



Lit Slashing Trailer

Snippets of reviews fade in and out over our theme music.

COURTNEY: “It is better by a whole leaf of laurel to be a scribe than the nearest thing Great Britain has to him – an illegitimate dramatizer.”

ELEANOR: “This absurdity reaches its climax in the autobiographical novel...”

COURTNEY: “In spite of much power and cleverness, in spite of its truth to life in the remote nooks and corners of England, *Wuthering Heights* is a disagreeable story.”

ELEANOR: “...also, like, you’re reviewing *Gothic* novels. I don’t, like, go to a pizza place then review it and say “This isn’t fish and chips.”

COURTNEY: “...on the surface, feebleness itself.”

ELEANOR: “Here again, they are perpetually delinquents...”

COURTNEY: “This will never do.”

When the theme ends with a ding, we begin talking.

COURTNEY: There are lots of podcasts about literature out there.

ELEANOR: If you’ve listened to *Victorian Scribblers*, you know that we already make one of them.

COURTNEY: But this literature pod? It's... different. This is *Lit Slashing*, a weekly micro podcast bringing you history's most notorious bad, backhanded, and brutal reviews of literary classics.

ELEANOR: When we're researching *Victorian Scribblers* we often come across reviews that are so bad they're good, so we created a place to share them.

COURTNEY: In the nineteenth century, journalists like Marian Evans, who you might know as George Eliot, used the term *slashing* to describe the practice of writing *extremely* critical reviews.

ELEANOR: And those reviews weren't just reserved for "hacks." Some of the biggest names in the business were ripped to shreds, or *slashed*, by reviewers.

COURTNEY: If you want to hear the reviews that made Wordsworth weep and left Charles Dickens shaking in his boots, subscribe now.

ELEANOR: We'll cover authors whose work is in the public domain, which currently means anything published in 1925 or earlier.

COURTNEY: And our first episode goes live May 25th. More schadenfreud-y goodness will follow every Tuesday after that.

ELEANOR: So whether you're out to smash the literary canon or you're a creative in need of reassurance that even the "greats" got one star reviews from time to time, we've got you covered.

COURTNEY: Follow us on Twitter @LitSlashingPod and check out our website www.litslashing.carrd.co for news and updates, transcripts, and full texts of the reviews we cover here.

Theme fades back in. Dings.

ELEANOR: "Not a bad beginning, Mr. Collins."