

# RDA in Europe 2022

November 17, 2022

## Aggregates Sessions

### **Describing Aggregating or Aggregated Works and Expressions, or Both**

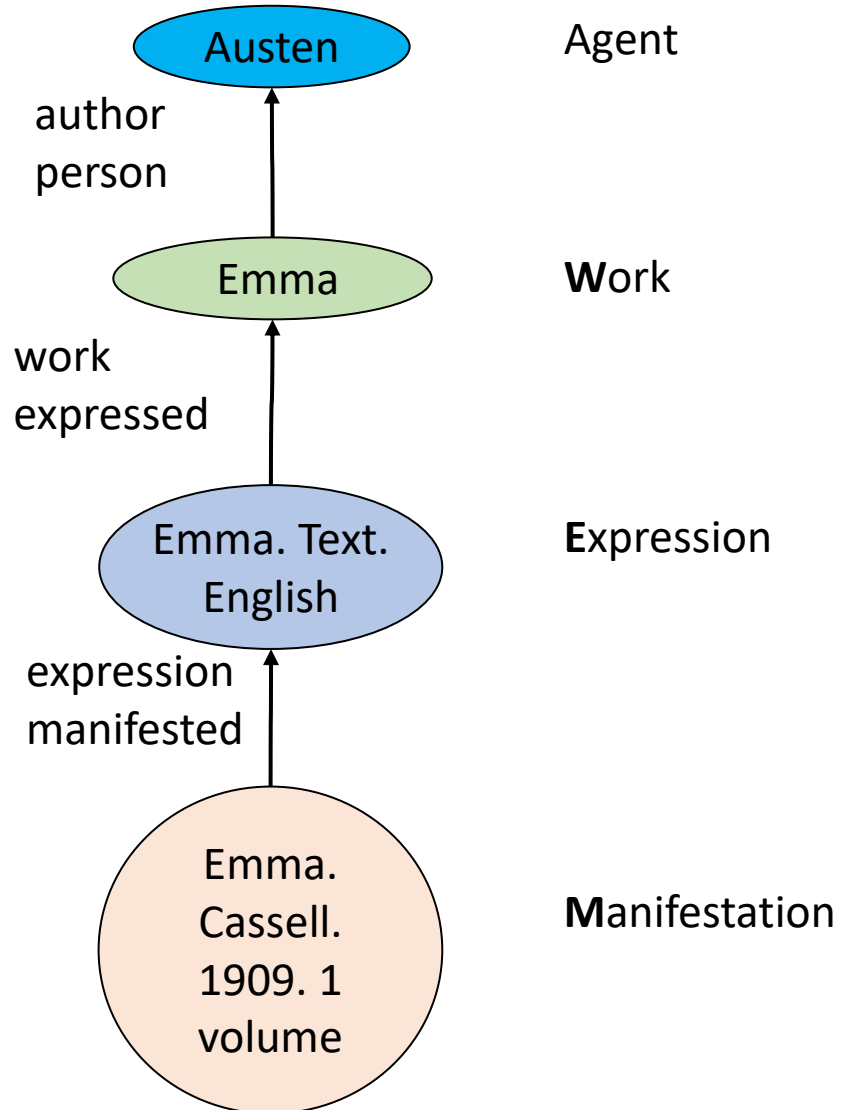
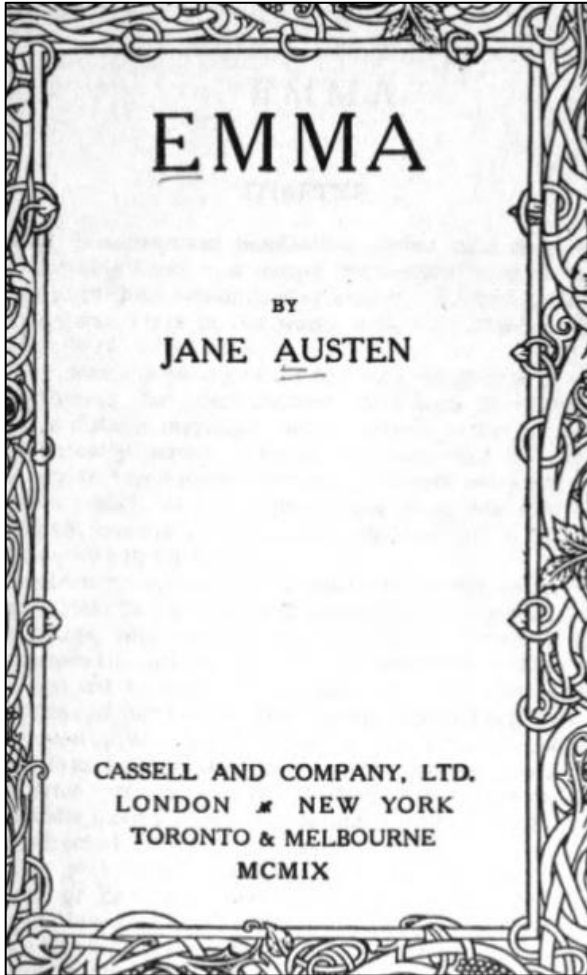
*presented by Deborah Fritz*

*(past Chair of the RSC Aggregates Working Group)*

[deborah@marcofquality.com](mailto:deborah@marcofquality.com)

# Community question #1

If you see a yellow 'note' box here, then hover over the icon to see an explanatory note about this slide.



# Community question #1: Advantages of describing aggregating works

**Q: What are the concrete advantages of using aggregating works to describe aggregates?**

## **Answer**

An aggregate embodies an aggregating expression and one or more expressions that are aggregated. RDA does not specify which embodied works or expressions should be selected for description, leaving this up to local decisions.

It is cataloguer's judgement for how much description to give to each entity to ensure that users' needs are met. It is necessary to describe and link the aggregating work for several reasons, including:

- to relate it to the agents responsible for the aggregation (aggregators)
- to relate it to other aggregating works (e.g., each variation of a "Golden treasury of poems" is a distinct aggregating work)
- to relate it to a subject that is the focus of the aggregating work not any of the aggregated works
- etc.

# Community question #1: Advantages of describing aggregating works

Q: What are the concrete advantages of using aggregating works to describe aggregates?

The advantages of describing aggregating works under the LRM and RDA Aggregates Model are the same as they have always been when we have described, e.g.:

- a serial, instead of, or as well as, describing one or more issues (e.g., “[Library resources & technical services](#)”)
- a collection of short stories, or poems, etc., instead of, or as well as, describing one or more story, etc., separately (e.g., “[Cataloging correctly for kids](#)”)
- etc.

This question is one piece of a bigger topic about the description decisions that we used to call “deciding on analytical, comprehensive, or hierarchical descriptions”.

# Community question #1: Advantages of describing aggregating works

## Granularity decisions

### 1. If a manifestation:

- is a single unit manifestation (e.g., 1 volume), then describe it
  - unless it is also a part unit manifestation (i.e., a part of a larger manifestation); if so, decide whether you will describe this part unit only, or the larger multiple unit only, or both the part unit and the multiple unit
- is a multiple unit manifestation, then decide whether you will describe the multiple unit only, or one or more of the part units only, or both the larger multiple unit and its part units
  - unless this multiple unit is also a part unit of another larger multiple unit manifestation; if so, decide whether you will describe this part unit (that is a multiple unit) only, or the larger multiple unit only, or both the part unit and the larger multiple unit

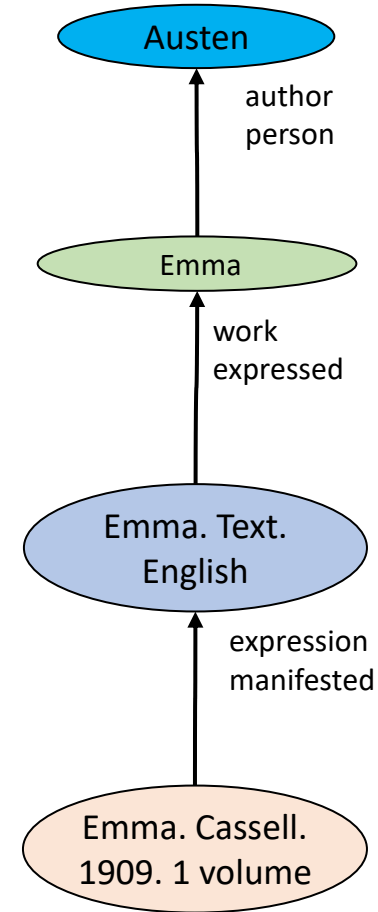
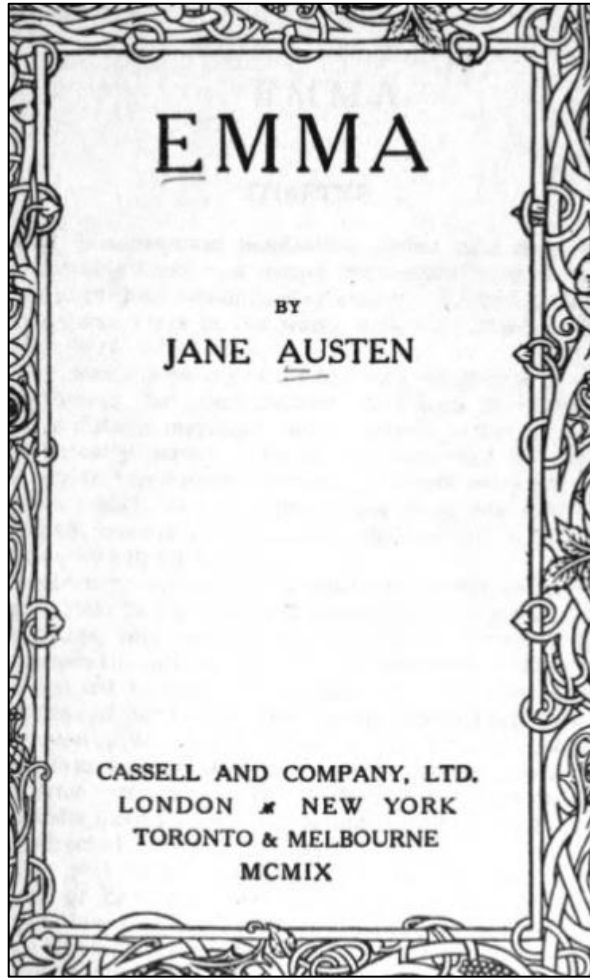
# Community question #1: Advantages of describing aggregating works

## Granularity decisions

### 2. If the manifestation embodies:

- only a single-part work and expression, then describe it
  - unless it is a part of a larger work and expression; and if so, decide whether you will describe the part work and expression only, or the multi-part work and expression only, or both the part work and expression and the multi-part work and expression
- a multi-part work and expression and some or all of its parts, then decide whether you will describe the multi-part work and expression only, or both the multi-part and the part works and expressions
  - unless the multi-part is a part of another larger work and expression; and if so, decide whether you will describe the part work and expression that is the multi-part only, or the larger multi-part work and expression only, or both the part work and expression and the larger multi-part work and expression
- an aggregating work and expression and aggregated works and expressions, then decide whether you will describe the aggregating work and expression only, or one or more of the aggregated works and expressions only, or both the aggregating work and expression and one or more of the aggregated works and expressions.

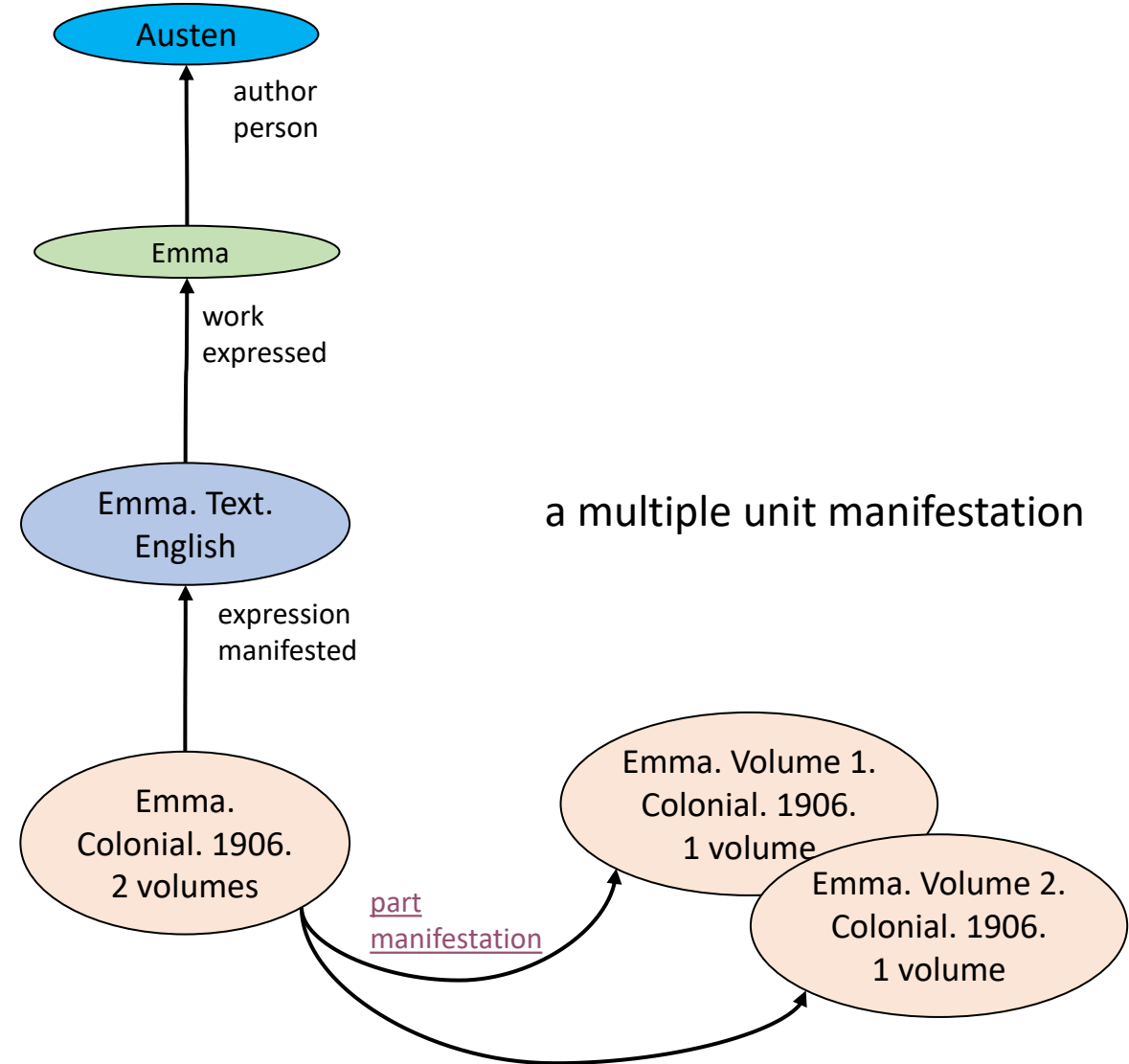
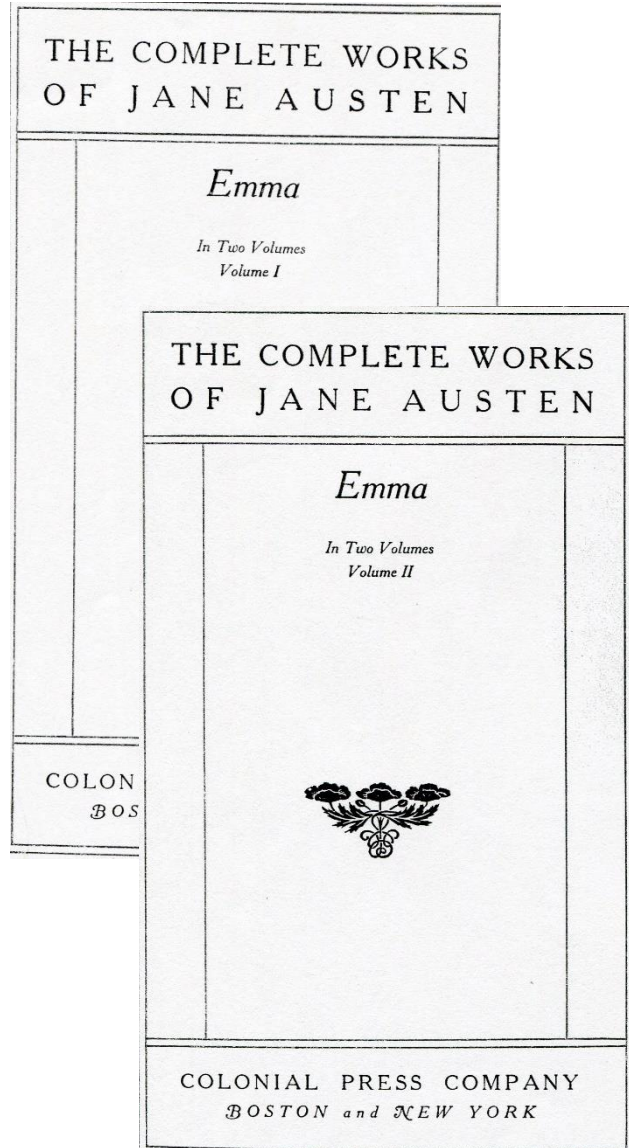
# Emma (Cassell): Single unit manifestation embodying a single-part expression and work



a single-part expression and work  
not a part expression and work

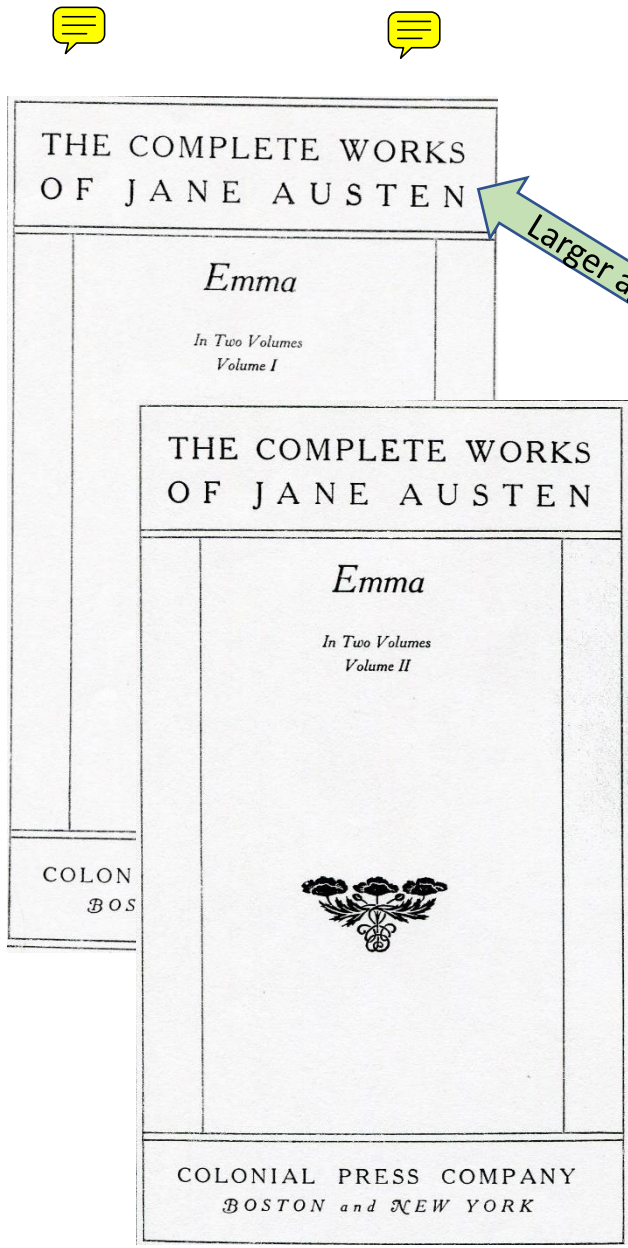
a single unit manifestation  
not a part unit

# Emma (Colonial): Multiple unit manifestation embodying a single-part expression and work





# Emma (Colonial): Multiple unit manifestation embodying a single-part expression and work



Larger aggregating work

Aggregating work

The complete works of Jane Austen

work manifested

Austen

author person

Emma

work expressed

Emma. Text. English

expression manifested

The complete works of Jane Austen. Colonial. 1906. 12 volumes

part manifestation of

Emma. Colonial. 1906. 2 volumes

part manifestation

Emma. Volume 1. Colonial. 1906. 1 volume

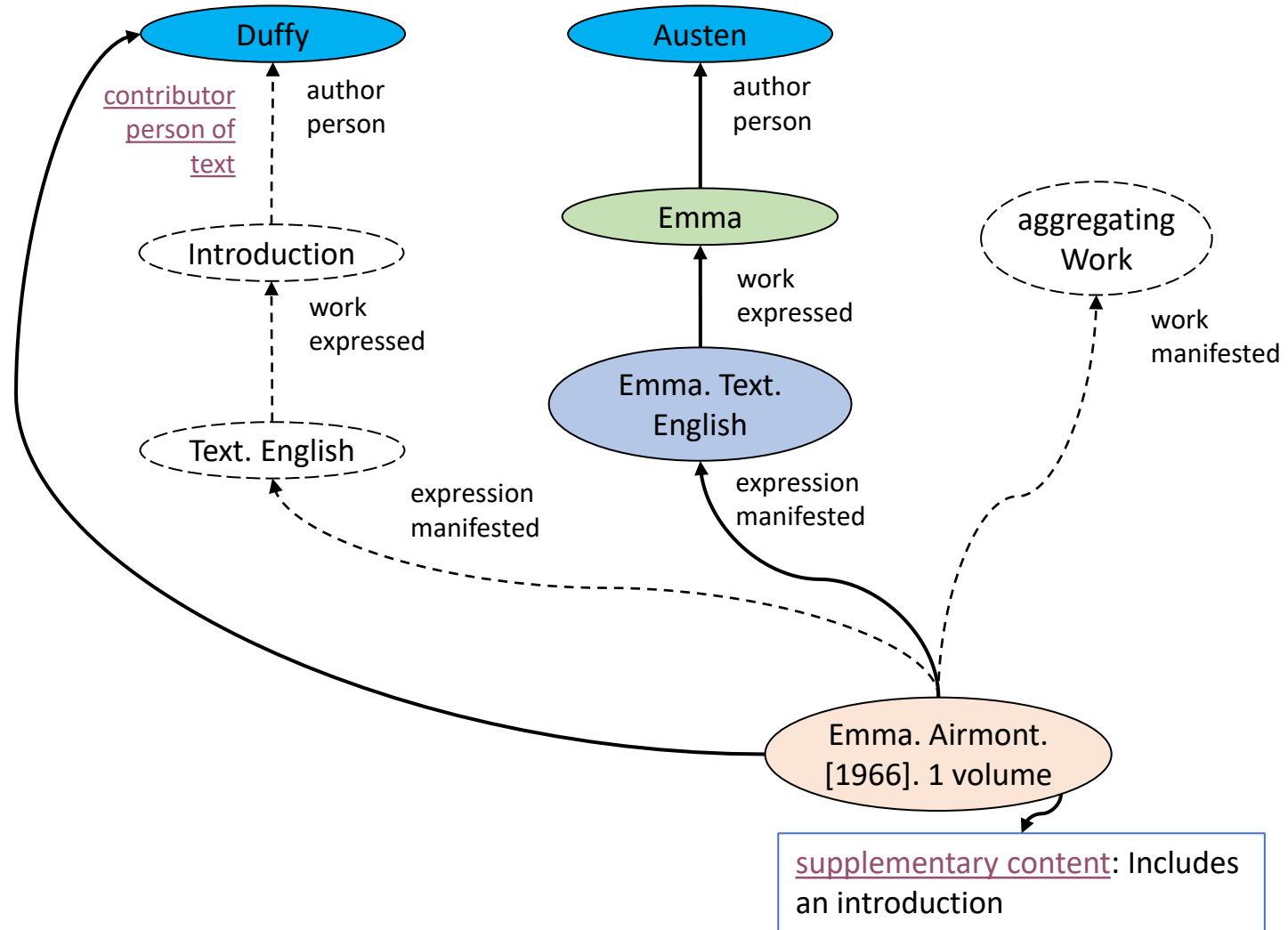
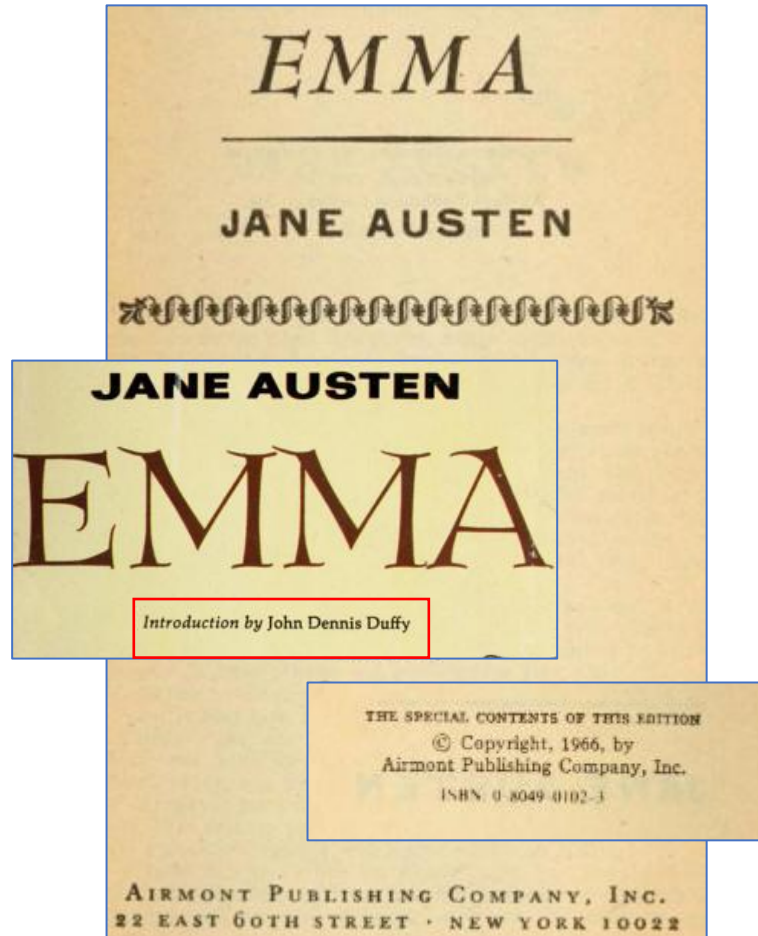
Emma. Volume 2. Colonial. 1906. 1 volume

a single part expression and work and aggregated by the plan of an aggregating work

a multiple unit manifestation and a part unit of a larger multiple unit manifestation

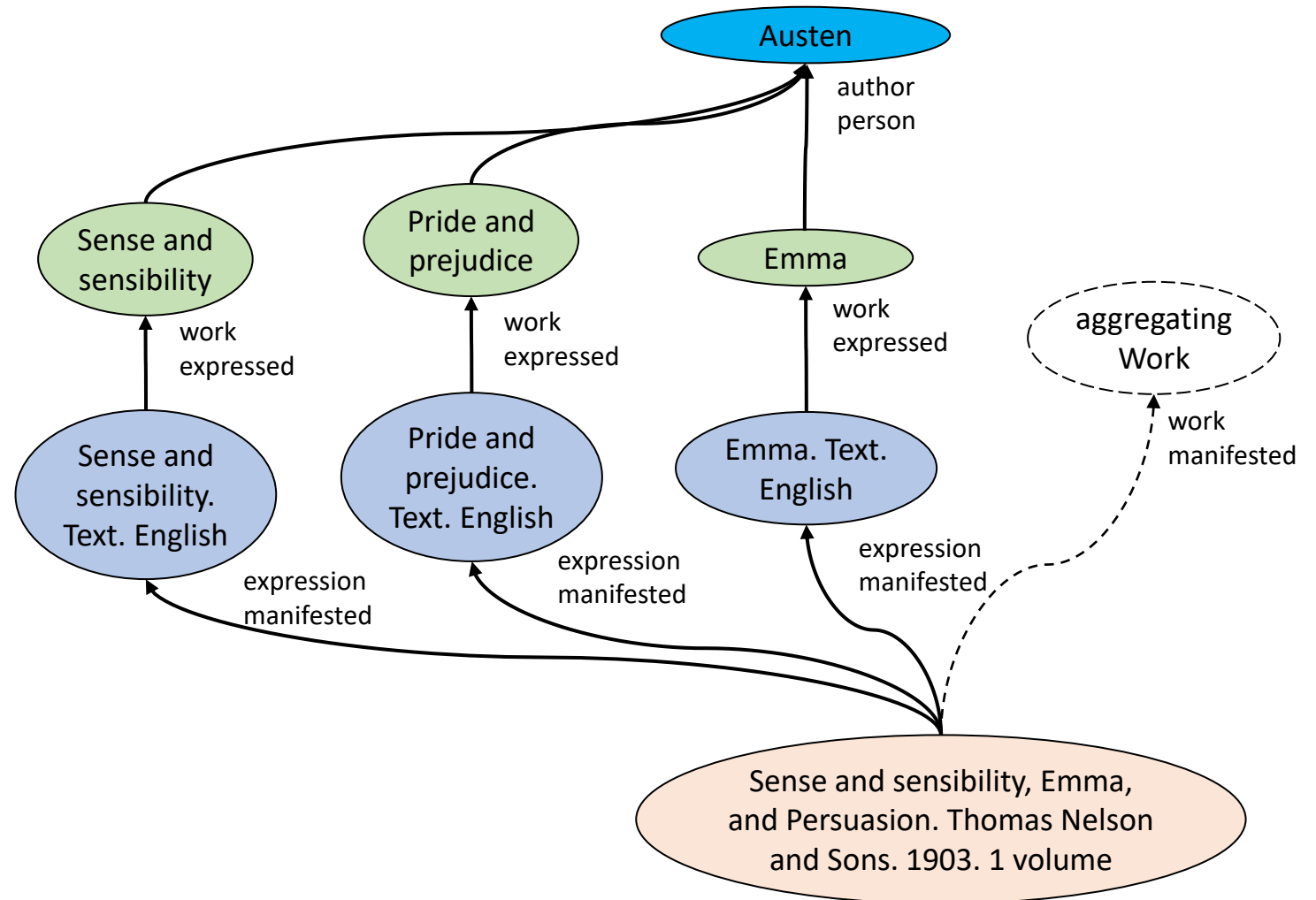
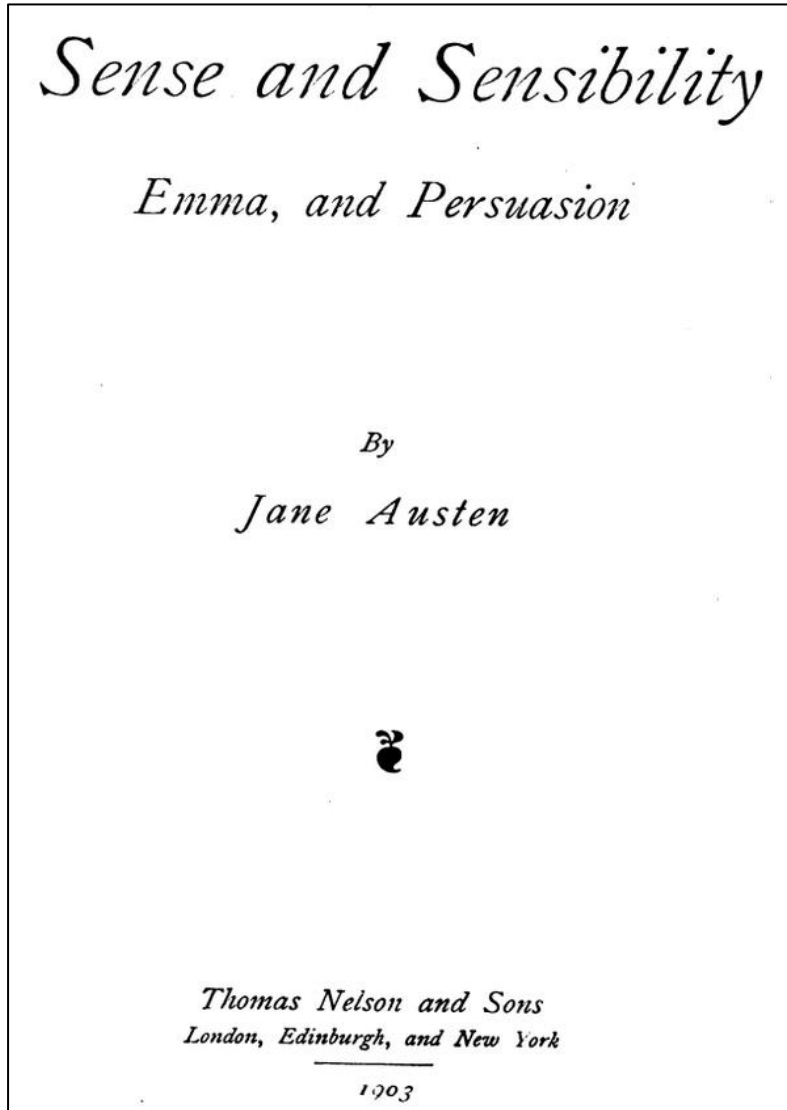
Aggregate manifestation

Emma (Airmont): Single unit aggregate manifestation embodying an **augmented single-part expression and work** + an augmenting single-part expression and work (an introduction) + an aggregating work

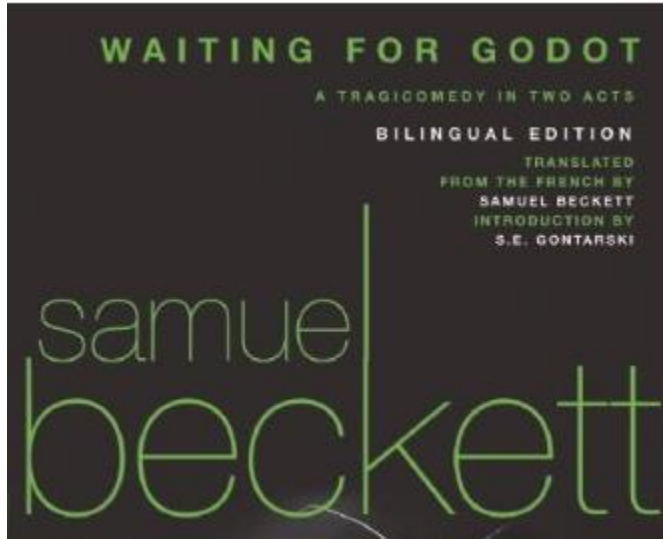


supplementary content: Includes an introduction

# Sense and sensibility, Emma, and Persuasion (Nelson): Single unit aggregate manifestation embodying three collected single-part expressions and works + an aggregating work

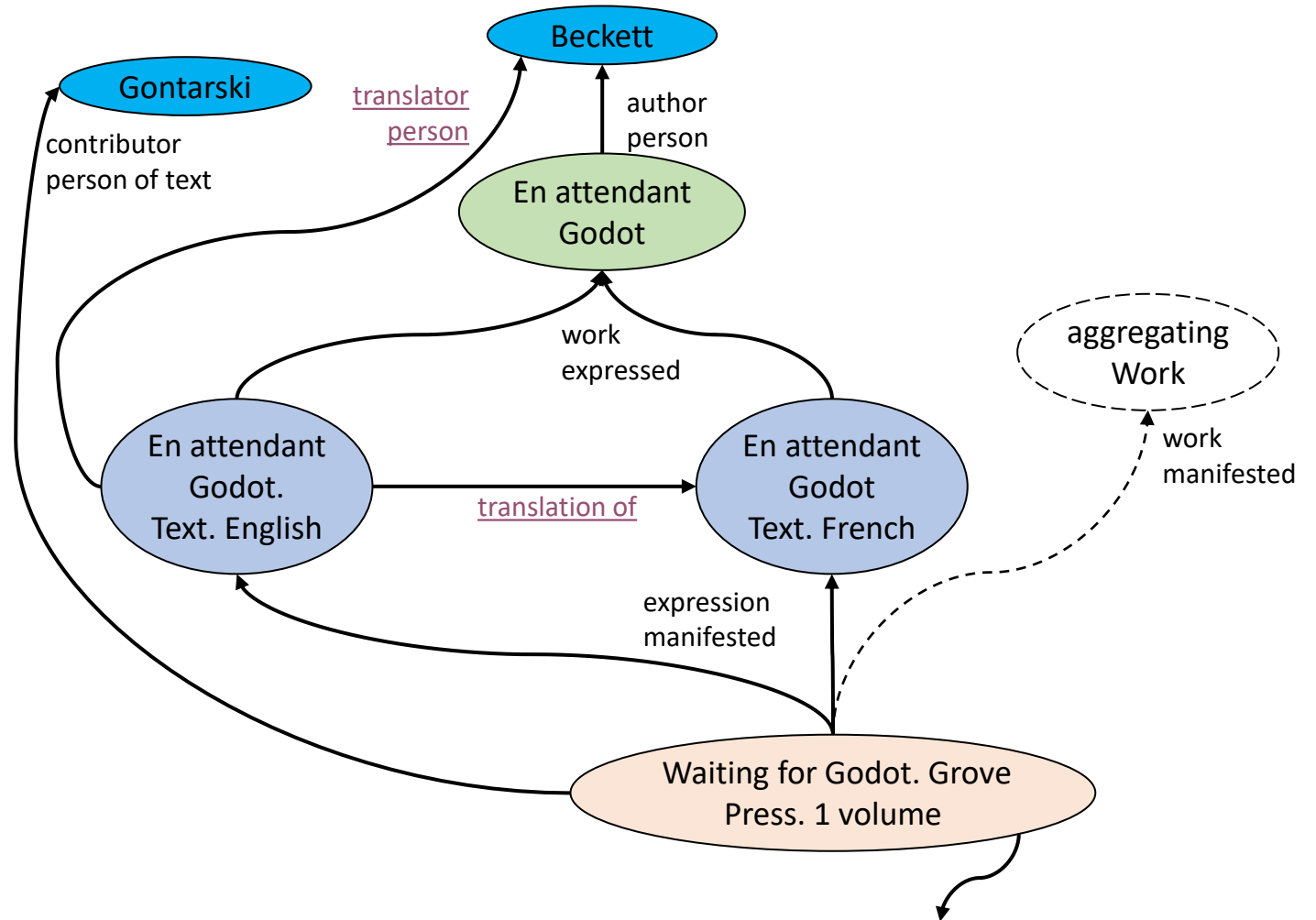


**Waiting for Godot (Grove):** Single unit aggregate manifestation embodying **two expressions of a single-part work** + an augmenting single-part expression and work (an introduction) + an aggregating work



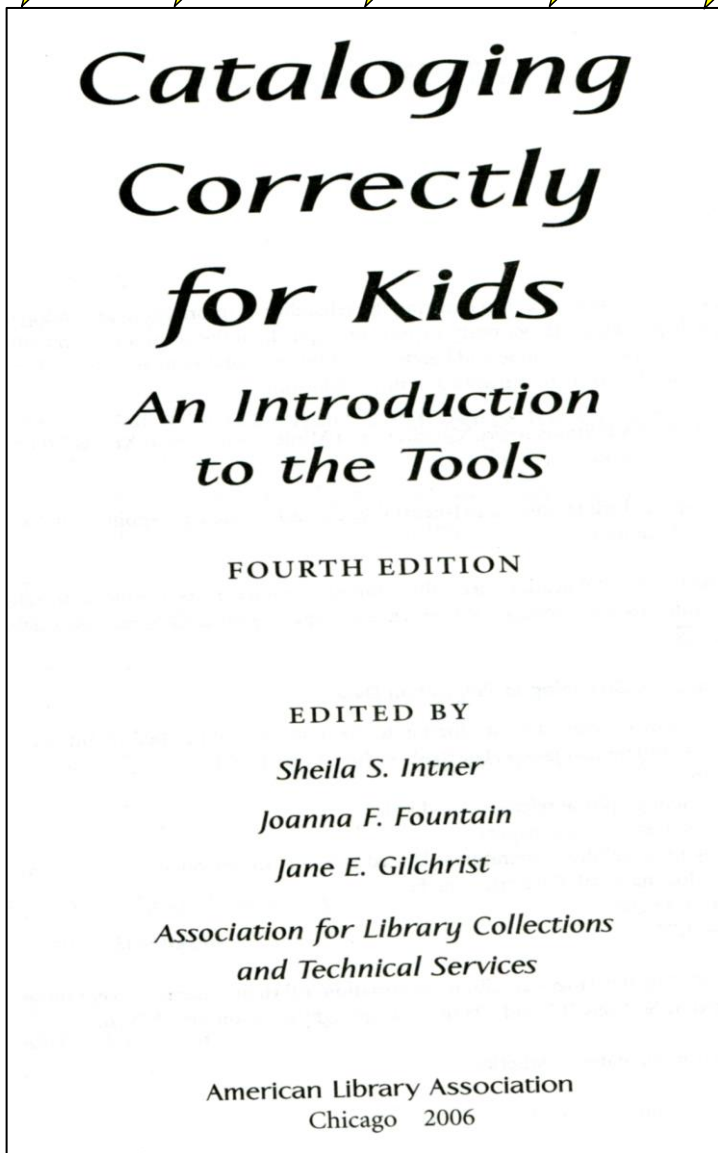
From an inauspicious beginning at the tiny Left Bank Théâtre de Babylone in 1953, followed by bewilderment among American and British audiences, *Waiting for Godot* has become one of the most important and enigmatic plays of the past fifty years and a cornerstone of twentieth-century drama. As Clive Barnes wrote, "Time catches up with genius. . . . *Waiting for Godot* is one of the masterpieces of the century."

Subtitled "a tragicomedy in two acts," and once famously described by the Irish critic Vivian Mercier as a play in which "nothing happens, twice," *Waiting for Godot* is also a play that was written twice. Beckett wrote the play in French and then translated it into English. In doing so Beckett revised, eliminated, and added various passages. With side-by-side text, the reader can experience the mastery of Beckett's language and explore its nuances. Upon being asked who Godot is, Samuel Beckett told director Alan Schneider, "If I knew, I would have said so in the play." Although we may never know who Vladimir and Estragon are waiting for, in this special edition we rediscover one of the most poignant and humorous allegories of our time.



supplementary content: Includes an introduction  
illustrative content: illustrations  
colour content: monochrome

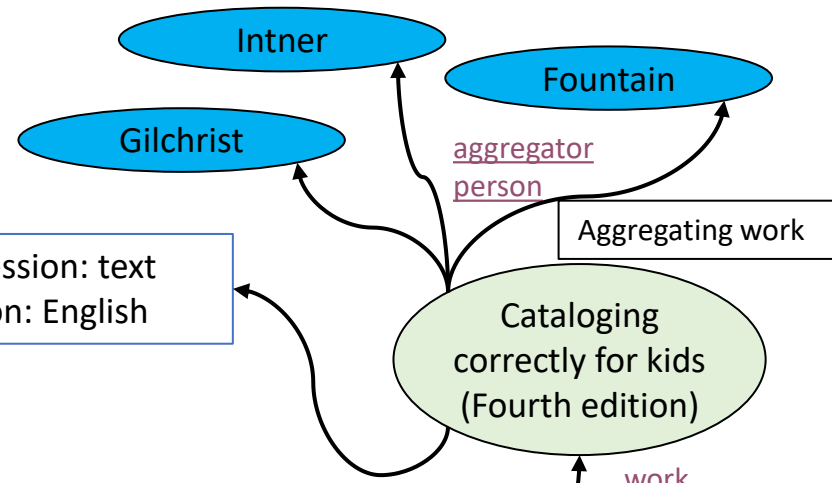
Cataloging correctly for kids (Fourth edition): Single unit aggregate manifestation embodying multiple collected single-part expressions and works + an **aggregating work**



See the RDA Toolkit Guidance section for Representative expressions > [Representative expressions of an aggregating work](#)

content type of representative expression: text  
language of representative expression: English

See the RDA Toolkit Guidance section for Aggregates > [Aggregating expressions](#)



[work manifested](#)

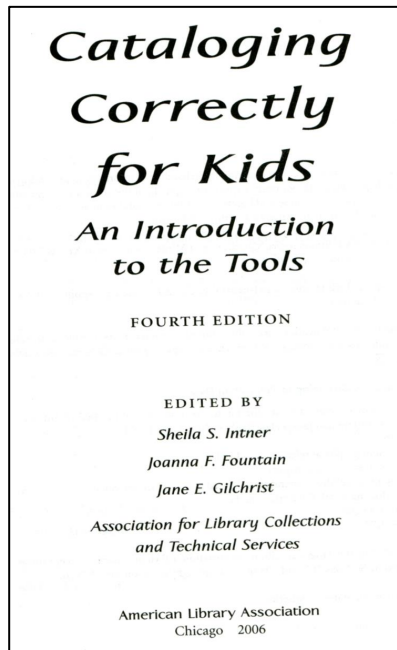
Aggregate manifestation

Cataloging correctly for kids.  
ALA. 2006. 1 volume

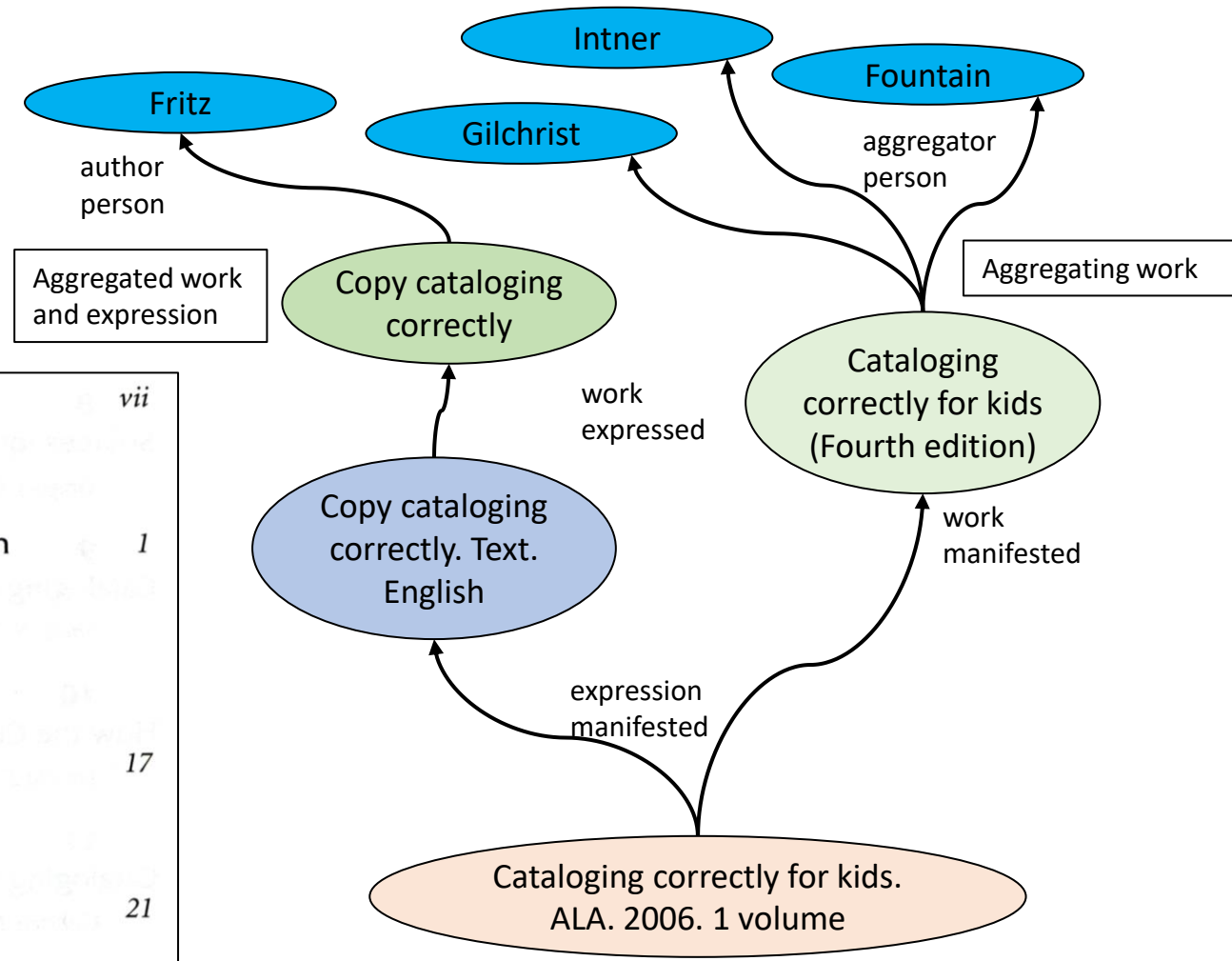
note on manifestation: [titles of chapters]  
supplementary content: Includes an introduction  
illustrative content: illustrations  
colour content: monochrome

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<i>Joanna F. Fountain, for the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, Cataloging and Classification Section, Cataloging of Children's Materials Committee</i>	
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<i>Deborah A. Fritz</i>	

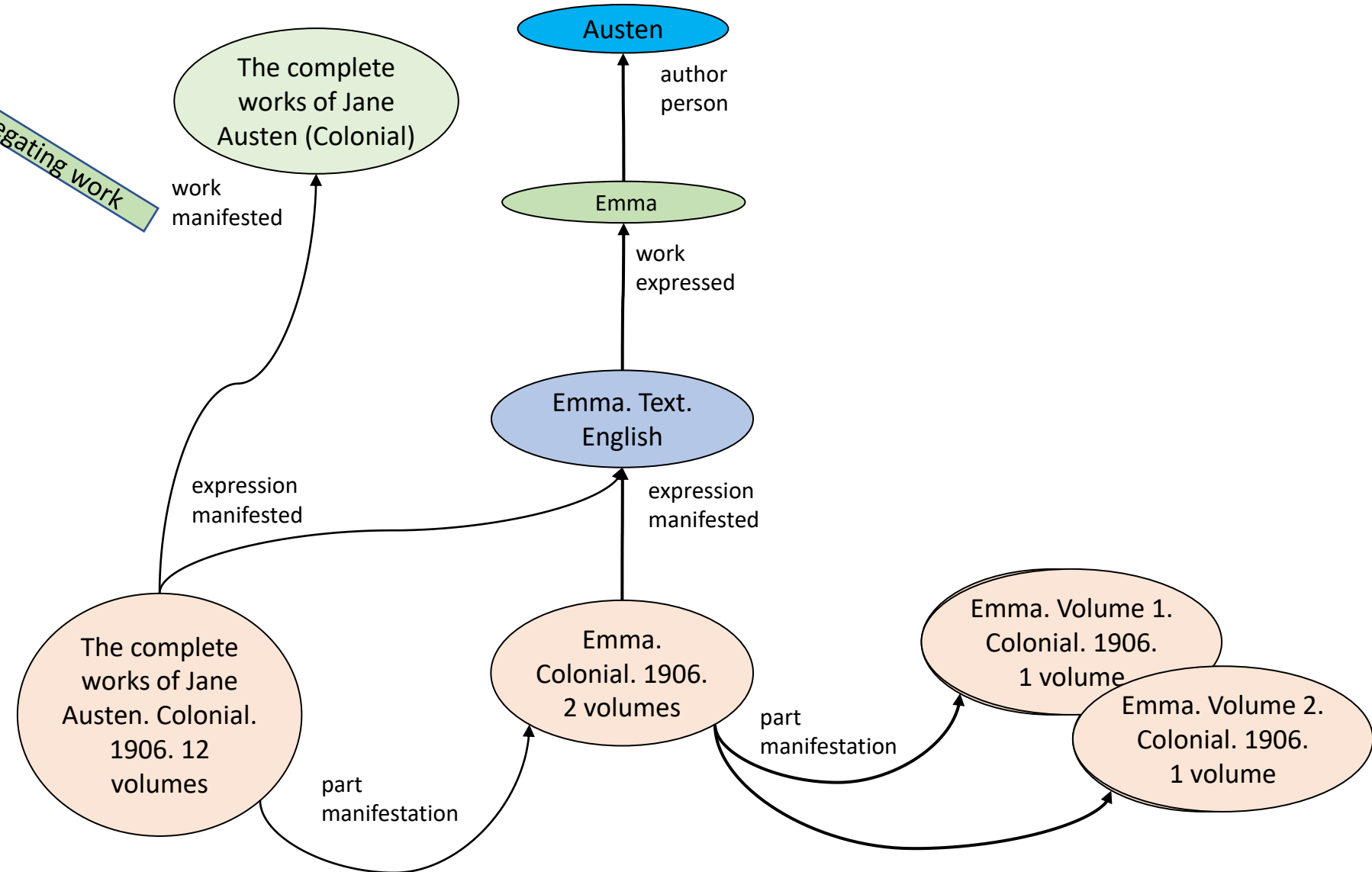
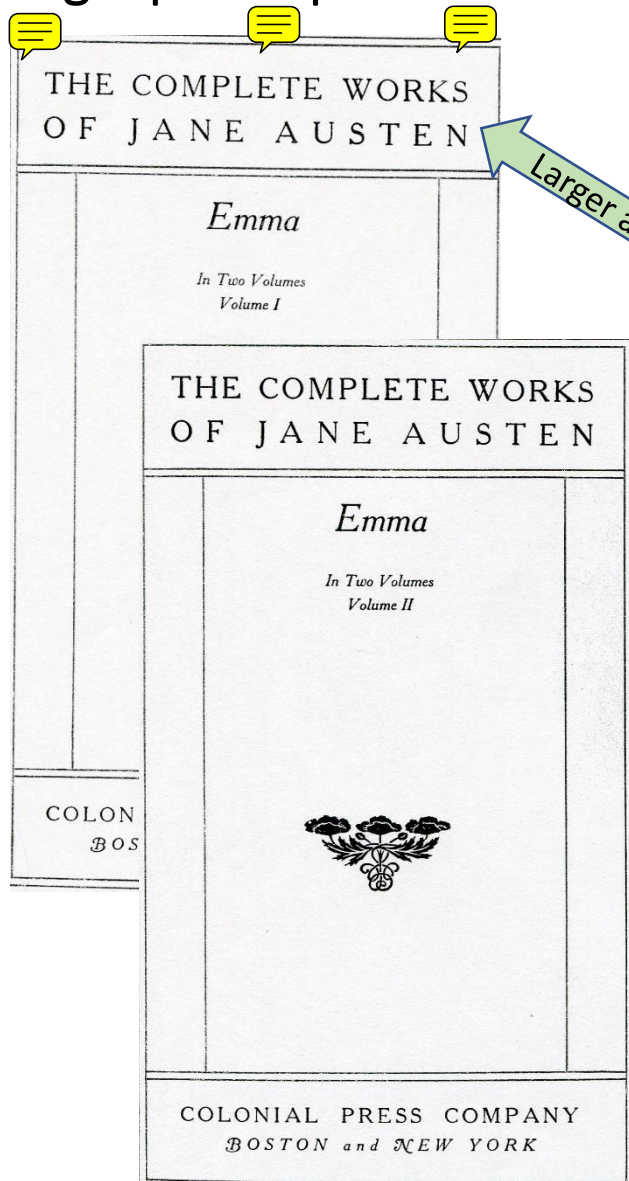
# Cataloging correctly for kids (Fourth edition): Single unit aggregate manifestation embodying multiple collected single-part expressions and works + an aggregating work



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# The complete works of Jane Austen (Colonial): Multiple unit manifestation + embodying multiple collected single-part expressions and works + an aggregating work

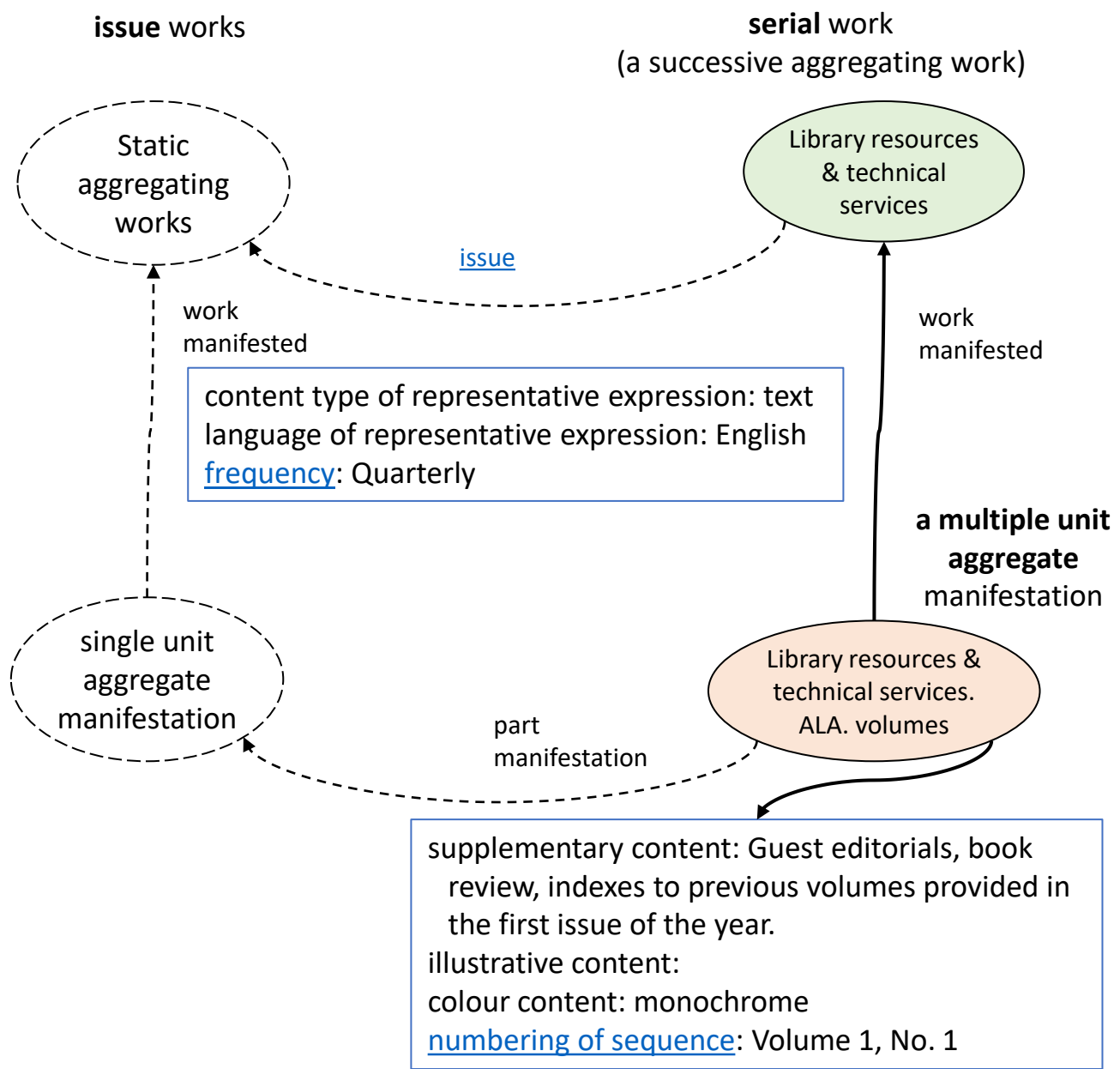


# Library resources & technical services: Multiple unit aggregate manifestation embodying multiple collected single-part expressions and works + an aggregating work



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# Community question #1: Advantages of describing aggregating works

**Q: What are the concrete advantages of using aggregating works to describe aggregates?**

## **Conclusion**

I will describe the aggregating work embodied in an aggregate manifestation, if in my opinion:

- the aggregating work is intrinsically important because I think:
  - it is probably known by my users (e.g., I have heard of it or there is a Wikipedia article for it)
  - it is useful to record a subject or genre term that is related to the aggregating work only (e.g., ‘reverse dictionaries’, ‘periodicals’, ‘films for the hearing impaired’, ‘radio anthologies’)
  - there is a particular purpose for the aggregating work:
    - parallel texts are juxtaposed for teaching purposes (e.g., Latin and English)
    - augmenting content (e.g., art criticism) is as important as augmented content (art works)
    - a collection is more than a “sum of its parts” (e.g., it is a music album)
- none of the aggregated works and expressions are intrinsically important because I think:
  - none are likely to be known individually (check reference sources)
  - none seem to be primary (more important than the others)
- there are too many aggregated expression/work to describe separately
- I simply do not have the time to describe the aggregated expression/work separately.