

# The Highbury Murders: A Mystery Set in the Village of Jane Austen's Emma

## THE Highbury MURDERS



A MYSTERY SET IN THE VILLAGE  
OF JANE AUSTEN'S EMMA

VICTORIA  
GROSSACK

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EXCERPT The death of Mrs. Bates, a very old lady whose hearing had long since gone and who had spent her last few months either in her bedroom or sitting in her chair in the parlor, would have gone unremarked in London, where people spent their time discussing fashion, nobility, and the latest offering at the theatre. In Bath her decease might have been mentioned as a piece of dull news, before the residents and visitors resumed discussing who had been seen at the Pump Room during the day or who was giving a whist party that night.

In Highbury, however, Mrs. Bates's passing was an event which was talked over in every house, both great and small. ABOUT THE BOOK Jane Austen's Emma has been described as a detective story without a body - except for those who read carefully, there actually is a body, and the potential for an excellent mystery story. Set about a year after Emma closes, The Highbury Murders pays homage to the wit of Jane Austen and the whodunits of Agatha Christie. You do not need to have read Jane Austen's books to enjoy this novel, but if you have - if you regret that she wrote only six - The Highbury Murders is a welcome extension to her world. Pour yourself a cup of tea, settle somewhere comfortable, and indulge yourself with the proverbial good read.