# YOUNG HEARTS: A NOVEL, VOL. I

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Young Hearts: A Novel, Vol. I by Jane Porter

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## **JANE PORTER**

# YOUNG HEARTS: A NOVEL, VOL. I



## YOUNG HEARTS

#### A NOVEL

### BY A RECLUSE.

WITH A PREFACE

## By MISS JANE PORTER

#### IN THREE VOLUMES

Thy blood and virtue contend for empire in thee! Shakepeare.

VOL. I.

LONDON
SAUNDERS AND OTLEY, CONDUIT STREET.
1834.

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LONDON:

E. LOWE, PLAYHOUSE YARD, BLACKPRIARS.

### LADY HAMLYN WILLIAMS,

THE BRIGHTENER OF JOY.

THE SOOTHER OF SORROW, AND THE FRIEND OF

THE DISTRESSED;

TO HER

WHO IN THE WORLD, IS NOT OF THIS WORLD;

WOMAN OF TASTE, AND THE CHRISTIAN MATRON;

THIS WORK

IS

DEDICATED,

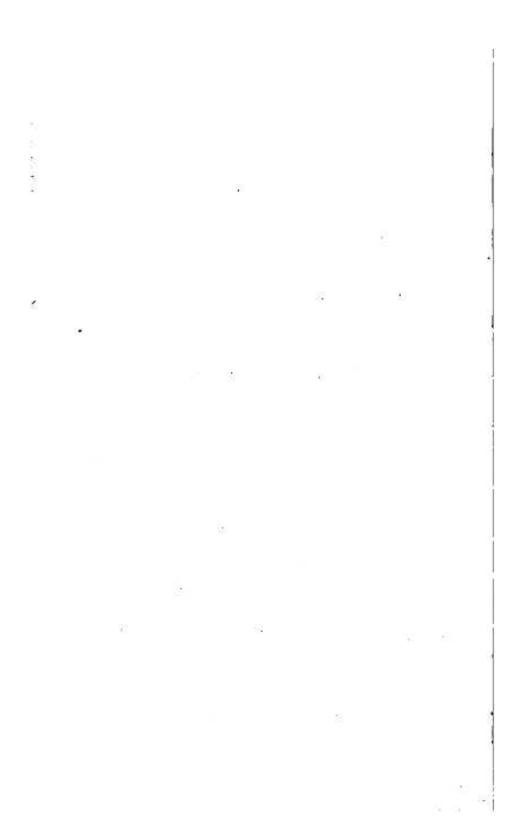
BY THE RESPECT, AND STILL DEEPER SENTIMENT

OF

THE AUTHOR.

Nov. 1834.

4



## PREFACE

7 ..

BY

### MISS JANE PORTER.

This simple tale of Young Hearts, is written by one well acquainted with the generous throbs of the inexperienced age she treats of. And she tells the youthful history of such, not, indeed, as they are often made to beat in the gay, luxurious, and self-aggrandizing, self-

absorbing world of a metropolis; but, according to the natural and ingenuous, but too often dangerously romantic, sensibilities of a secluded country life.

The generous and tender affections of young hearts, so situated, have therefore their shadow in these faithful pages; shewing the extravagances to which both impulses may lead, when excited into passions, and permitted to reach the various points of perilous excess.

"Young brother! young sister!" the author, in every page addresses, in the spirit of her motto: "Beware! your blood and virtue contend for empire in

ye!" As ye give the victory, your happiness and honour, or your inward wretchedness and self-abasement, must be the result."

But it was not to write a tale of animated amusement, a story of gentle admonition, which were her only motives when taking up the pen in her little boudoir of deep retirement. It was to cheer a drooping heart that sat near her; it was to disperse the tears of affliction from beloved eyes looking on her; it was to say to that disconsolate mourner,—

<sup>&</sup>quot;Intreat me not to leave thee! whi-