

The February 10th selection of the Wayne Public Library's Classics Book Discussion Group is
Lady Chatterley's Lover
By D.H. Lawrence



Lady Chatterley's Lover is a novel by D. H. Lawrence, first published in 1928. The first edition was printed in Florence, Italy; it could not be published openly in the United Kingdom until 1960. (A private edition was issued by Inky Stephensen's Mandrake Press in 1929. The book soon became notorious for its story of the physical relationship between a working-class man and an aristocratic woman, its explicit descriptions of sex, and its use of (at the time) unprintable words.

The story is said to have originated from events in Lawrence's own unhappy domestic life, and he took inspiration for the settings of the book from Eastwood, Nottinghamshire, where he grew up. According to some critics, the fling of Lady Ottoline Morrell with "Tiger", a young stonemason who came to carve plinths for her garden statues, also influenced the story. Lawrence at one time considered calling the novel *Tenderness* and made significant alterations to the text and story in the process of its composition. It has been published in three different versions.

The plot concerns a young married woman, Constance, Lady Chatterley, whose upper-class husband, Clifford Chatterley, has been paralyzed and rendered impotent. Her sexual frustration leads her into an affair with the gamekeeper, Oliver Mellors. This novel is about Constance's realization that she cannot live a life of the mind alone; she must also be alive physically.

The Classics Book Discussion Group meets at 2:00 P.M. on the second Friday of every month in the Meeting Room at the main library, 461 Valley Road.

Copies of the books are available at the Reference Desk one month prior to the meeting.

Questions? Contact Pat Padden, 973-694-4272, ext. 5410.