

# **Pamela, or, Virtue Rewarded Study Guide**

**Pamela, or, Virtue Rewarded by Samuel Richardson**

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# Plot Summary

"Pamela; or Virtue Rewarded" by Samuel Richardson is an epistolary novel of manners. The novel details the trials Pamela faces when Mr. B, her employer, tries to compromise her virtue and even kidnaps her. "Pamela; or Virtue Rewarded" demonstrates the difficulties and value of a young woman maintaining her chastity.

After Pamela's lady dies, her son, Mr. B, hires Pamela and is very kind to her. Pamela's parents worry about their daughter's virtue when they learn of his attentions. At Bedfordshire, Mr. B attempts Pamela's virtue several times, but she refuses him. Mrs. Jervis defends Pamela, but he also accuses Pamela of sullying his reputation and eventually allows her to leave unattended. Pamela is transported to Mr. B's Lincolnshire estate where she is held under the close supervision and persecution of the cruel Mrs. Jewkes. Pamela begins a secret correspondence with Mr. Williams, a local clergyman, who tries to help Pamela escape. Mr. B suspects a romantic liaison between Pamela and Mr. Williams and has the clergyman falsely imprisoned for debt. Pamela fails in her attempts to escape, and Mr. B arrives at Lincolnshire to attempt Pamela's virtue several more times. Mr. B fires several of his Bedfordshire servants for attempting to warn Pamela of his scheme to betray her with a sham marriage.

After Pamela insults Mr. B, Pamela is dismissed and begins her journey to her parents' home. Mr. B reads Pamela's journal and is touched by his cruelty and her forgiveness. He writes to Pamela, begging her to return and marry him. Pamela returns, and Mr. B proposes. Mr. B renounces his sister for writing a saucy letter condemning him for ruining or marrying Pamela. Pamela meets the neighborhood gentry who praise Pamela's beauty and virtue. Mr. Andrews, Pamela's father, arrives in Lincolnshire and is reunited with his daughter. He leaves, happy with her current situation. Pamela and Mr. B secretly marry and are happy together. Lady Davers visits and torments Pamela because she believes Pamela is unmarried and has relinquished her virtue. After several conflicts between Lady Davers, Mr. B and Pamela, Lady Davers is reconciled to the match and praises Pamela.

Pamela and Mr. B return to Bedfordshire where the servants loyal to Pamela are reinstated. Pamela meets Miss Goodwin, Mr. B's illegitimate daughter, and obtains Mr. B's permission for the girl to visit on her next break from school. Pamela is perfectly happy, with the sole exception of desiring to become pregnant. Mr. B places Pamela's parents in his Kentish estate. Mr. B and Pamela love each other very much and are happy. Pamela serves as an example of the rewards that sustained virtue can reap.



## Section 1: pages 3-30

### Section 1: pages 3-30 Summary

"Pamela; or Virtue Rewarded" by Samuel Richardson is an epistolary novel of manners. The novel details the trials Pamela faces when Mr. B, her employer, tries to compromise her virtue and even kidnaps her. "Pamela; or Virtue Rewarded" demonstrates the difficulties and value of a young woman maintaining her chastity.

The preface by the editor states that the book succeeds in entertaining and providing examples of virtue while showing vice as odious. It needs no further preface or apology. To the Editor of the Piece Intituled Pamela, or Virtue Rewarded is a letter signed by J. B. D. F., who finds pleasure in reading "Pamela" and believes it will become the standard for this style of writing. In another letter, To my worthy friend, the editor of Pamela claims that the book is a pleasure to read and Pamela's virtue is charming. The Introduction to the Second Edition explains that "Pamela" is being republished because difficulties arise from gentlemen's differing opinions of fault with some of the things that others praise. The manuscript is submitted to a distinguished gentleman for his opinion of the novel. A letter from this gentleman praises "Pamela" and the author's virtue. He objects to several passages but advises against altering "Pamela". His main objection is that some gentlemen may be tempted to follow the example of a gentleman so amiable as Mr. B. Verses Sent to the Bookseller, for the Unknown Author of the beautiful new piece call'd PAMELA praises "Pamela", Pamela's virtues, and the author of the novel.

The novel begins with Pamela writing to her parents of her lady's death. On her deathbed, the lady pleads with her son to remember poor Pamela. Pamela will not return home because her master has promised to take care of his mother's lasses, especially Pamela whom he appoints to be in charge of his linens. Pamela's parents respond with lamentations about the lady's death. They worry about Mr. B's intentions and advise Pamela to maintain her virtue and be upon her guard. Pamela responds to her father that his letter frightens her. She will be upon her guard and promises to do nothing to shame her parents. Mr. B and Mrs. Jervis, the housekeeper, are affable to Pamela, and everyone seems to love her. Pamela writes to her mother that she is trying hard not to be vain. Lady Davers, Mr. B's sister, has been at the house for a month and taken great notice of Pamela. Lady Davers praises Pamela's beauty and virtue and wants to hire Pamela for her household. Mr. B claims that he will be happy to see Pamela so well provided for which Pamela views as proof that he is not conspiring against her. Pamela hears nothing of going to Lady Davers', but she is very easy here. Mrs. Jervis treats Pamela as a daughter and is pleased with Pamela's modesty and prudence. Pamela is now fearless of any danger and is ashamed for her suspicions against Mr. B since it would ruin his reputation as well as her own.



## Section 1: pages 3-30 Analysis

The preface and the letters that precede the novel serve to introduce the novel to its readers. It also sets "Pamela" up as a book of manners, foreshadowing the content of the book. When the novel itself opens, the style of writing is presented in an epistolary style—using the format of a collection of letters. Many of the principal characters are introduced in this first section: Pamela, Mr. B, Lady Davers and Mrs. Jervis. The death of Pamela's lady begins the action and sets up the background against which the remainder of the novel occurs. Mr. B's promise to his mother to remember Pamela foreshadows his involvement with Pamela, though it is ironic that his choice of actions are greatly altered from what his mother seems to be suggesting on her deathbed.

Mr. B offers Pamela four guineas after his mother's death; this is the first instance of his trying to buy her off, though this situation seems innocent enough. It is ironic that Mr. B praises Pamela for being a diligent daughter when he first finds her writing to her parents, since his later reactions are much different. Pamela's parents warn her to be upon her guard and maintain her virtue, foreshadowing Mr. B's attempts on Pamela as well as showing the importance of virtue. Pamela's belief that everyone is too affable to be plotting against her demonstrates her innocence and naiveté. Lady Davers praises Pamela's beauty and virtue, the first of many repetitions of this scenario with varying characters praising Pamela. It is ironic that Mr. B claims he would be happy to have Pamela so well provided for as she would be if Lady Davers hired her into her household. Pamela trusts Mr. B, a fact which she demonstrates by her disbelief that he would sully his reputation by ruining her. The fact that Pamela being sent to Lady Davers is not mentioned after the lady's departure foreshadows Mr. B rejecting the idea.



## Section 2: pages 30-57

### Section 2: pages 30-57 Summary

Pamela writes to her parents about Mr. B's kindness in giving her nice clothes, though she wishes it would not insult him to change the clothes for money to send to her parents. She does not forget her father's warning though she does not believe that Mr. B would sully his reputation by ruining Pamela. Pamela's parents caution her against possible designs since it is better to lose her life than her virtue. They tell her to heed Mrs. Jervis' counsel but not to be vain about people praising her beauty since only virtue and goodness make true beauty. Pamela's hopes of a position with Lady Davers are finished. Mr. B refuses out of fear that Lady Davers' nephew will ruin Pamela. Pamela does not share her fears with Mrs. Jervis for fear of being thought vain, but she promises to acquaint her parents with every matter that occurs. Pamela tells her mother that she is still chaste though she laments that Mr. B has offered freedoms to her and forbidden her from scribbling so much. Mr. B approaches Pamela in the summer house and takes her hand. He will not allow her to go to Lady Davers because Lady Davers will not make Pamela a gentlewoman as he will. Pamela objects when Mr. B tries to kiss her. He prevents her from escaping and begs her to keep the encounter a secret, offering her money which she refuses. Pamela laments her situation and asks her parents to pray for her and not be angry that she has not run away yet. Pamela wants to run away but is scared she will be accused of stealing clothes and ruin her parents' good name. Pamela confides in Mrs. Jervis and asks to be bedfellows. Mrs. Jervis advises Pamela to stay, assuring her that Mr. B will not try again for shame.

Pamela's parents advise her to quit the house immediately if Mr. B renews his addresses. A peaceful fortnight passes with Mr. B away, but he returns to claim that Pamela is artful and useless. Mrs. Jervis defends Pamela. As Pamela finishes this letter, Mr. B enters and accuses her of telling his secret without regard for his reputation. He kisses and gropes Pamela who runs to her room and lies on the floor. Mr. B calls Mrs. Jervis who mourns for and comforts Pamela. She also dissuades Pamela from leaving. Mr. B summons Mrs. Jervis and Pamela and accuses Pamela of sullying his reputations when his advances were only in jest. When Pamela objects, Mrs. Jervis defends Mr. B. Mr. B dismisses Pamela, and she expects to return to her parents soon. Pamela's parents look forward to her return and will welcome her home. Pamela is anxious to go home. Mrs. Jervis begs her to stay and weeps when she refuses. Pamela does not know when she will return because Mr. B insists that she stay until she finishes his waistcoat. Mrs. Jervis talks secretly with Mr. B but is still kind to Pamela, and Pamela trusts Mrs. Jervis. Mrs. Jervis wants Pamela to stay, but Pamela refuses because Mr. B longs only to make her his harlot. Pamela works continually on the waistcoat to hasten her departure.



## Section 2: pages 30-57 Analysis

Pamela's desire to change the clothes Mr. B gives her for money shows the level of destitution to which the Andrews are subjected. Mrs. Jervis attending Mr. B to present Pamela with the clothes is a contrivance by which Mr. B designs to prove his honor to Pamela and elicit her trust. Mrs. Jervis defends and praises Pamela by claiming that she keeps the young men at a distance to avoid ruin. Pamela disbelieves that Mr. B would sully his reputation by ruining her, showing the importance of reputation. The importance of virtue is shown in Pamela's letter from her parents in which they tell her it is better to lose her life than her virtue and that only virtue and goodness make true beauty. Mr. B refuses to allow Pamela to accept a position with Lady Davers, fulfilling the earlier foreshadowing that occurred.

When Mr. B offers freedoms to Pamela, this fulfills the earlier foreshadowing that occurred when Pamela's parents warned her about his possible designs. His offer of money for Pamela to keep the secret shows his desire to set her up as a harlot, trading favors for monetary gain. Pamela chooses Mrs. Jervis as a confidant, telling her about Mr. B's actions. Mrs. Jervis also acts as an adviser, convincing Pamela to remain at Bedfordshire. Later in this section, Mr. B again offers freedoms to Pamela, an action that occurs repetitively throughout the novel. Pamela's expectation to return to her parents foreshadows her departure from Bedfordshire. Mr. B constantly delays Pamela's departure, foreshadowing his intention to continue his attempts on her virtue. The servants demonstrate their love for Pamela by their grief at her departure, despite Mr. B's attempts to convince them that she is an idle slut and a witch. Ironically, Mr. B accuses Pamela of having no regard for his reputation, though she does not share his actions with anyone besides Mrs. Jervis; yet, he feels it to be justified when he makes false claims about Pamela.



## Section 3: pages 57-85

### Section 3: pages 57-85 Summary

Pamela writes to her parents about a dinner party Mr. B holds. The ladies question Mr. B about Pamela's renowned beauty, but he denies it. When the ladies seek Pamela, she hides in the closet, but Mrs. Jervis reveals her hiding place. Later that evening, Pamela appears before Mrs. Jervis in her new clothes, and the housekeeper does not recognize her at first. Mr. B questions Mrs. Jervis about the pretty girl and, first disbelieving it is Pamela, accuses Pamela of hypocrisy in donning disguises to attract him while pretending to reject his advances. He suggests finding out if Lady Davers will still take Pamela, but Pamela objects since Mr. B said that her nephew would ruin Pamela. After retiring for the evening, Pamela hears a noise in her closet, and Mr. B, appearing in his nightgown, takes freedoms with Pamela. Pamela shrieks, and Mrs. Jervis causes a ruckus. Pamela faints and awakens to find Mr. B gone and Mrs. Jervis and Mrs. Rachel, the maid, beside her. Pamela is convinced of Mrs. Jervis' goodness. Mr. B visits the next morning, telling Mrs. Jervis that they can no longer live together since she knows too much about him. Mrs. Jervis convinces Mr. B to permit Pamela to depart on Thursday, and Mr. B agrees since he is likely to marry soon. Despite his ill behavior, Pamela wishes Mr. B well, for his departed mother's sake.

Pamela's departure is delayed another week because Mrs. Jervis cannot be ready sooner and will leave when Pamela does. Although Mr. B does not offer Pamela any more freedoms, he has grown vexatious, mocking Pamela's virtue and claiming someone will have it. Although Mr. B would allow Mrs. Jervis to continue working for him due to her fidelity if she apologizes for her insolence, Mrs. Jervis refuses because of the way he has treated Pamela. Mr. B summons Pamela in order to profess his love and desire to marry her. He asks Pamela to stay for a fortnight while he arranges the matter with her father and leaves the room to give Pamela time to consider his proposal. Pamela rejects Mr. B's proposal because she realizes it would allot him too much time to accomplish his goals.

### Section 3: pages 57-85 Analysis

Pamela hiding in the closet when the ladies come to see her beauty shows Pamela's modesty. Pamela's appearance in her new clothes foreshadows her future appearances in upper class clothing. It is ironic that Mr. B accuses Pamela of hypocrisy when he is such a hypocrite himself. Mr. B suggests that Pamela might still work for Lady Davers though he originally objected on the grounds that Lady Davers' profligate nephew would ruin Pamela; this shows that Mr. B is not at all concerned with Pamela's chastity, though Pamela rejects the idea in order to maintain her virtue. When Mr. B repetitiously attempts to seduce Pamela, Mrs. Jervis proves herself a protector of the innocent by causing a ruckus to alert the household and save Pamela.





Mrs. Jervis is fired from her position because Mr. B claims she knows too much about him. Although Mrs. Jervis is offered her position if she apologizes to Mr. B, she proves her honor by refusing because of the way he has treated Pamela. Pamela shows her generosity and forgiveness by wishing Mr. B well for his departed mother's sake. The continual delays in Pamela's departure foreshadow the complications that arise from her return home. Mrs. Jervis contrives to have Mr. B overhear Pamela's conversation as proof of Pamela's virtue. Mr. B repetitively demonstrates his deceit by asking Pamela to marry him; this also foreshadows their eventual marriage when he relinquishes his illicit desires. Pamela rejects the proposal due to her extreme regard for her virtue.



## Section 4: pages 85-110

### Section 4: pages 85-110 Summary

Mr. B returns to insist upon finding a husband for Pamela because he claims she is too pretty to escape men's designs. He catches her in his arms and kisses her, but Pamela escapes to her room and writes Mr. B that she will leave early the next morning. Mr. B sends Mrs. Jervis with permission for Pamela to leave and her wages though he forbids anyone to accompany her. As Lincolnshire Robin drives Pamela away, she writes several verses on her going away. A short narrative passage reveals that Jonathan, the messenger who delivers Pamela's letters to her parents, is employed by Mr. B who reads the letters before they are delivered. The worst of Pamela's trials are yet to come. Mr. B writes to Mr. Andrews blaming Pamela for the liberties she has taken with his character and her romantic inventions. He also claims that Pamela has begun a romantic correspondence with a penniless clergyman, and he will provide for the match. Worried, Mr. Andrews visits Bedfordshire where he learns that Pamela has already been sent home. Mr. B claims that he has sent Pamela to wait on a Bishop's wife but she is safe. Mrs. Jervis and the household worry about Pamela, especially when Mrs. Jervis receives a letter from Pamela stating that she has been tricked.

Pamela laments her fate. She takes leave of the servants in order to go home. Although Mr. B does not take leave of Pamela, she sees him in a window, curtsies and prays for him. Pamela sets off with the coachman on a long trip, much further than that to her parents' house. Pamela worries as they stop at a farmer's house where she receives a letter from Mr. B stating that she will be taken to another abode for several weeks until he can settle some affairs and join her, though he will wait for her to grant him permission to wait on her. He blames Pamela's obstinacy for his rash step. Mr. B also writes to the farmer, claiming that he means to save Pamela from a dangerous love affair which prevents Pamela from being able to obtain the farmer's help. Pamela arrives at an inn where she meets Mrs. Jewkes who mocks her and joins her on the journey to Mr. B's mansion in Lincolnshire. Robin apologizes for his involvement, and Pamela chides him, causing Mrs. Jewkes to chide Pamela for upsetting Robin. Although Pamela objects, Mrs. Jewkes has been instructed to be Pamela's bedfellow. Pamela meets the maids and determines to escape before Mr. B arrives. She wonders about Mr. Williams, a clergyman who seems sensible and sober. Pamela asks Mrs. Jewkes for paper and pens and is told that though she can write, she cannot send letters out of the house unless Mrs. Jewkes reads them first. On Sunday, Pamela is not allowed to go to church and begins to see Mrs. Jewkes as hideous. John delivers a letter from Mr. B in which Mr. B apologizes for the fear he causes her but blames her own obstinacy and claims that he means to act honorably by Pamela. Mr. B instructs Pamela to send a letter to Mrs. Jervis claiming that she has been tricked but does not know where she is. Pamela writes Mr. B of her misery and begs him not to see her.



## Section 4: pages 85-110 Analysis

Mr. B's claim that Pamela is too pretty to escape men's designs foreshadows the fact that his dishonorable intentions have not abated. His following attempt on her virtue fulfills this foreshadowing as well as acts as a repetition of his attempts on Pamela. Pamela decides to leave, and Mr. B appears to acquiesce. Pamela's departure elicits one of the rare narrative passages in the novel where the author steps into the story to inform the reader of what Pamela does not know. The reader learns that John is dishonest and betrays Pamela to Mr. B. The narrator also informs the reader of Mr. B's claims against Pamela and his interaction with Mr. Andrews. The statement that the worst of Pamela's trials are yet to come foreshadows more trials at the hands of Mr. B. Mr. B's claim of Pamela's romantic correspondence with a penniless clergyman foreshadows his jealousy of Mr. Williams. Mr. B shows his willingness to deceive by lying to Mr. Andrews about Pamela waiting on a Bishop's wife safely. Mrs. Jervis and the other servants show their love and respect for Pamela by worrying about her, especially when Mrs. Jervis receives a letter stating that Pamela has been tricked.

Pamela resumes her correspondence and laments her fate. Mr. B's coldness as Pamela leaves foreshadows his pursuit of her. Mr. B ensures Pamela's captivity by lying to the farmer about her. He also justifies his own wrongful behavior by claiming that Pamela has brought it upon herself by her obstinacy. Mrs. Jewkes is introduced in this section, and Pamela's first impression of the woman foreshadows the usage she receives at Mrs. Jewkes' hands. Robin apologizes for being involved in this plot to kidnap Pamela, showing that he is not a malicious person but someone who is at the mercy of his master's commands. Pamela's determination to escape before Mr. B arrives foreshadows her attempts to escape. Her decision that Mr. Williams is sensible and sober foreshadows his attempts to help Pamela escape from Mr. B. Pamela's inability to send correspondence out of the house without Mrs. Jewkes reading it foreshadows her parents being unable to receive her letters as well as Mr. B reading them. Pamela writing Mr. B to beg him not to see her foreshadows her continued virtue.



## Section 5: pages 110-134

### Section 5: pages 110-134 Summary

On Monday, Mrs. Jewkes makes Pamela give John her letters in front of her. Pamela sees John drop a paper and retrieves it without Mrs. Jewkes' notice. John's letter reveals his guilt in giving Pamela's letters to Mr. B and claims that Mrs. Jewkes is a devil. John hopes to be able to serve Pamela in the future. Pamela laments John's part in plotting her ruin. Mr. B sends a portmanteau of his mother's clothes, and Pamela may wear whatever though Mrs. Jewkes holds the key. Pamela wonders at Mr. B's inducement to such evil. On Tuesday and Wednesday, Mr. William visits, and Pamela and he are able to decide on a location to secretly exchange letters. Mrs. Jewkes assures Pamela that Mr. B has no intention of visiting. Pamela distracts Mrs. Jewkes by losing her hussy and hides a letter to Mr. Williams, asking him to help her escape. On Thursday, Mrs. Jewkes will not allow Pamela to walk alone for fear she will escape. When Pamela learns that she is not allowed to associate much with the servants, Pamela asks if she will be ruined by force and calls Mrs. Jewkes a "Jezebel." Mrs. Jewkes slaps Pamela, who apologizes, and they are reconciled. While Mrs. Jewkes orders dinner, Pamela retrieves her response from Mr. Williams agreeing to help her by writing Lady Davers about Pamela's circumstances. Pamela writes to Mr. Williams, thanking him and asking him to mail letters to her parents. She offers half of her money to procure a horse and carriage for her escape.

On Friday and Saturday, Mrs. Jewkes borrows Pamela's money but will not repay it since Pamela has no need. Mr. B writes to Pamela, begging to see her. A letter from Mr. Williams informs Pamela that though the neighboring gentry lament her case, they are unwilling to anger Mr. B. Mrs. Jewkes encourages Pamela to respond to Mr. B by inviting him to see her. Pamela secretly sends Mr. Williams another letter, begging him to send her letters to her parents and to pray for her. Mrs. Jewkes sends Pamela's letter to Mr. B, asking him not to visit. On Sunday, since Pamela is not allowed to go to church, she sings the one hundred, thirty-seventh Psalm to Mrs. Jewkes. Although Mr. Williams visits, Pamela has no opportunity to talk to him. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Pamela plots her escape since the man whose living Mr. Williams expects has died. Mrs. Jewkes suspects that Pamela loves Mr. Williams, but Pamela assures her that she wants to marry no one. Mr. Williams writes to Pamela with a proposal, but Pamela rejects him until she can see her parents. From Thursday through Saturday, Pamela fails in her plan to get Mrs. Jewkes' instructions though the woman is more civil. Mr. Williams promises that his diligence will not slacken as a result of Pamela's refusal and that he will soon send her letters to her parents. On Sunday, Mrs. Jewkes and Mr. Williams approach Pamela about a match between Mr. Williams and Pamela, proposed by Mr. B. Mr. B writes to Mrs. Jewkes that her troubles are nearly over. Pamela prevents Mr. Williams from mentioning his former declarations because she mistrusts this new scheme. Pamela claims that she is not at liberty to make such a decision and must contact her parents which is permitted. Pamela writes to her father, begging him not to



give his consent until she is allowed to see them. Mrs. Jewkes encourages Pamela to accept Mr. Williams.

## Section 5: pages 110-134 Analysis

The fact that Mrs. Jewkes makes Pamela give her letters to John in her company shows Mrs. Jewkes distrusts Pamela. John secretly confesses to Pamela because he feels guilty. Mr. B sending his mother's clothes to Pamela foreshadows Pamela's rise in station as a result of her marriage to Mr. B. Mr. Williams is introduced in this section and he and Pamela conspire to carry on a secret correspondence, an act which foreshadows the correspondence. When Pamela obtains paper from Mrs. Jewkes, she implicitly tells her caretaker that she is mean when she asks Mrs. Jewkes to be nice to her. Mrs. Jewkes shows her dishonor by lying to Pamela about Mr. B having no intentions to visit at Lincolnshire. Pamela is deceitful in pretending to lose her hussy, but it is justified since her purpose for this deceit is to maintain her virtue. Pamela's first letter to Mr. Williams fulfills the foreshadowing that they will begin a secret correspondence and also foreshadows Mr. Williams' attempts to help Pamela escape from Mr. B. This section is full of examples of Mrs. Jewkes' cruel usage of Pamela. Mr. Williams' letter foreshadows his attempts to help her escape and Lady Davers' involvement with the situation. Mrs. Jewkes encourages Pamela to invite Mr. B to visit, in effect soliciting Pamela's ruin. Pamela plots her escape, foreshadowing her attempts to do so. Mrs. Jewkes' suspicions about a romantic liaison between Mr. Williams and Pamela foreshadow Mr. B's jealousy and Mr. Williams' punishment. Pamela distrusts Mr. B's offer for her to marry Mr. Williams, foreshadowing Mr. B's plot against Mr. Williams.



## Section 6: pages 134-160

### Section 6: pages 134-160 Summary

On Monday morning, Mr. Williams is attacked by two rogues and all of his belongings are stolen, except for several of Pamela's letters. Mrs. Jewkes laughs as she relates the tale and tries to convince Pamela to visit Mr. Williams, but Pamela refuses so Mrs. Jewkes goes alone. Pamela tries to escape but is frightened by the appearance of bulls. On Monday afternoon, Mrs. Jewkes returns and tells Pamela that Mr. Williams has told her everything that has passed between him and Pamela, and Pamela worries what he may have revealed because he is so trusting. On Tuesday and Wednesday, Mrs. Jewkes is very rude when Mr. Williams visits, and Pamela writes him, chiding him for his openness with Mrs. Jewkes. On Thursday, Mr. Williams apologizes for his indiscretion and tells Pamela that John Arnold has written him that Mr. B plans to visit soon. On Friday, Pamela receives a letter from her parents, encouraging the scheme of her marriage to Mr. Williams. On Saturday and Sunday, Mrs. Jewkes and Mr. Williams argue when he visits. On Monday and Tuesday, a messenger arrives with letters from Mr. B. Pamela accidentally receives Mrs. Jewkes' letter and reads about Mr. B's anger that Pamela prefers Mr. Williams and his plan to have Mr. Williams imprisoned for debt. Mrs. Jewkes switches the letter, and Pamela's letter from Mr. B accuses her of deceit and hypocrisy. Pamela laments being the cause of Mr. Williams' ruin. Mr. B sends Monseieur Colbrand to help Mrs. Jewkes watch Pamela more closely.

On Wednesday, Mr. B has Mr. Williams arrested, and Pamela plots her escape. She plans to sneak out of the window and throw her clothes in the pond so they will think she has drowned herself, giving her time to escape. Pamela overhears Mrs. Jewkes tell Mr. Colbrand that Mr. William's robbery was contrived. At eleven at night, Mrs. Jewkes is in bed, and Pamela prepares to escape. From Thursday through Sunday, Pamela jumps from the window and throws her clothes in the pond. She finds the gate locked and hurts her leg trying to break it. Lamenting her failed attempt, Pamela debates whether to drown herself but decides against sending her soul to eternal damnation. Mrs. Jewkes awakes, frightened because Pamela is not in bed. A search reveals Pamela by the pond, and Mr. Colbrand protects Pamela from Mrs. Jewkes' roughness. As she nurses Pamela, Mrs. Jewkes mocks the girl's virtue. On Sunday afternoon, Pamela worries about Mr. B because he nearly drowned during a hunting accident. She wonders why she cannot hate him. Mr. Longman, Mr. Jonathan and Mrs. Jervis anger Mr. B by pleading in Pamela's favor. Mrs. Jewkes tells Pamela that Mr. B plans to marry Pamela to Mr. Colbrand and buy her on her wedding day. From Monday until Thursday, Mrs. Jewkes is cruel and will not answer Pamela's questions, though Pamela knows Mr. B plans to visit soon. On Friday, Mrs. Jewkes commands Pamela to dress in order to receive Lady Darnford's daughters. By five o'clock, Pamela is concerned that the ladies have not yet arrived. A carriage arrives, revealing Mr. B. At seven o'clock, Mr. B has still not approached Pamela, and Pamela worries that he is listening to Mrs. Jewkes' complaints against her.



## Section 6: pages 134-160 Analysis

The attack on Mr. Williams foreshadows his imprisonment. Pamela's attempt to escape fulfills the earlier foreshadowing. Mr. Williams proves himself to be too trusting when he speaks too freely in front of Mrs. Jewkes. Mrs. Jewkes' change in attitude toward Mr. Williams, especially her argument with the clergyman, foreshadows the plot against him. John Arnold's warning foreshadows Mr. B's visit. Pamela's parents praise her virtue, a repetitious action throughout the novel by various characters. Pamela obtains Mr. B's letter to Mrs. Jewkes which reveals the plot against Mr. Williams, fulfilling the foreshadowing that has occurred thus far and foreshadowing Mr. Williams' imprisonment. Pamela's attempt to escape fulfills the earlier foreshadowing. Her debate about suicide demonstrates the vast importance of maintaining her virtue. Mr. Colbrand shows some honor by defending Pamela against Mrs. Jewkes' mockery and chiding. The fact that Pamela worries about Mr. B when she hears that he nearly drowned demonstrates her charity and forgiveness. Mr. B's displeasure with Mrs. Jervis, Mr. Longman and Mr. Jonathan foreshadows their being fired as a punishment for pleading for Pamela. The announcement that the Darnfords will be visiting proves a trick to persuade Pamela to wear proper clothes for Mr. B's arrival. The fact that Mr. B does not immediately visit Pamela foreshadows his anger as a result of what Mrs. Jewkes tells him.



## Section 7: pages 160-189

### Section 7: pages 160-189 Summary

On Saturday morning, Mr. B visits Pamela and commands her to dine with him. He and Mrs. Jewkes' mock Pamela's innocence. Saturday, around noon, Mr. B sends a proposal with seven articles to Pamela, asking her to be his mistress. His articles claim that she must convince him that Mr. Williams had no encouragement, that he will give her five hundred guineas, fine clothes, fine jewelry and a property in Kent, that he will favor her relations, that she will have the power of free will, and that he may marry her after twelve months cohabitation if she continues her good behavior. Pamela rejects his proposal and delivers her letter to that effect to Mr. B, asking him to reconsider the matter before ruining her. Mr. B claims that if his terms are insufficient he will offer more because he cannot live without her. Near midnight, Pamela refuses Mr. B's summons, and Mrs. Jewkes forces her to undress and go to bed. A letter arrives on Sunday evening from Mr. B stating that he must go away for a day to deal with Mr. Williams.

On Tuesday night, Pamela laments that Mr. B's journey was a pretense. Nan, the maid, sleeps in the chair as Mrs. Jewkes and Pamela retire to bed. Pamela laments her situation and Mr. B's behavior as she tells Mrs. Jewkes her history. After Pamela and Mrs. Jewkes go to bed, Nan comes to Pamela's bed but is actually Mr. B who claims he will have Pamela now if she does not agree to his proposal. Pamela faints and recovers, worried what indignities she faced while unconscious. Mr. B swears he did not touch her. Mrs. Jewkes encourages Mr. B to take Pamela now, causing Pamela to faint again. After Pamela recovers, Mr. B leaves her, visiting the next morning to ask how she feels. On Tuesday morning, he complains that she frightened him on Sunday night. Mr. B agrees to lessen Pamela's restraints as long as she agrees to go nowhere for a fortnight. He also allows her to write to her parents as long as he can see the letter first. On Wednesday morning, Mr. B forces Pamela to walk with him and kisses her. She offends him by calling him "Lucifer", and he refuses to forgive her because she offers no promise of amendment. On Wednesday night, Mr. B joins Pamela and Mrs. Jewkes for dinner and asks Pamela to walk with him afterward. Mr. B praises Pamela but claims that he can abide neither the thought of marriage nor of Pamela marrying another man. Pamela assures him that he will overcome his regard for her and assures him that she loves no one. When Mr. B presses Pamela about Mr. Williams, she confesses that she secretly corresponded with Mr. Williams in order to plot her escape. Mr. B promises that Pamela has nothing to fear from him, but Pamela worries that he is being false with her.

### Section 7: pages 160-189 Analysis

Mr. B's anger upon seeing Pamela fulfills the earlier foreshadowing. Mr. B and Mrs. Jewkes mock Pamela's virtue, contrasting her virtue with their lack thereof. Mr. B proposes to make Pamela his mistress; this insult meets with Pamela's rejection which further aggravates Mr. B. This proposal also fulfills the earlier foreshadowing of Mr. B's





jealousy of Mr. Williams as Mr. B admits to his suspicions of a romantic liaison between Mr. Williams and Pamela within the letter. Mr. B's continued attempts on Pamela are repetitive, as are her rejections which demonstrate her virtue and honor. Pamela's prayer request further enrages Mr. B. Pamela's claim that Mr. B's journey is a pretense foreshadows another attempt on Pamela's virtue which is quickly fulfilled as she continues her story. Mr. B takes on a disguise, demonstrating his completely licentiousness; however, his decision not to compromise Pamela while she is unconscious shows the first semblance of honor in Mr. B which foreshadows the change in his intentions toward Pamela. Mrs. Jewkes shows her dishonor by encouraging Mr. B to ruin Pamela when she recovers. Mr. B allows Pamela to write to her parents which also foreshadows the change in his intentions.



## Section 8: pages 193-219

### Section 8: pages 193-219 Summary

On Thursday morning, Mr. B goes to a ball and orders Mrs. Jewkes to keep a closer watch on Pamela because Mr. Longman, Mr. Jonathan and Mrs. Jervis have been fired for their attempt to send a letter to Pamela. As Mrs. Jewkes and Pamela walk in the garden on Friday night, a gypsy comes and tells their fortunes, rubbing dirt on Pamela's palm because Pamela is so new. Pamela suspects that the gypsy is delivering a letter and finds a letter in the dirt. The letter informs Pamela of Mr. B's plot to hire an attorney to act as a minister and pretend to marry Mr. B and Pamela. Mr. B returns on Saturday around noon. Around two o'clock, Mrs. Jewkes catches Pamela looking at her papers and confiscates them, giving them to Mr. B. That evening, Mr. B tells Pamela that he has not yet read her papers, and Pamela begs him to make allowances for her harsh criticisms. At nine o'clock, Mr. B summons Pamela for her trial and asks to see the previous letters that have already been sent to Pamela's parents through Mr. Williams. He threatens to undress her to search for the papers, and Pamela promises to fetch them and goes upstairs. She begs to be spared until the next morning and prepares her bundle. On Sunday morning, Pamela joins Mr. B in the garden and gives him her papers. He reads the letters seriously and laments her consideration of suicide. When Mr. B offers to kiss Pamela, she recalls the sham marriage plot and objects. Mr. B is enraged, and Pamela leaves him. Around three o'clock, Mrs. Jewkes tells Pamela that she will now be taken to her parents, but Pamela fears another plot.

On Monday, Pamela is on her way to her parents. Before leaving Lincolnshire, she overhears Mrs. Jewkes urging Mr. B to ruin Pamela, but he argues that Pamela deserves to go honest. Pamela opens the door and falls to her knees thanking Mr. B who shuts himself in the closet. Mr. Colbrand and Mr. Robert escort Pamela who is confused and hurt by the change in Mr. B from love to dismissal. Pamela receives a letter from Mr. B in which he expresses his hope to overcome his love for Pamela who proves a greater danger to him than he is to her. He asks her not to marry for at least a year as though in respect to a dead husband. Mr. B also returns Pamela's papers which have caused him so much pain. Pamela finds her heart too partial in Mr. B's favor and laments not being born to a station worthy of Mr. B. Around eleven o'clock on Monday morning, Pamela arrives at an inn kept by Mrs. Jewkes' relative. Mr. B's groom delivers a letter to Pamela in which Mr. B states that he has read Pamela's journal and is touched by her concern when he nearly drowned despite the hardships he has put her through. Mr. B begs Pamela to return and promises to write her father immediately for permission to marry her. Monday at three o'clock, Pamela is excited but cautious of another plot. She reads Mr. Colbrand's letter from Mr. B in which Mr. B states that he hopes Pamela will return but to take her to her parents if she refuses. Pamela decides to trust in Mr. B's generosity and resolves to return to him. They arrive after everyone is in bed and learns that Mr. B is very ill.



## Section 8: pages 193-219 Analysis

This section marks the beginning of the second part of the novel. Mr. B fires Mrs. Jervis, Mr. Longman and Mr. Jonathan, fulfilling the earlier foreshadowing that results from their displeasing Mr. B by pleading for Pamela. The gypsy's predictions for Mrs. Jewkes and Pamela present an ironic contrast as she predicts positive things for the dishonorable woman while predicting a dismal future for the virtuous young lady. The letter that the gypsy delivers fulfills the foreshadowing caused by Mr. B's warning for Mrs. Jewkes to be especially watchful of Pamela since his servants from Bedfordshire are trying to warn her of his schemes. The content of the letter foreshadows Mr. B's continued and repetitious attacks on Pamela. Mr. B's return foreshadows his continued attempts on Pamela as well. Mrs. Jewkes confiscating Pamela's papers fulfills the foreshadowing about Mr. B reading her letters and foreshadows Mr. B's rejuvenated anger. Mr. B's anger foreshadows Pamela being taken to her parents, which is fulfilled when he dismisses her from Lincolnshire. Mr. B's hope to overcome his love for Pamela results from being unable to marry her because of the difference in their social class. Mr. B's letter to Pamela demonstrates the change in Mr. B as he begs her to return and marry him. Pamela's acquiescence foreshadows their marriage.



## Section 9: pages 219-242

### Section 9: pages 219-242 Summary

On Tuesday morning, Pamela learns that Mr. B's fever is abated. Mrs. Jewkes tells Mr. B that Pamela has returned, and Mr. B asks Pamela to visit him and is very happy when she complies with his request. Mr. B grants Pamela much liberty but asks her not to see Mr. Williams at present. He also shows her a letter from Lady Davers, chiding him for ruining Pamela and claiming it would be inexcusable to marry below his station. On Wednesday morning, Mr. B requests Pamela's company for a turn in his chariot. He tells her that he has renounced his sister for her saucy letter. Mr. B wants to marry Pamela, but Pamela worries about people being rude to Mr. B for stooping below his station. When Mr. B asks what Pamela will do with her time if the other ladies snub her, Pamela states she will do accounts, prepare food, play cards and music, read, write and remember her duty to God. Mr. B hints at his hope for children. Mr. B loves Pamela completely, and she admits to favoring him. When Pamela shows him the gypsy's letter, Mr. B admits that he had planned a sham marriage but changed his mind because Pamela would be miserable and his children would be illegitimate. Pamela feels that this conversation amply repays her for her previous sufferings. Mrs. Jewkes cries and worries about her past treatment of Pamela when Mr. B informs her that Pamela will soon be her mistress, but Pamela promises that she will not hold a grudge. Mr. B kisses Pamela and vows truth and fidelity before they part.

On Thursday morning, Mr. B tells Pamela that he wants to marry privately within fourteen days. Pamela insists upon being married in a church, and Mr. B agrees to prepare his family's small chapel which is currently used to store wood. Mr. B agrees to let Pamela tell her parents as long as they promise to keep it a secret. Thomas returns without the papers from Mr. Andrews who believes his daughter is undone. Mr. B understands the Andrews' wariness and writes of his curiosity to see his betrothed's parents. As she reviews her papers, Pamela is embarrassed by her tenderness toward Mr. B after their carriage ride, but she takes her parcel of papers to Mr. B to read. She also writes to her parents about her engagement, and Mr. B praises her writing style and expressions. Mr. B takes the chariot out in the afternoon and requests Pamela's company for an evening walk in the garden. During their walk, Mr. B tells Pamela that he saw Mr. Williams who apologized for incurring Mr. B's displeasure. Mr. B still suspects that Pamela's correspondence with Mr. Williams may have led to Pamela's encouraging his suit, but Pamela assures him that she saw no man she could love until Mr. B emboldened her to look to him.

### Section 9: pages 219-242 Analysis

Pamela's anxiety to learn of Mr. B's welfare demonstrates and foreshadows her love for him. His pleasure that Pamela has returned and his request that she visit him foreshadows Mr. B's change in attitude and intentions toward Pamela. After Pamela



reads Lady Davers' letter, she laments how the poor are despised by the rich, demonstrating the difference in social class. As Mr. B and Pamela converse, it is apparent that Mr. B's attitude toward Pamela has changed, fulfilling the earlier foreshadowing. Mr. B renounces his sister for her saucy letter, demonstrating his devotion to Pamela. Pamela's current happiness contrasts sharply with her previous misery at Lincolnshire. Mr. B's behavior is much more respectful to Pamela also. The neighboring gentry praise Pamela for her beauty and virtue, a repetitive scene throughout this novel. Mrs. Jewkes worries retrospectively about her treatment of Pamela, showing that she is aware of her injustice; however, Pamela demonstrates generosity and mercy by freely forgiving her prior tormentor. The fact that the Andrews will not send Pamela's letters to Mr. B foreshadows Mr. Andrews' arrival at Lincolnshire. Mr. B's praise of Pamela's writing contrasts with his earlier complaints about her laziness in writing so often. Mr. B encounters Mr. Williams, and their discussion foreshadows Mr. B forgiving Mr. Williams.



## Section 10: pages 242-274

### Section 10: pages 242-274 Summary

On Friday, Sir Simon's family, Mr. Peters, his wife and niece, and Lady Jones and her sister-in-law visit Mr. B and Pamela. They are eager to see Pamela so Mr. B summons her to the gardens where they all praise her. Pamela helps Mrs. Jewkes serve their guests. The young ladies want Pamela to join them for dinner, but she asks to be excused because she does not feel worthy of the honor. They insist that she joins them after dinner for cards, and she agrees. Around four o'clock, Mr. B asks Pamela if she would be surprised to see Mr. Williams below and tells her to expect a stranger. When Pamela is summoned down for cards, she finds her father, not Mr. Williams. Mr. Andrews comes because he worries that Pamela has been betrayed. Pamela and Mr. Andrews are very happy to be reunited and retire to privacy where she tells him all that has transpired. Miss Darnford interrupts to request their company. Mr. Andrews returns Pamela's papers, and she gives them to Mr. B. Pamela governs the tea table, and the guests insist that Pamela and Mr. Andrews join them for supper. Everyone praises Pamela, and the guests leave, after inviting Mr. B and Pamela to visit at their homes. Mr. B asks Pamela to set the date for their wedding for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday morning, but Pamela asks to defer her answer until the following morning. Mr. B retires, leaving Pamela to talk to her father.

On Saturday, Pamela and Mr. Andrews walk in the garden early in the morning, and Mr. B joins them at seven o'clock. He is ill-rested because he was awake late reading Pamela's papers. Mr. Andrews is eager to return to his wife and tell her what has happened, and Mr. B tells Pamela to write her mother. Mr. B asks Mr. Andrews to stay and witness the nuptials, but Mr. Andrews plans to leave early on Monday morning. Mr. B asks Pamela to marry him on Tuesday since he has sent Mr. Colbrand to obtain the marriage license. Pamela still wants to wait until the second seven days because she knows her father is eager to return home. The three breakfast and take an airing in the coach. Pamela dresses for their airing, but her father does not recognize her at first. He admires his daughter greatly. They enjoy an agreeable conversation on their carriage ride. They alight from the carriage to find Mr. Williams. Mr. B and Mr. Williams talk, and Mr. B grants Mr. Williams to be friends with Pamela and invites him to dinner. After a pleasant dinner, they look at the chapel. Mr. B asks Mr. Williams to officiate at church the next morning and relinquishes his bond to Mr. Williams. On Sunday, the neighboring gentry arrive to celebrate the Sabbath in the chapel. After dinner, the ladies question Mr. B about his pending wedding and ask to attend and to have a ball afterward. Pamela objects, but the ladies prevail upon Mr. B for a dancing match before he leaves the country. After the guests leave, Mr. B again asks Mr. Andrews to stay for the wedding, but Mr. Andrews refuses and leaves Lincolnshire.



## Section 10: pages 242-274 Analysis

The arrival of the neighboring gentry and their praise of Pamela is repetitive and foreshadows her reception at Bedfordshire. Pamela's feelings of unworthiness and refusal to dine with Mr. B's guests demonstrate that she is not proud or arrogant. Mr. B tells Pamela to expect a stranger below when she descends to play cards with their guests, foreshadowing Mr. Andrews' appearance; this foreshadowing is shortly thereafter fulfilled when Pamela is reunited with her father. Mr. B's eagerness for Pamela to set the date of their wedding shows his love and devotion for his fiancé. Mr. B shows his repentance and reformation by his sorrow when reading Pamela's accounts of the treatment she has received at Lincolnshire. During their airing, Mr. B again encounters Mr. Williams and is reconciled to the clergyman, fulfilling the earlier foreshadowing. Mr. B treats Mr. Andrews very kindly, showing his good intentions toward Pamela. Mr. Andrews is greatly praised for reciting from the Bible in church. Mr. B shows his willingness to accept responsibility for his past errors when he tells his guests of his prior behavior toward Pamela to her credit and his discredit. Mr. B's refusal to invite any of his current guests to his wedding foreshadows the private ceremony that takes place. Mr. Andrews does not insist upon staying to witness the wedding which demonstrates that he now fully trusts Mr. B. Pamela bids her father farewell, but Mr. B invites the Andrews to visit them in Bedfordshire, foreshadowing the Andrews' visit.



## Section 11: pages 274-301

### Section 11: pages 274-301 Summary

On Monday, Mr. Colbrand returns with the license, and Mr. B asks Pamela to set the date. Pamela requests a Thursday because her parents were married on a Thursday and she was born on a Thursday. After a minor debate, Pamela and Mr. B agree on the upcoming Thursday. Pamela misses Mr. B when he rides out. Mr. B resents Lady Davers' behavior, and Pamela laments causing a misunderstanding between siblings. On Tuesday, Pamela is happy to hear that her parents are well. At one o'clock, Pamela returns from an airing in the chariot during which she is pleased by Mr. B's conversation about English authors. Wednesday is the day before her wedding, and Pamela is excited. Wednesday evening, Mr. B comforts Pamela's fears as she worries that she is unworthy of him. Mr. B hears that his sister plans to visit and claims she will meet with an indifferent reception, but Pamela urges him to be kind to his sister. Mr. B tells Mrs. Jewkes about their wedding plans but urges her to keep their secret. Mrs. Jewkes worries that Pamela cannot forgive her, but Pamela assures her that she has. Pamela sleeps little during the night and wakes early on Thursday to prepare for her wedding. Several gentlemen arrive unexpectedly in the afternoon, allowing Pamela time to write. Pamela nearly faints from anxiety, but the ceremony takes place, followed by a toast and a lovely ride in the chariot. Mr. B is displeased when three gentlemen arrive and leaves to dismiss them. He returns to find Pamela and Mrs. Jewkes walking in the garden and enters the house with his wife. At eight o'clock that evening, Pamela resolves to subdue her idle fears, and she retires to her closet at ten. At eleven, Mrs. Jewkes announces that Mr. B will attend her. On Friday evening, Pamela rejoices in how Mr. B indulges her in everything. He tells her to write her parents and sends them fifty guineas and the promise to find them a better house when he returns to Bedfordshire. He also gives Pamela one hundred guineas to disperse amongst the servants before they leave. Mr. B plans to go to Bedfordshire soon. Pamela asks him to reinstate Mrs. Jervis, Mr. Longman and Mr. Jonathan, and Mr. B agrees. She is very happy and nothing left to wish for except her husband's life, health, honor and happiness.

### Section 11: pages 274-301 Analysis

Mr. B again demonstrates his eagerness to complete the ceremony. Pamela's request that they marry on a Thursday shows her superstitious side. The occasional mention of Mr. B's resentment toward Lady Davers and Pamela's hope that the siblings will be reconciled foreshadows Lady Davers' arrival in Lincolnshire and her reconciliation with Mr. B. As her wedding nears, Pamela becomes increasingly pleased with Mr. B. The rumors that Lady Davers plans to visit soon foreshadow her arrival. Pamela again demonstrates her generosity by assuring Mrs. Jewkes that her previous behavior has been forgiven. Pamela is so nervous before her wedding that she nearly faints, but the ceremony occurs with only Mrs. Jewkes, Mr. Williams and Mr. Peters as witnesses.





Pamela's fears on her wedding night result from losing her maidenhead and demonstrate her chastity. Mr. B demonstrates his reformation and generosity by encouraging Pamela to write to her parents about their nuptials, sending them a gift, and giving Pamela money to disperse amongst the servants at Lincolnshire. Pamela shows loyalty in her request to reinstate Mrs. Jervis, Mr. Longman and Mr. Jonathan; Mr. B complies with her request.



## Section 12: pages 301-344

### Section 12: pages 301-344 Summary

On Saturday morning, Mr. B writes to reinstate Mr. Longman and Mr. Jonathan. Pamela writes to Mrs. Jervis but is unsure how to sign her last name. Mr. B adds his last name and sends the letters. Mr. Williams visited yesterday to take leave because he is going to take possession of his new living. Saturday at seven in the evening, Mr. B returns home for dinner and tells Pamela that he has invited Mr. Peters, Lady Jones and the Darnfords to dinner the next day. Pamela is overwhelmed with gratitude when Mr. B tells her that he plans to place her parents in his little Kentish estate and allot her two hundred pounds a year for charity. On Sunday, there is no church since Mr. Williams is gone. During breakfast, Mr. B commands Pamela to always dress for dinner in case of guests. They also discuss hours to sleep, eat, and the like in order to avoid future quarrels. Their guests arrive, and the Misses Darnford request invitations to Pamela and Mr. B's wedding. When Mrs. Jewkes asks her ladyship to begin the toasts, the guests realize that the marriage has occurred and offer their congratulations.

Mr. B is gone all day Monday visiting a sick friend, and Pamela asks Mrs. Jewkes to dine and sup with her. Mr. B has not yet returned by Tuesday morning, but he sends an apology to Pamela and asks her to meet him at Sir Simon's for tea. Pamela prepares to leave, but Lady Davers' chariot arrives. Lady Davers commands Pamela's appearance. She accuses Pamela of losing her virtue and disbelieves that Pamela and Mr. B are married. Lady Davers and Jackey, her nephew, taunt Pamela and will not allow her to leave to meet Mr. B. Lady Davers slaps Pamela's hand, accusing her of insolence, and Jackey half draws his sword at one point to prevent Pamela from leaving. Mrs. Jewkes tries in vain to help Pamela, but eventually, Pamela escapes through the window. Mr. Colbrand escorts her through Lady Davers' servants to Sir Simon's house. Miss Darnford meets Pamela and tells her that Mr. B is very angry. He greets his wife coldly, and Pamela explains the cause of her delay. Mr. B apologizes for his unjust anger as Pamela relates her encounter with Lady Davers and Jackey. Mr. B is enraged. The guests at Sir Simon's praise Pamela, and they discuss her adventures with Lady Davers during the afternoon. After a very pleasant evening of cards and dancing, Pamela and Mr. B return home around eleven at night. Lady Davers is already in bed, and Mrs. Jewkes relates her anger during the evening. Pamela does not want to see Lady Davers in the morning, but Mr. B assures her that he will be with her. Pamela commands Mrs. Jewkes not to tell Mr. B the worst of the situation because she wants Mr. B and Lady Davers to reconcile.

### Section 12: pages 301-344 Analysis

Pamela's general virtue and generosity are exhibited by her pleasure at being able to add to the happiness and comfort of others by her marriage to Mr. B. Mr. B's plans to set up Pamela's parents in his little Kentish estate, as well as his intent to allot Pamela two



hundred pounds each year for charity demonstrate his generosity and desire to please his new wife. The discussion between Mr. B and Pamela is held to set forth rules by which they will live and avoid quarrels in the future; Pamela feels that these rules are fair and agrees to live by them. Mr. B and Pamela's secret nuptials are unveiled when Mrs. Jewkes asks her ladyship to offer the first toast during the neighboring gentry's visit.

It is ironic that Mr. B is absent when Lady Davers arrives at Lincolnshire. Her visit also fulfills the earlier foreshadowing. Lady Davers shows her contempt for Pamela and the entire lower class by forbidding Pamela to leave and demanding that she wait on her ladyship. When Pamela manages to escape, Mr. Colbrand shows honor by escorting her to join Mr. B at Sir Simon's house. Mr. B admits his unjust anger when he learns the reason of Pamela's delay. Pamela relates her encounter with Lady Davers to Mr. B who is enraged at the indignities his wife has faced at his sister's hands. During the party at Sir Simon's, the neighborhood gentry repetitively praise Pamela. When Pamela and Mr. B return home, they learn of more of Lady Davers' insults; yet, Pamela advises Mrs. Jewkes against enraging Mr. B further by telling him of some of the greater indignities because Pamela hopes that Mr. B and Lady Davers will be reconciled.



## Section 13: pages 344-372

### Section 13: pages 344-372 Summary

Early on Tuesday morning, Lady Davers knock on Mr. B and Pamela's door. Mr. B lets her in but has to carry her out of the room as she rages. Pamela refuses to join Mr. B and Lady Davers for breakfast. Lady Davers verbally abuses Pamela, Mr. B renounces his sister, and Pamela pleads for her which irritates Lady Davers. Mr. B tells his sister that he and Pamela are truly married, and Lady Davers laments her brother's marriage to the daughter of a beggar. Lady Davers acknowledges the improvement in Mr. B's behavior but refuses to acknowledge Pamela as her sister. Despite Lady Davers' fit of pride, Mr. B insists that Pamela join them for dinner. When Jackey learns that Mr. B and Pamela are truly married, he apologizes for his insolence. Lady Davers is rude to Pamela during dinner, and Mr. B vexes her pride by mocking her incessantly. Lady Davers tells Pamela about the woman that Mr. B ruined several years ago, Sally Godfrey, and Mr. B leaves. Mr. B orders the chariot, and Lady Davers asks Pamela to go to Mr. B with her where she asks his forgiveness and begs Pamela to be her advocate. Mr. B is angry at Lady Davers as well as Pamela for stooping too much to Lady Davers and plans to go to Bedfordshire without her. Both women plead with Mr. B to forgive the other, but he will not relent. Lady Davers blesses and kisses Pamela in preparation to leave, causing Mr. B to salute both because he is pleased that Lady Davers is reconciled to his marriage. Mr. B, Lady Davers and Jackey take an airing in the chariot. Around seven o'clock, Mr. B sends word that they will not return for supper because they will dine at Lady Jones' house. They return around eleven as Pamela sits with Mrs. Jewkes and Mrs. Worden, Lady Davers' woman. Mr. B apologizes for the delay, and Lady Davers tells Pamela that everyone at the party sang her praises. Lady Davers wishes Pamela joy with Mr. B. After they retire, Mr. B apologizes to his wife for his earlier anger and gives her forty-eight rules to obey as his wife which Pamela places in her journal. Pamela wonders about Sally Godfrey and wishes Lady Davers had not mentioned her.

### Section 13: pages 344-372 Analysis

Lady Davers' intrusion the next morning in Mr. B and Pamela's room demonstrates that she truly does not believe that they are married. This is further demonstrated by her insulting Pamela throughout the day. Social class is again an important topic as Lady Davers' sole objection to Pamela is her poverty. Lady Davers' agitation increases when she begins to believe that Mr. B and Pamela are truly married. Lady Davers reveals a secret about Mr. B to Pamela; she mentions his past liaison with Sally Godfrey. Mr. B, enraged at both his sister and wife, offers to leave Lincolnshire, but Lady Davers' reconciliation with Pamela prevents his departure since this is his main objective at the moment. Mr. B and Lady Davers attend supper at Lady Jones' house which benefits Pamela since all of the neighboring gentry praise her to Lady Davers. When they return, Lady Davers acknowledges Pamela as her sister-in-law, and the two women become



friends. Mr. B gives Pamela a long list of rules to follow as his wife, and Pamela believes these rules are fair. Her continued curiosity about Sally Godfrey foreshadows Mr. B explaining the entire affair.



## Section 14: pages 372-388

### Section 14: pages 372-388 Summary

On Wednesday morning, Pamela visits Lady Davers who questions her as to whether she loved Mr. B during her trials, but Pamela says she had not the presumption. Lady Davers asks about Mr. B's attempts on Pamela and asks to see Pamela's journal. Pamela agrees if Mr. B approves which he does. Lady Davers plans to leave the next day. Wednesday night, Pamela enjoys goodness and civility from all as she and Mr. B take their leave of the Lincolnshire gentry. Pamela and Miss Darnford agree to carry on a correspondence. Pamela writes again on Saturday. On Thursday morning, Lady Davers leaves Lincolnshire, as do Mr. B and Pamela who arrived yesterday morning at Bedfordshire. Mrs. Jervis greets and congratulates them. As she walks through the house, Pamela is struck with divine mercy. All of the servants rejoice to see Pamela. Mr. B turns John over to Pamela's care. He toasts Pamela's parents and suggests to Mr. Longman that he asks them to manage his Kentish estate. After Mr. B and Mr. Longman discuss financial matters, Pamela gives monetary gifts to the servants to celebrate her nuptials. Mr. Longman and Mrs. Jervis hope to have a young master soon. The evening passes merrily, and Pamela is very happy. On Sunday night, Mr. B is employed all day in the library so Pamela prays in the closet. The neighboring gentry send compliments to Mr. B on his return to Bedfordshire but no word about his marriage. On Monday, Pamela chooses patterns for her new clothes. She sends John to her parents with letters, money for two suits of clothes each, an invitation to visit, and the news that their creditors will be paid. Pamela details her plans to keep account of all of her charitable donations.

### Section 14: pages 372-388 Analysis

Pamela tells Lady Davers that she did not have the presumption to love Mr. B until he first loved her; this shows that she had no pretensions or pride. Lady Davers asks to read Pamela's journals, and Pamela and Mr. B agree. The civility from the neighboring gentry before Mr. B and Pamela's departure show that Pamela has been accepted into Mr. B's social network in Lincolnshire. Mr. B and Pamela return to Bedfordshire where the servants loyal to Pamela have been reinstated as previously agreed upon. Mr. B shares his kind intentions for Pamela's parents. The servants' happiness to see Pamela and congratulate her shows that she is very well respected and liked. Mr. B's continual employment in the library foreshadows his explanation of this.



## Section 15: pages 388-412

### Section 15: pages 388-412 Summary

On Tuesday morning, Mr. B rides out and returns to dinner with Mr. Martin, Mr. Arthur, Mr. Brooks and Mr. Chambers who are curious to see Pamela after hearing her praised. Mr. B presents Pamela to his guests who leave full of praises and vows to bring their ladies to see her. On Thursday, Mr. B and Pamela set off early in their chariot to breakfast at a dairy farm which is also used as a boarding school ten miles away. Pamela meets four young ladies, including Miss Goodwin who addresses Mr. B as uncle. Mr. B reveals that this is actually his illegitimate daughter by Sally Godfrey. Pamela talks to Miss Goodwin and promises to love her; she convinces Mr. B to allow Miss Goodwin to visit them on her next break from school. Mr. B tells Pamela the details of his affair with Sally Godfrey, ending with her moving to Jamaica and Mr. B taking care of Miss Goodwin's education. Mr. B admits that he planned to make Pamela the next Sally Godfrey. On Monday morning, Mr. B and Pamela set out for church and are received by the neighboring gentry who compliment Pamela and wish her joy in her marriage. Pamela gives alms to the poor. She is introduced to Mrs. Arthur, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Chambers and Lady Towers who praise her. Mr. Martin and Mr. Dormer visit in the evening. On Tuesday, Mr. B tells Pamela the reason that he has been busy in the library: he has arranged his will in order to leave Pamela independent in case he dies. His only requirement is that Pamela not marry Mr. Williams. Pamela is grateful for Mr. B's thoughtfulness even as she grieves at the idea of losing him. On Friday, they are favored with the company of nearly all of the neighboring gentry who greatly admire Pamela. Lady Davers sends her compliments. Only one thing keeps Pamela from pure ecstasy. Pamela hopes to visit the dairy farm again soon. The final narrative passage tells that this is the end of Pamela's letters to her parents because they arrive the next day and shortly afterwards take possession of the Kentish estate. The narrator elaborates on how each of the characters in the novel may serve as examples to youth while Pamela represents the perfect example of virtue and its rewards.

### Section 15: pages 388-412 Analysis

Mr. B's return to dinner on Tuesday with some of the neighboring gentry parallels his invitation to the Lincolnshire gentry, as does the praise these gentlemen bestow upon Pamela. Pamela's introduction to the young ladies at the boarding school foreshadows the discovery that Miss Goodwin is Mr. B's illegitimate daughter; this is quickly fulfilled and the fulfillment of this foreshadows Mr. B telling Pamela about his affair with Sally Godfrey. Mr. B does so immediately. Pamela's request that Miss Goodwin visit them at Bedfordshire shows her generosity and her maternal instinct. At church, Pamela further shows her generosity by giving alms to the poor. The neighboring gentry all attend because Pamela is the newest novelty in the neighborhood and all are anxious to see her. Repetitively, Pamela is praised. On Tuesday, foreshadowing is fulfilled when Mr. B explains that his preoccupation in the library is due to making alterations to his will in



order to leave Pamela independent in case he dies. Pamela's happiness serves as an example of the rewards that can occur from extreme examples of virtue and chastity. The final portion of the novel is an interruption by the narrator to praise Pamela and to conclude all of the events of the novel happily.





# Characters

## Pamela

Pamela is the title character and protagonist. She works as a waiting maid, but her lady dies. Mr. B, her lady's son, hires Pamela to take care of his linens and is very kind to her. Pamela's parents warn her that Mr. B may have designs on her virtue and caution her to be on her guard. Pamela laments when Mr. B offers freedoms to her in the garden at Bedfordshire, but Mrs. Jervis convinces her to stay. After Mr. B attempts Pamela several more times at Bedfordshire and accuses her of having no regard for his reputation, Pamela decides to return to her parents, and Mr. B permits her to leave. Pamela's journey is unusually long, and she finds herself at a farmer's abode. A letter from Mr. B claims her obstinacy makes this rash step necessary.

After meeting Mrs. Jewkes at an inn, Pamela proceeds to Mr. B's Lincolnshire estate where she is held captive, waiting for Mr. B to visit. Although she cannot send her letters, Pamela continues writing her parents about her misfortunes. She begins a secret correspondence with Mr. Williams who tries to help her escape, but Mr. B suspects a romantic attachment and has Mr. Williams wrongfully imprisoned for debt. Pamela's attempt to escape from Lincolnshire fails, and Mr. B arrives.

After Mr. B makes several more attempts on Pamela's virtue, she angers him by calling him Lucifer, and he sends her to her parents. Before Pamela gets far, Mr. B sends a letter after her begging her to return and marry him. Pamela acquiesces. Pamela is courted by Mr. B and introduced to the neighboring gentry who praise her beauty and virtue. Pamela marries Mr. B, and she is very happy. Lady Davers arrives to persecute Pamela for her loss of virtue, disbelieving that Mr. B has married a woman of a lower class. After Lady Davers becomes reconciled to the marriage, Pamela and Mr. B return to Bedfordshire where the servants loyal to Pamela are reinstated. Pamela meets Miss Goodwin, Mr. B's illegitimate daughter and begs him to let the girl live with him. Only one thing, pregnancy, is lacking to make Pamela perfectly happy. Pamela represents the ideal of virtue and its rewards.

## Mr. B

Mr. B is one of the main characters and the antagonist. After his mother dies, Mr. B hires Pamela to take care of his linens and is very kind to her. Pamela's parents warn her that Mr. B may have designs on her virtue and caution her to be on her guard. He pays John to allow him to see Pamela's correspondence to her parents before it is delivered. Mr. B offers freedoms to her in the garden at Bedfordshire. After Mr. B attempts Pamela several more times at Bedfordshire and accuses her of having no regard for his reputation, Pamela decides to return to her parents, and Mr. B permits her to leave. When Pamela arrives at a farmer's abode, a letter from Mr. B claims her obstinacy



makes this rash step necessary. He also writes the farmer, claiming that he wishes to save Pamela from an unfortunate match.

Mr. B has Pamela taken to his Lincolnshire estate where he hires Mrs. Jewkes as her warden. He writes to Pamela, asking for her permission to visit, but she refuses him. Mr. B becomes suspicious and jealous of a romantic attachment between Pamela and Mr. Williams. He has Mr. Williams wrongfully imprisoned for debt. Mr. B visits Pamela at Lincolnshire where he attempts to seduce her several times, though he does not take advantage of her when she passes out from fear.

Eventually, Pamela angers Mr. B, and he sends her to her parents. After she leaves, he reads her journal and is bothered by her account of all she has been subjected to. Her concern for him after his hunting accident touches Mr. B, and he writes Pamela, begging her to return and marry him. After their wedding, Mr. B lays out rules for Pamela in being his wife. Mr. B and Pamela return to Bedfordshire, and he introduces her to his illegitimate daughter, Miss Goodwin. Mr. B places the Andrews in his Kentish estate and proves generous and kind to everyone after his reformation which is caused by witnessing Pamela's extreme virtue.

## **Mrs. Jervis**

Mrs. Jervis works as Mr. B's housekeeper at Bedfordshire. She defends Pamela against Mr. B when he tries to compromise Pamela's virtue. Although she is fired for trying to warn Pamela about Mr. B's sham marriage scheme, Mrs. Jervis is reinstated after Mr. B marries Pamela.

## **Mrs. Jewkes**

Mrs. Jewkes works for Mr. B at Lincolnshire, helping to imprison Pamela. She is cruel to Pamela and encourages Mr. B to ruin Pamela. After her marriage to Mr. B, Pamela forgives Mrs. Jewkes who becomes more respectable by following Pamela's example.

## **Mr. Williams**

Mr. Williams is a clergyman in Lincolnshire who tries to help Pamela escape through their secret correspondence. He is falsely imprisoned for debt when Mr. B suspects a romantic relationship between Mr. Williams and Pamela. When Mr. B decides to marry Pamela, Mr. Williams is released from prison and performs the wedding ceremony. Eventually, he takes possession of a substantial living and leaves Lincolnshire.

## **Mr. and Mrs. Andrews**

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews are Pamela's parents whom she corresponds with throughout the novel. They worry about their daughter losing her virtue to Mr. B. Mr. Andrews travels to



Lincolnshire to save Pamela, only to learn of her impending marriage to Mr. B. After his marriage to Pamela, Mr. B pays off the Andrews' debts and places them in his Kentish estate.

## **John**

John delivers Pamela's letters to her parents, but he is employed by Mr. B who he allows to read the letters before they are delivered. John is remorseful for his part in the plot against Pamela, and Pamela forgives him.

## **Lady Davers**

Lady Davers is Mr. B's sister. After her mother's death, she wants to employ Pamela in her household, but Mr. B will not allow it. Lady Davers disapproves of Mr. B's intentions to ruin Pamela, though she does not want him to marry a lower class woman either. When she visits Lincolnshire, Lady Davers misuses Pamela because she refuses to believe that Mr. B and Pamela are married. After much arguing with her brother, Lady Davers becomes reconciled to his marriage and wishes Pamela happiness with Mr. B.

## **Mr. Longman**

Mr. Longman is Mr. B's accountant at Bedfordshire. Mr. B fires him for trying to warn Pamela about the sham marriage scheme, but Mr. Longman is reinstated after Mr. B and Pamela's marriage.

## **Monsieur Colbrand**

Monsieur Colbrand is hired by Mr. B to help Mrs. Jervis imprison Pamela at Lincolnshire. He also escorts Pamela safely to Mr. B when Lady Davers' servants try to prevent her from leaving.

## **Sally Godfrey**

Sally Godfrey is the woman Mr. B ruined several years before his attempts on Pamela. She is the mother of Miss Goodwin, Mr. B's illegitimate daughter, and lives in Jamaica.

## **Miss Goodwin**

Miss Goodwin is Mr. B's illegitimate daughter by Sally Godfrey. She is six years old and boards at a dairy farm ten miles away from the Bedfordshire estate. Miss Goodwin knows Mr. B as her uncle, and Pamela obtains Mr. B's permission to allow Miss Goodwin to visit them on her next break from school.



## **Lincolnshire Gentry**

The Lincolnshire gentry includes Mr. Peters, Lady Darnford, and the two Miss Darnfords, amongst others. All approve of and praise Pamela.

## **Bedfordshire Gentry**

The Bedfordshire gentry includes the Martins, Arthurs, Brooks, Chambers, and Lady Towers, amongst others. All approve of and praise Pamela.



# Objects/Places

## Bedfordshire Estate

Pamela works at the Bedfordshire Estate for Mr. B's mother when the lady dies. Mr. B first attempts Pamela at the Bedfordshire estate before allowing her to leave, only to kidnap her. After their wedding, Pamela and Mr. B return to Bedfordshire.

## Lincolnshire Estate

Mr. B imprisons Pamela at his Lincolnshire Estate in order to further his goal of compromising her virtue. Mrs. Jewkes helps Mr. B by watching Pamela and preventing Pamela's escape. Eventually, Mr. B visits Pamela at the Lincolnshire Estate and, impressed with her extreme virtue, marries her.

## Pond

Pamela considers drowning herself in a pond on the Lincolnshire Estate in order to preserve her virtue before Mr. B visits.

## Rocks

Pamela and Mr. Williams use rocks along the gate at the Lincolnshire Estate as a mailbox by which to carry on their secret correspondence which they begin to plan to Pamela's escape.

## Letters

Pamela writes letters to her parents of her trials and happiness, even though she is unable to send these letters during her trials.

## Closet

Pamela often hides in the closet to escape Mr. B, Mrs. Jewkes and even Lady Davers. She attempts to escape the Lincolnshire Estate by climbing from her closet window as well.

## Pamela's Room

At Lincolnshire, Pamela is forced to share a room with Mrs. Jewkes which enables Mr. B to attempt Pamela in her bed.



## **Jail**

Mr. B sends Mr. Williams to jail for a false debt because Mr. B jealously suspects that the correspondence between Pamela and Mr. Williams is of a romantic nature.

## **Mr. B's Proposal**

Mr. B writes Pamela a proposal which contains seven articles. This proposal lays out the terms upon which Mr. B will accept Pamela as his mistress. Pamela rejects Mr. B's proposal.

## **Chapel**

The chapel at Lincolnshire is used as a storage room for lumber. Mr. B has it restored, and he and Pamela are married by Mr. Williams in the chapel.

## **Wedding**

Mr. B and Pamela are married secretly and privately by Mr. Williams in the chapel on the Lincolnshire Estate. Pamela nearly faints from nervousness, but Mrs. Jewkes revives her. Mr. Peters and Mrs. Jewkes are present at the wedding.

## **Kentish Estate**

Mr. B owns a small Kentish farm which he allows Mr. and Mrs. Andrews to manage after his marriage to Pamela.

## **Pamela's Journal**

Pamela keeps a journal which details her trials and her happiness in her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews read this journal. Mr. B is tormented by the journal when he sees the pain he has caused his beloved. Lady Davers asks to see the journal, and with Mr. B's permission, Pamela agrees.

## **Dairy Farm**

The dairy farm is located about ten miles from the Bedfordshire Estate. Mr. B takes Pamela there one morning for breakfast. The dairy farm also serves as a boarding school for young ladies, and it is here that Miss Goodwin, Mr. B's illegitimate daughter by Sally Godfrey, attends school.



# Themes

## Virtue

The most important theme of this novel is virtue; it is even mentioned in the title of the novel. The introduction praises Pamela and the author for their virtue. Pamela's parents warn her against Mr. B in order to protect her virtue. Lady Davers, Mrs. Jervis, the Bedfordshire gentry and the Lincolnshire gentry all praise Pamela for her virtue repetitively throughout the novel. Pamela's parents stress the importance of virtue when they tell her that it is better to lose her life than her virtue; they also say that only goodness and virtue makes one truly beautiful. Pamela demonstrates her virtue by rejecting Mr. B's many advances at Bedfordshire, even sleeping with Mrs. Jervis to protect her chastity. Pamela decides to leave Bedfordshire because of the danger to her virtue while under Mr. B's roof. Mrs. Jervis shows her virtue by defending Pamela against Mr. B and refusing to apologize for her supposed insolence because of Mr. B's treatment of Pamela.

Pamela's parents convey their concern for their daughter's virtue when Mr. Andrews travels first to Bedfordshire and later to Lincolnshire with the goal of preserving Pamela's virtue. Mr. Williams demonstrates his virtue by his attempts to save Pamela from Mr. B. Pamela is disgusted with Mrs. Jewkes because she is not virtuous. Lady Davers doubts Pamela's marriage and virtue but eventually apologizes for her insults. Mr. Longman, Mr. Jonathan and Mrs. Jervis show their virtue in risking (and losing) their jobs by trying to warn Pamela of Mr. B's sham marriage scheme. Mr. B and Mrs. Jewkes become more virtuous by following Pamela's example, and Mr. B repents of his past licentiousness. Pamela further shows her virtue by her willingness to accept Miss Goodwin, Mr. B's illegitimate daughter with Sally Godfrey. Eventually, Pamela is rewarded for her virtue by the raise in social status that results from her marriage to Mr. B.

## Dishonor

A recurring theme in "Pamela; or Virtue Rewarded" is the topic of dishonor, the opposite of virtue. Since virtue is the most important theme of the novel, its antithesis, dishonor, is also prevalent throughout the writing. For every instance of virtue that Pamela shows by resisting Mr. B's advances, Mr. B demonstrates his own dishonor by attempting the maiden. Additionally, Mr. B acts dishonorably by his many schemes to ruin Pamela. Since she is unwilling to relinquish her virtue, he resorts to many contrivances and deceitful methods in order to persuade her to relent. Mr. B pays John to allow him to see Pamela's letters to her parents before they are delivered; then he kidnaps her rather than return her to her parents. Mr. B holds Pamela hostage at Lincolnshire where she is treated poorly by Mrs. Jewkes. He even dresses as a maid in order to attempt Pamela in her own bed. He concocts a scheme to hire an attorney to act as a minister and perform a sham marriage. Another instance of Mr. B's dishonor is when he has Mr.



Williams wrongfully imprisoned because of his jealous suspicions of a romantic liaison between Pamela and Mr. Williams.

Additionally, other characters act dishonorably throughout the text. John acts dishonorably by allowing Mr. B to read Pamela's letters. Mrs. Jewkes's treatment of Pamela shows her dishonor, specifically when she urges him on when he attacks Pamela in her bed and when she objects to him allowing Pamela to return to her parents with her honor intact. Lady Davers and Jackey act dishonorably toward Pamela when they visit Lincolnshire but do not believe that Pamela and Mr. B are truly married.

## Social Class

Social class is a theme that contributes to the other themes greatly. Mr. B would not behave dishonorably toward Pamela, nor would Pamela have the opportunity to display her extreme virtue, were it not for the boundaries that result from their varying social classes. Since Pamela is poor and Mr. B is rich, it is considered improper for the two to be matched. During her stay at Bedfordshire, Pamela is paraded between the ladies of the neighboring gentry as a curiosity with a lack of respect that marks her as of the serving class. Pamela's situation is worsened by her poverty since she has no recourse against Mr. B's actions. Mr. B is only able to kidnap Pamela because of her lower class status and her inability to appeal to anyone to help her. This is further demonstrated by the Lincolnshire gentry's unwillingness to anger Mr. B by helping Pamela escape.

Furthermore, social class is seen in the ways in which Mr. B is able to manipulate John, Mrs. Jewkes and Mr. Williams. Lady Davers exhibits contempt for Pamela and her parents due to their social status, despite the fact that they are morally superior to Mr. B and Lady Davers by far. Before her marriage to Mr. B, Pamela is plagued with feelings of unworthiness, partially resulting from the fact that she cannot offer him a dowry. After Pamela's marriage, her social status is elevated. This is demonstrated by the change in Mrs. Jewkes' attitude toward Pamela after she becomes Mrs. Jewkes' mistress. Another aspect of social class is clothing which Pamela changes once her social status is elevated. Pamela's behavior toward Lady Davers is indicative of her social status as Mr. B's wife, and the way that Jackey treats Pamela alters greatly before and after he learns that she is married to Mr. B. Pamela's virtue allows her to transcend social class boundaries and be accepted by the upper and lower classes.





# Style

## Point of View

The point of view of this novel is first person. This point of view is mostly limited and unreliable due to the nature of an epistolary novel and Pamela's inability to know anything other than what she witnesses and hears. This point of view is important to the novel due to the format and the fact that a large part of the premise of the novel revolves around Pamela's change in feelings toward Mr. B. Without this point of view, it would be impossible to see Pamela's feelings. This point of view is also important for enabling the reader to see Pamela's virtue since she can report on her actions and feelings about them, doubly demonstrating her virtue. There are only two narrative passages in this work, during which the point of view changes to that of an omniscient and reliable third person narrator.

The story is told with a fairly equal distribution of exposition and dialogue. There are also a fair number of monologues throughout the text, by virtue of the epistolary style of writing. The focus of the novel is on Pamela clinging to her virtue while Mr. B contrives to ruin her. Some short amounts of time pass within a very descriptive letter or journal entry while shorter accounts may detail an extended amount of time. The events of the novel are seen mostly through Pamela's eyes with two exceptions of the narrator intervening to explain matters objectively.

## Setting

The novel is set in eighteenth century England, the time at which the book is written. The world is very isolated and driven by social class. The characters speak English and the only differentiation is between different social classes, reflecting varying amounts of education. The characters in the novel are either the rich gentry or the poverty-stricken servants that work for them.

The first part of the novel occurs at Mr. B's home in Bedfordshire where Pamela works for Mr. B's mother until she dies. After his mother's death, Mr. B is kind to Pamela at first but attempts her in the garden. Pamela seeks refuge by sharing a bedroom with Mrs. Jervis who protects her from many of Mr. B's advances. Simultaneously, Pamela writes to her parents who live in a small, unnamed village. After Pamela insists upon returning to her parents, Mr. B allows her to depart from Bedfordshire. Her journey takes longer than expected, and Pamela finds herself at a farmer's house. Her travels continue to an inn where Mrs. Jewkes joins her as they proceed to Mr. B's mansion in Lincolnshire.

During Pamela's confinement at Lincolnshire, much of the action occurs in the garden where Pamela takes many walks. She is forced to share a bedroom with Mrs. Jewkes where much action occurs, including one of Mr. B's attempts on Pamela's virtue. Finally, Mr. B permits Pamela to return to her parents, and she stops again at the inn run by



Mrs. Jewkes' relative. At Mr. B's pleading, Pamela returns to Lincolnshire where Mr. B begins courting her in earnest. Mr. B and Pamela attend several parties at the abodes of the neighboring gentry, and they are finally married in his small family chapel that was previously used as a storage room for lumber. After their marriage, Pamela and Mr. B return to Bedfordshire which Pamela now views much differently. They visit a small dairy farm that also serves as a boarding school and is located ten miles from the Bedfordshire estate; it is here that Pamela meets Miss Goodwin, Mr. B's illegitimate daughter. The only other setting is mentioned briefly in the final narrative passage; Mr. B situates Pamela's parents in his Kentish estate.

## Language and Meaning

The language of this novel tends to be fairly stiff and formal because of the time period in which it is written. The sentences are structured in a way that is mostly grammatically correct, though sometimes they are a bit formidable. Although it may be difficult at first for many readers to adapt to the language, once they get used to the style, it aids comprehension of the novel, rather than hindering it. This language allows the reader to transcend boundaries of time in order to feel more like a part of the world in which the novel occurs.

The language of this novel is pretty consistent throughout; however, some passages aid in characterizing different characters, at least as far as their social class is concerned. There is a fairly equal amount of dialogue and exposition so the characters are given plenty of time to differentiate themselves. There are portions of the novel in which a long period of time passes in a short amount of space and other portions where a short amount of time is conveyed in a large amount of space. The majority of this novel is written from Pamela's perspective, thereby acquainting the reader most thoroughly with her. Overall, the language is easy to understand and helps to distinguish characters as belonging to certain social classes.

## Structure

This novel consists of four hundred, twelve pages. It is broken into two parts or volumes. Thirty-two letters begin the novel, but once Pamela is forbidden to write to her parents, she begins to keep a journal which details her activities and persecutions. Each of these letters and journal entries vary greatly in length as short amounts of time often take much more space to detail than much longer amounts of time. Some of the entries and letters are very descriptive while others are more general and vague. Much of the novel contains Pamela's feelings and thoughts about certain actions that occur.

The plot of the novel is very complex as it contains many subplots. The focus of the novel is on Pamela maintaining her virtue despite Mr. B's many attempts on her chastity; however, there are also other concerns within the novel. The primary subplot is Pamela's correspondence with her parents and their reaction when she stops writing. Also, there is Mr. Williams' dilemma as a result of his attempts to help Pamela. The



Bedfordshire servants are also punished for trying to warn Pamela about Mr. B's evil intentions. After Pamela and Mr. B are married, all of the subplots and the main plot are nicely concluded and resolved.

The pace of the novel is slightly slow due to the repetitive accounts of Mr. B's attacks on Pamela and her ability to thwart these attempts on her virtue. The novel is easy to read and engrossing as most readers will hope for Pamela to escape Mr. B's plots. Due to the epistolary style of writing, there are many flashbacks throughout the novel as Pamela learns about past contrivances and relates them to her current situation. The novel is very enjoyable.



## Quotes

"Sure they can't all have designs against me, because they are civil!" Pamela, Letter III, p. 28.

"It is a thousand pities that such worthy hearts should not have better luck in the world! and wonders, that you, my father, who are so well able to teach, and write so good a hand, succeeded no better in the school you attempted to set up; but was forced to go to such hard labour. But this is more pride to me, that I am come of such honest parents, than if I had been born a lady." John, Letter V, pp. 29-30.

"But still your kind fatherly cautions came into my head, and made all these gifts nothing near to me what they would have been. But yet, I hope, there is no reason; for what good could it do to him to harm such a simple maiden as me?" Pamela, Letter VII, p. 31.

"Be sure don't let people's telling you, you are pretty, puff you up; for you did not make yourself, and so can have no praise due to you for it. It is virtue and goodness only, that make the true beauty. Remember that, Pamela." Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, Letter VIII, p. 33.

"O Pamela, said I to myself, why art thou so foolish and fearful? Thou hast done no harm! What, if thou fearest an unjust judge, when thou art innocent, would'st thou do before a just one, if thou wert guilty? Have courage, Pamela, thou knowest the worst! And how easy a choice poverty and honesty is, rather than plenty and wickedness." Pamela, Letter XVI, p. 43.

"Well, then, poor Pamela must be turned off, and looked upon as a vile abandoned creature, and every body would despise her; ay, and justly too, Mrs. Jervis; for she that can't keep her virtue, ought to live in disgrace." Pamela, Letter XIX, p. 49.

"For, naughty as he has been to me, I wish his prosperity with all my heart, for my good old lady's sake." Pamela, Letter XXVI, p. 69.

"But you are so pretty, that go where you will, you can never be free from the designs of some or other of our sex; and I shall think I don't answer the care of my dying mother for you, who committed you to me, if I don't provide you a husband to protect your virtue, and your innocence; and a worthy one I have thought of for you." Master, Letter XXXI, pp. 85-86.

"But he says so much of himself, that I will only sit down with this sad reflection, That power and riches never want tools to promote their vilest ends, and there is nothing so hard to be known as the heart of man:—I can but pity the poor wretch, since he seems to have great remorse, and I believe it best to keep his wickedness secret. If it lies in my way, I will encourage his penitence; for I may possibly make some discoveries by it." Pamela, Monday, p. 111.



"An hour of innocence is worth an age of guilt; and were my life to be made ever so miserable by it, I should never forgive myself, if I were not to lengthen out to the longest minute my happy time of honesty. Who knows what Providence may do for me!" Pamela, Friday, Saturday, p. 125.

"Were my life in question, instead of my honesty, I would not wish to involve you, or any body, in the least difficulty, for so worthless a poor creature. But, O sir! my soul is of equal importance with the soul of a princess; though my quality is inferior to that of the meanest slave. Save then my innocence, good Heaven! and preserve my mind spotless; and happy shall I be to lay down my worthless life; and see an end to all my troubles and anxieties." Pamela, Thursday, p. 141.

"Henceforth, for Pamela's sake, whenever I see a lovely face, will I mistrust a deceitful heart; and whenever I hear of the greatest pretences to innocence, will I suspect some deep-laid mischief." Mr. B, Monday, Tuesday, p. 146.

"Just now the horrid creature tells me, as a secret, that she has reason to think he has found out a way to satisfy my scruples: It is, by marrying me to this dreadful Colbrand, and buying me of him on the wedding day, for a sum of money!—Was ever the like heard?—She says it will be my duty to obey my husband; and that Mr. Williams will be forced, as a punishment, to marry us; and that, when my master has paid for me, and I am surrendered up, the Swiss is to go home again, with the money, to his former wife and children; for, she says, it is the custom of those people to have a wife in every nation." Pamela, Sunday afternoon, p. 157.

"There, take up that fallen angel!—Once I thought her as innocent as an angel of light but I have now no patience with her. The little hypocrite prostrates herself thus, in hopes to move my weakness in her favour, and that I'll raise her from the floor myself. But I shall not touch her: No, let such fellows as Williams be taken in by her artful wiles! I know her now, and see she is for any fool's turn, that will be caught by her." Mr. B, Saturday morning, p. 160.

"Give me leave to say, sir, in answer to what you hint, That you may in a twelvemonth's time marry me, on the continuance of my good behaviour; that this weighs less with me, if possible, than any thing else you have said: for, in the first place, there is an end of all merit, and all good behaviour, on my side, if I have now any, the moment I consent to your proposals: And I should be so far from expecting such an honour, that I will pronounce, that I should be most unworthy of it. What, sir, would the world say, were you to marry your harlot? That a gentleman of your rank in life should stoop, not only to the base-born Pamela, but to a base-born prostitute?—Little, sir, as I know of the world, I am not to be caught by a bait so poorly covered as this!" Pamela, Saturday noon, p. 167.

"But what can I do? Consider the pride of my condition. I cannot endure the thought of marriage, even with a person of equal or superior degree to myself; and have declined several proposals of that kind: How then, with the distance between us in the world's



judgment, can I think of making you my wife?—Yet I must have you; I cannot bear the thoughts of any other man supplanting me in your affections: and the very apprehension of that has made me hate the name of Williams, and use him in a manner unworthy of my temper." Mr. B, Wednesday night, p. 184.

"Well, this conversation, Pamela, is gone farther than I intended it. You need not be afraid, at this rate, of trusting yourself with me: but it is I that ought to be doubtful of myself, when I am with you.—But before I say any thing farther on this subject, I will take my proud heart to task; and, till then, let every thing be as if this conversation had never passed. Only, let me tell you, that the more confidence you place in me, the more you'll oblige me: but your doubts will only beget cause of doubts." Mr. B, Wednesday night, p. 188.

"Now, my dear father and mother, what shall we say of this truly diabolical master! O, how shall I find words to paint my griefs, and his deceit I have as good as confessed I love him; but, indeed, it was on supposing him good.—This, however, has given him too much advantage. But now I will break this wicked forward heart of mine, if it will not be taught to hate him!" Pamela, Friday night, p. 196.

"I'll judge you, never fear, said he, as favourably as you deserve; for you have too powerful a pleader within me." Mr. B, Saturday 6 o'clock, p. 200.

"Lack-a-day, what strange creatures are men! gentlemen, I should say, rather! For, my dear deserving good mother, though poverty be both your lots, has had better hap, and you are, and have always been, blest in one another!—Yet this pleases me too; he was so good, he would not let Mrs. Jewkes speak ill of me, and scorned to take her odious unwomanly advice. O, what a black heart has this poor wretch! So I need not rail against men so much; for my master, bad as I have thought him, is not half so bad as this woman.—To be sure she must be an atheist!—Do you think she is not?" Pamela, Monday, p. 212.

"When these lines are delivered to you, you will be far on your way to your father and mother, where you have so long desired to be: and, I hope, I shall forbear thinking of you with the least shadow of that fondness my foolish heart had entertained for you: I bear you, however, no ill will; but the end of my detaining you being over, I would not that you should tarry with me an hour more than needed, after the ungenerous preference you gave, at a time that I was inclined to pass over all other considerations, for an honourable address to you; for well I found the tables entirely turned upon me, and that I was in far more danger from you, than you were from me; for I was just upon resolving to defy all the censures of the world, and to make you my wife." Mr. B, Monday, p. 213.

"But love is not a voluntary thing." Pamela, Monday, p. 214.

"I do own to you, my Pamela, that I love you with a purer flame than ever I knew in my whole life; a flame to which I was a stranger; and which commenced for you in the garden; though you, unkindly, by your unseasonable doubts, nipped the opening bud,



while it was too tender to bear the cold blasts of slight or negligence. And I know more sincere joy and satisfaction in this sweet hour's conversation with you, than all the guilty tumults of my former passion ever did, or (had even my attempts succeeded) ever could have afforded me." Mr. B, Wednesday morning, p. 228.

"Sir, when you consider, that my utmost presumption could not make me hope for the honour you now seem to design me; that I was so hardly used, and had no prospect before me but dishonour, you will allow that I should have seemed very little in earnest in my professions of honesty, if I had not endeavoured to get away: but yet I resolved not to think of marriage; for I never saw the man I could love, till your goodness emboldened me to look up to you." Pamela, Thursday, p. 241.

"Mr. Andrews, I told you yesterday that the divine you saw was not Mr. Williams; I now tell you, this gentleman is: and though I have been telling him, I think not myself obliged to his intentions; yet I will own that Pamela and you are; and though I won't promise to love him, I would have you." Mr. B, Saturday, p. 260.

"I have, sir, a great desire, that, whenever the day is, it may be on a Thursday: On a Thursday my dear father and mother were married; and, though poor, they are a very happy pair.—On a Thursday your poor Pamela was born. On a Thursday my dear good lady took me from my parents into her protection. On a Thursday, sir, you caused me to be carried away to this place, to which I now, by God's goodness, and your favour, owe so amazingly all my present prospects; and on a Thursday it was, you named to me, that fourteen days from that you would confirm my happiness. Now, sir, if you please to indulge my superstitious folly, you will greatly oblige me. I was sorry, sir, for this reason, when you bid me not defer till the last day of the fourteen, that Thursday in next week was that last day." Pamela, Monday, p. 275.

"But, as I can hardly expect so great a blessing, if I can be secure from his contempt, I shall not be unfortunate; and must bear his indifference, if his rich friends should inspire him with it, and proceed with doing my duty with cheerfulness." Pamela, Thursday 6 am, p. 285.

"What a different aspect every thing in and about this house bears now, to my thinking, to what it once had! The garden, the pond, the alcove, the elm-walk. But, oh! my prison is become my palace; and no wonder every thing wears another face!" Pamela, Thursday near 3 o'clock, p. 293.

"O, my dearest sir, said I, not a single wish more has your grateful Pamela! My heart is overwhelmed with your goodness! Forgive these tears of joy, added I: You have left me nothing to pray for, but that God will bless you with life, and health, and honour, and continue to me the blessing of your esteem; and I shall then be the happiest creature in the world." Pamela, Friday evening, p. 300.

"I am very glad of it; for it would rejoice me to be an humble means of making all mankind so: And oh! what returns ought I not to make to the divine goodness! and how ought I to strive to diffuse the blessings I experience, to all in my knowledge! —For else,



what is it for such a worm as I to be exalted! What is my single happiness, if I suffer it, niggard-like, to extend no farther than to myself?—But then, indeed, do God Almighty's creatures act worthy of the blessings they receive, when they make, or endeavour to make, the whole creation, so far as is in the circle of their power, happy!" Pamela, Saturday morning, p. 303.

"You cannot intrude. I am so wholly yours, that, wherever I am, you have not only a right to join me, but you do me a very acceptable favour at the same time." Mr. B, Sunday, p. 311.

"Now, my sweet bride, my Pamela, let me conclude with you; for here I began to love, and here I desire to end loving, but not till my life ends." Mr. B, Sunday, p. 314.

"To own a fault is some reparation; and what every lordly husband will not do." Miss Darnford, Monday, p. 332.

"Mr. Perry said, I never before saw so young a lady shine forth with such graces of mind and person. Alas! sir, said I, my master coming up, mine is but a borrowed shine, like that of the moon. Here is the sun, to whose fervent glow of generosity I owe all the faint lustre, that your goodness is pleased to look upon with so much kind distinction." Pamela, Monday, pp. 334-335.

"The difference is, a man ennobles the woman he takes, be she who she will; and adopts her into his own rank, be it what it will: but a woman, though ever so nobly born, debases herself by a mean marriage, and descends from her own rank to his she stoops to." Mr. B, Tuesday morning, p. 349.

"Well, child, proud hearts don't come down all at once; though my brother, here, has this day set mine a good many pegs lower than I ever knew it: But I will say, I wish you joy with my brother." Lady Davers, Tuesday morning, p. 363.

"I had always, madam, a great reverence for my master, and thought all his good actions doubly good and for his naughty ones, though I abhorred his attempts upon me, yet I could not hate him; and always wished him well; but I did not know that it was love. Indeed I had not the presumption." Pamela, Wednesday, p. 373.

"Why, madam, I will not lay it out till my young master's birth-day, which I hope will be within this twelvemonth." Mr. Longman, Saturday, p. 382.

"Allow you, sir, you would be very barbarous, if you did not; and I should be more so, if I did not further it all I could, and love the little lamb myself, for your sake and for her own sake; and in compassion to her poor mother, though unknown to me." Pamela, Thursday, p. 393.

"Let the desponding heart be comforted by the happy issue which the troubles and trials of PAMELA met with, when they see, in her case, that no danger nor distress, however





inevitable, or deep to their apprehensions, can be out of the power of Providence to obviate or relieve; and which, as in various instances in her story, can turn the most seemingly grievous things to its own glory, and the reward of suffering innocence; and that too, at a time when all human prospects seem to fail. Let the rich, and those who are exalted from a low to a high estate, learn from her, that they are not promoted only for a single good; but that Providence has raised them, that they should dispense to all within their reach, the blessings it has heaped upon them; and that the greater the power is to which God hath raised them, the greater is the good that will be expected from them. From the low opinion she every where shews of herself, and her attributing all her excellencies to pious education, and her lady's virtuous instructions and bounty; let persons, even of genius and piety, learn not to arrogate to themselves those gifts and graces, which they owe least of all to themselves: Since the beauties of person are frail; and it is not in our power to give them to ourselves, or to be either prudent, wise, or good, without the assistance of divine grace. From the same good example, let children see what a blessing awaits their duty to their parents, though ever so low in the world; and that the only disgrace, is to be dishonest; but none at all to be poor. From the economy she purposes to observe in her elevation, let even ladies of condition learn, that there are family employments, in which they may and ought to make themselves useful, and give good examples to their inferiors, as well as equals: and that their duty to God, charity to the poor and sick, and the different branches of household management, ought to take up the most considerable portions of their time. From her signal veracity, which she never forfeited, in all the hardships she was tried with, though her answers, as she had reason to apprehend, would often make against her; and the innocence she preserved throughout all her stratagems and contrivances to save herself from violation: Persons, even sorely tempted, may learn to preserve a sacred regard to truth; which always begets a reverence for them, even in the corruptest minds. In short, Her obliging behaviour to her equals, before her exaltation; her kindness to them afterwards; her forgiving spirit, and her generosity; Her meekness, in every circumstance where her virtue was not concerned; Her charitable allowances for others, as in the case of Miss Godfrey, for faults she would not have forgiven in herself; Her kindness and prudence to the offspring of that melancholy adventure; Her maiden and bridal purity, which extended as well to her thoughts as to her words and actions; Her signal affiance in God; Her thankful spirit; Her grateful heart; Her diffusive charity to the poor, which made her blessed by them whenever she appeared abroad; The cheerful ease and freedom of her deportment; Her parental, conjugal, and maternal duty; Her social virtues; Are all so many signal instances of the excellency of her mind, which may make her character worthy of the imitation of her sex. And the Editor of these sheets will have his end, if it inspires a laudable emulation in the minds of any worthy persons, who may thereby entitle themselves to the rewards, the praises, and the blessings, by which PAMELA was so deservedly distinguished." Author, pp. 410-412.



## Topics for Discussion

Compare and contrast Mrs. Jervis and Mrs. Jewkes.

What are the benefits and drawbacks to Samuel Richardson using an epistolary style of writing for this novel?

Who tries to help Pamela and how? How does Mr. B react and how does he later rectify these situations?

Describe three instances in which Pamela exhibits extreme virtue.

How does Mr. B's intentions toward Pamela change, and what causes this?

How does Pamela's feelings toward Mr. B change, and what causes this?

How do Pamela's parents feel about Pamela's situation, both before and after Mr. B's intentions change?

Why does Pamela feel unworthy of Mr. B, and what are some of the reactions to their marriage?

How is everyone reconciled at the end of the novel?