

## A TASTER'S TABLE FOR WOMEN

If you would like to read some wholesome fictional classics and need some ideas, here are a few titles to get you started. This list includes popular classics, literary classics, old popular fiction, and a couple of excellent contemporary novels. Most of these stories have romance in them, even if they are not labeled that way.

### Romance

*Pride and Prejudice*, by Jane Austen (witty; a favorite of many women)  
*Jane Eyre*, by Charlotte Bronte (psychological; a favorite of many women)  
*A Room With a View*, by E.M. Forster (social commentary)  
*Portrait of Jennie*, by Robert Nathan (bittersweet)\*  
*The Scarlet Pimpernel*, by Baroness Orczy (adventure and suspense; a favorite of many women)  
*Random Harvest*, by James Hilton (psychological)\*

### Mystery/Suspense

*The House of the Seven Gables*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne (gothic)  
*The Moonstone*, by Wilkie Collins (detective story; literally mind-blowing!)  
*The Woman in White*, by Wilkie Collins (legal thriller)  
*A Tale of Two Cities*, by Charles Dickens (historical)  
*The Phantom of the Opera*, by Gaston Leroux (psychological)  
*Les Miserables*, by Victor Hugo (twist on the detective story; one of the best pieces of religious fiction ever written; get an abridged version unless you're very brave)

### Personal Saga

*David Copperfield*, by Charles Dickens  
*Christy*, by Catherine Marshall (Christian classic)  
*Anne of Green Gables* series, by L.M. Montgomery (8 books)  
*The Silver Chalice*, by Thomas Costain\*  
*Freckles*, by Gene Stratton Porter  
*Leaving Cold Sassy*, by Olive Ann Burns and Katrina Kenison (more biography than novel, but located in fiction section)

### Family Saga

*Cold Sassy Tree*, by Olive Ann Burns (This book is hysterical!)  
*A Girl of the Limberlost*, by Gene Stratton Porter  
*The Joy Luck Club*, by Amy Tan  
*The Chosen*, by Chaim Potok\*  
*Anna Karenina*, by Leo Tolstoy  
*War and Peace*, by Leo Tolstoy (Note: Tolstoy is a very plain writer, not a poet, which makes his work far more accessible than most people believe. If you like those long, multi-plot family sagas, the kind that are made into mini-series, give *War and Peace* a try. *Anna Karenina* is similar, but it has more of a tragic feel.)

\*These books are old pop. They may be in the library, but if you can't find them there, try the paperback fiction section of a used bookstore, or, of course, an online bookstore. Potok's work is considered actual "literature" and may be easier to find than the other pop titles.