she cannot trust. She also meets some people she may call "acquaintances", each unsettling in their own ways adding to the question of who can she trust? How do I escape Jamaica Inn? How do I save my Aunt? In this book Du Maurier writes with such description that you too feel surrounded by the moors, with it's mist and moans from the wind. It chokes you and leaves the reader unsettled and gripped by the story.

In addition to this description, Du Maurier portrays such an amazing character; bright and inquisitive, brave and loyal, as Mary plunders through the events of the book. Even through the book another character points out that she thinks much more like a 'male' than a female. So glad to be able to pick up a book again after being more ill than usual recently and to finally get the review done.

This was another good book written by Daphne Du Maurier that I've bought some more. View all 29 comments. Feb 17, Holly rated it really liked it Shelves: classics , read. I just noticed - this is my th review! I knew this was gothic, but it still surprised me how disturbing it got - murders, thieves, desolate land, and social isolation makes for one heck of an unsettling story. I loved it!

I ha I just noticed - this is my th review! I have read two other books by this author My Cousin Rachel and Rebecca and while I enjoyed them more, I still think this is definitely worth picking up. View all 20 comments. Aug 21, Carol rated it it was amazing Shelves: classics , ebook , adventure , favorites , read View all 13 comments. This book is an excellent prime example, as to why I read. I'm certainly not complaining. This girl wants MORE. This is a typical gothic style novel. I love this kind of style, and with a creepy building involved, situated near the Bodmin Moor in Cornwall, ma This book is an excellent prime example, as to why I read.

I love this kind of style, and with a creepy building involved, situated near the Bodmin Moor in Cornwall, made it even more intriguing. The building in question, Jamaica Inn, is a rather unwelcoming and deteriorating place, which the majority of people avoid like the plague. The answer as to why that is, is uncovered when you read the book. Goddamn, I want to unread this book just so I can experience it all again! The main character, is 23 year old Mary Yellen, and she is pretty fearless, and I couldn't help but like her, even more so as the novel progressed. The character development within this story is incredible. Du Maurier has an amazing writing style, and her descriptive language throughout is beautiful.

She kept me entirely hooked until the very end. I liked the way Du Maurier brought in a little romance for Mary, without losing sight of the main plot. It worked. I had an inkling of what was going to happen at the end, but, it still didn't prepare me for what was to come. On finishing this exquisite piece of literature, I cannot say that I feel entirely comfortable or at rest, but I can say, that that was probably what Du Maurier wanted, the reader to feel uneasy. I cannot recommend this book enough! View 1 comment. May 12, Duane rated it really liked it Shelves: audio-books , reviewed-books , rated-books , book-challenge , english-cassics. Published in , two years before Rebecca, Jamaica Inn is a dark tale of murder and thievery, set close to the Bodmin Moor in Cornwall, England.

It has a hint of romance, although I wouldn't call it romantic. It would have to be called a mystery if you had to give it a tag. The style is typical of the other du Maurier novels I have read, and excellent writing with great characters. It was a little slow to develop for me but once it did the pace ran quickly to the climax. View all 8 comments. Aug 24, PattyMacDotComma rated it really liked it Shelves: bookslor , aa , mystery-crime-thriller , aa-col , kindle. The trip there is horrendous, with weather and atmosphere that is as unwelcoming as possible: wet, windy, clammy cold, and almost dark in mid-afternoon. The coachman almost shoves her and her trunk off the coach and takes off in a rush. Her Aunt Patience is not the lovely sister of her mother who visited years before. The Social Plate was delicious. Unfortunately, only one wafer cracker. It would be helpful to have the waiter mention that only one cracker comes with the plate and offer either a side of bread and or crackers.

When we asked, we were told about the bread option but it took another 15 to get the fresh, wonderful bread. From the time you arrived- you felt like a VIP! The views for the rooftop are breathtaking- we saw a double rainbows- and the sun setting on the Sandias and mesa's were very spiritual. The food- is amazing! We had the honor of having Chef Gilbert come to our table and briefly speak to the food we had ordered. LVL5 is an elevated experience- both in service and cuisine that Albuquerque has needed for years. It was very relaxing and a great place to eat and relax. Made an open table reservation for dinner but management refused to seat us at any of the available tables despite our reservation. Ate some food at the bar while 4 tables sat empty for more than two and a half hours. Worst managed restaurant in Albuquerque. Don't bother to go. Has a great view but service and food was not good.

Very over priced. Great spot to enjoy the city from above. Limited menu but everything we had was delicious! The servers took a long time, but the environment and food were great! I was very disappointed in the restaurant. The hotel is beautiful and has a wonderful New Mexico cultural appeal. I brought an out of town guest for drinks and appetizers before attending The Little Theater. The view was outstanding. The wine menu and wine, I had the Shiraz, was very unimpressive but very expensive. I think you are missing the boat with your over priced and poor quality appetizers.

The whole ambiance is New Mexico and one would expect to have a choice of New Mexican appetizers. I will not be bringing out of town guests or even local friends to Hotel Chaco again. For your prices one would expect excellent food and trained waiters. The oysters were amazing! Excellent, knowledgeable service. Great view. The setting and ambiance was beautiful. The food was disappointing. The salad was very expensive given the market, and was really not special. The avocado hummus was not good at all. The decaf coffee was old and burnt - should have espresso or at least fresh coffee for a high end restaurant.

Croutons were hard as a rock and so we asked for "bread basket" and given two small pieces of bread - so we each got one - skimpy. Food great Outside North tables quieter, but wall blocks view. Very concerned wait staff, but they are still working out the kinks. Recommendation good for drinks and party, not so much for special occasion.

A happy hour outdoors on comfortable couch seating with friends is good. This place is stunning. Overlooking Albuquerque and stunning sunsets and architecture. Food is a little light. Great ambiance overall. Great place. Only thing it needs is bigger menu and shades. Sun can be little much. Rooftop bar was lovely though built to look good rather than to work well. Late afternoon the sun was just too intense in most places. And the drink tables were so small, very hard to fit drinks and plates on them. And the poor wait staff! They had to bend down while balancing a tray. Other than these design flaws, the view is lovely and the food and drink quite good though not inexpensive. It is a nice place to experience something different in ABQ though it may not be a regular spot for eating for us. Time will tell. Food was very good. Had a great outdoor birthday gathering with friends. Great view of mountains. Please be aware that reservations were not available for the outdoor seating.

It was strictly first come basis. The reservation format is misleading on Open Table as it appears you can make reservation for outdoor seating. Slow inattentive wait staff is a continuing problem here. We have eaten brunches, dinner and just drinks and each time we had to either get up from our table to find a server, wait way too long to be served or received less than acceptable service. I do not fault the wait staff but the lack of oversight and training by whomever is in charge. The hotel deserves nothing less than excellent service or it will not be recommended by customers. Great atmosphere and food. I would recommend. Just don't go too hungry. Food took a while to get to us. Gorgeous views, a lively scene, some interesting food, but not a fine dining destination.

The service was totally chaotic; no one seemed to be managing the staff. Who puts a price on a menu for only half a glass of wine??? The price listed should be for a standard glass of wine. There were only two tables dining and yet, our food took over an hour to arrive! The waitress did apologize, but what's the problem with the kitchen? We were a table of 4 as well as the other table so it's not like a huge group dining at the same time. Food was good when it arrived, but as others have mentioned, it is a bit on the expensive side for what you get. The views are great, but there are other places to go with better service and prices. I reserved an outside table for two. It was me and my wife's 11 year anniversary. I was hoping for a romantic dinner outside on the rooftop.

I was even called the morning of my reservation confirming my outside table for two. Me and my wife arrived 10 minutes early. The hostess then told me there was no available tables outside because they were reserved. I told the hostess that I did reserve an outside table over two weeks ago and he said none were available. He then said all they had was a spot at a communal table.

Once we were sat down I noticed available tables outside. I asked wait staff again but was told they were reserved. I then saw people who arrived after us being seated outside! At our table that I reserved! Needless to say our romantic dinner was now being shared by several people at the communal table.

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