

MACMILLAN READERS

BEGINNER LEVEL

JANE AUSTEN

Northanger Abbey

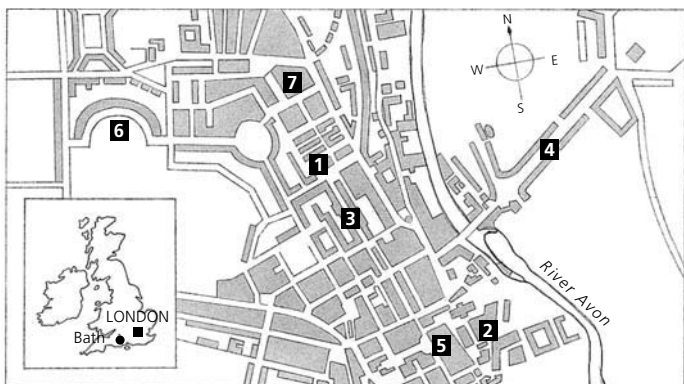
Retold by Florence Bell



MACMILLAN

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Bath: 1 Edgar's Buildings 2 Lower Rooms 3 Milsom Street 4 Pulteney Street
5 Pump Room 6 The Crescent 7 Upper Rooms (Assembly Rooms)

Catherine Goes to Bath

It was January 1802. Miss Catherine Morland was very excited. She was going to stay in the city of Bath for six weeks. She was going to stay with her friends, Mr and Mrs Allen.

‘Bath is a beautiful city,’ Mrs Allen said. ‘We will enjoy ourselves in Bath, Catherine. The best people in Society will be there. We will dance at balls and we will go to plays.’

‘Will I meet a handsome young man?’ Catherine asked herself.



Catherine Morland was seventeen years old. She was a pretty, happy girl. She was slim and she had dark curly hair.

Catherine lived with her family in the village of Fullerton. Her father was the clergyman of the church.

It was the day of the journey. Catherine put her clothes in leather cases. Her mother helped her.

‘Take some warm clothes,’ Mrs Morland said. ‘The nights will be cold!’

Soon, everything was ready. Mr Morland gave his daughter some money. Catherine got into the Allens’ carriage. She said goodbye to her family. And Catherine Morland started on her journey to Bath!



Catherine's New Friends

The Allens had an apartment in Pulteney Street, near the centre of Bath. Catherine loved the city. She loved the wide streets, the big houses and the shops. The streets of Bath were crowded with people. And the shops were full of beautiful things.

In the evenings, people went to balls. There were balls in the large buildings called the Upper Rooms and the Lower Rooms. In the mornings, many people went to the Pump Room. They drank the water. And they met their friends.

There were many things to do in Bath. Catherine was very happy.

It was Friday evening. The Allens took Catherine to the Lower Rooms. The Rooms were crowded. People were eating, talking and dancing in the salons.

Mrs Allen and Catherine sat down together in a large salon. Mr Allen walked through the crowded room. Catherine wanted to dance. But she did not have a dancing-partner. Soon, Mr Allen returned, and there was a tall young man with him. He introduced the young man to Catherine.

'This is Mr Henry Tilney,' Mr Allen said. 'I know his father. But I have not seen him for a long time. The Tilneys live at Northanger Abbey.'

