

WILKIE COLLINS

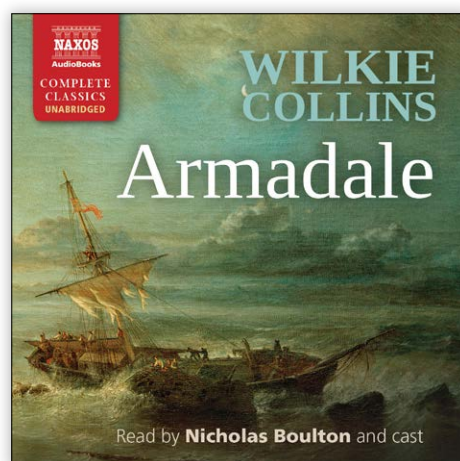
Armadale

Read by **Nicholas Boulton** and cast



COMPLETE
CLASSICS
UNABRIDGED

Two young men linked by a familial murder mystery, a beautiful yet wicked governess who spins a web of deceit, and five individuals named Allan Armadale: Wilkie Collins's follow-up to *The Woman in White* and *No Name* is an innovative take on mistaken identity, the nature of evil and the dark underbelly of Victorian England. The story concerns two distant cousins, both named Allan Armadale, and the impact of a family tragedy, which makes one of them a target of the murderous Lydia Gwilt, a vicious and malevolent charmer determined to get her hands on the Armadale fortune. Will the real Allan Armadale be revealed, and will he survive the plot against his life?



Cast

Nicholas Boulton Wilkie Collins/Narrator

Rachel Atkins Anne Milroy, Maria Oldershaw

John Foley Pedgift Senior, narrator of newspaper items

David Rintoul Mr Darch, David Milroy, Felix Bashwood, Mr Stapleton, Mr Neal

John Sackville Allan Armadale, Decimus Brock, James Bashwood, Ozias Midwinter

Lucy Scott Lydia Gwilt, Eleanor Milroy

Total running time: 30:01:57

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1	Armadale	1:50	25	Mr. Brock drew eagerly nearer to the table.	13:02
2	Book the First. Chapter 1: The Travellers	14:21	26	Mr. Brock met that fearlessly frank question...	12:27
3	Chapter 2: The Solid Side of the Scotch Character	9:21	27	Chapter 3: Day and Night	10:04
4	'Will you oblige me, once for all, by confining yourself...'	9:10	28	Midwinter opened the proposals, and read them...	10:03
5	Chapter 3: The Wreck of the Timber Ship	11:08	29	Thanks to the mixed influence of Allan's ready gift...	10:42
6	Before there was time to speak again...	10:52	30	The hint was enough for Midwinter.	9:02
7	'I address this letter to my son, when my son is...'	9:44	31	Chapter 4: The Shadow of the Past	10:51
8	Thus far the reader had advanced with no...	11:29	32	It was past two, the moon was waning...	11:19
9	'The forged letter paved the way securely...'	13:19	33	The sudden silence surprised Allan...	11:52
10	'Stop!' said the voice from the bed...	11:54	34	Midwinter resumed his walk; his mind lost in doubt...	11:54
11	'Without a word in my own defence...'	10:37	35	Chapter 5: The Shadow of the Future	10:00
12	At those lines the writing ended.	9:20	36	After reading the narrative attentively to the last line...	13:02
13	Book the Second. Chapter 1: The Mystery...	10:49	37	'What is the next scene in the dream?'	12:37
14	'Another family, and other friends,'...	11:08	38	Book the Third. Chapter 1: Lurking Mischief	10:14
15	Mr. Brock laid aside the testimonial...	11:03	39	Letter 2. From Mrs. Oldershaw to Miss Gwilt.	8:43
16	From first to last, the man's real character...	11:25	40	Letter 3. From Miss Gwilt to Mrs. Oldershaw.	2:42
17	Early the next morning a letter was brought to...	10:12	41	Letter 4. From Mrs. Oldershaw to Miss Gwilt.	8:17
18	'Did she remain under your father's care?'	11:27	42	Letter 5. From Miss Gwilt to Mrs. Oldershaw...	0:20
19	Even Mr. Brock's essentially unimaginative mind...	10:09	43	Letter 6. From Miss Gwilt to Mrs. Oldershaw...	2:27
20	The news of the calamity reached Henry Blanchard...	9:48	44	Letter 7. From Mrs. Oldershaw to Miss Gwilt.	7:07
21	At those last words he became suddenly silent...	10:24	45	Chapter 2: Allan as a Landed Gentleman	13:06
22	Chapter 2: The Man Revealed	11:05	46	'Don't! Pray don't, Mr. Armadale!' she said...	10:48
23	'A man who beat you!' exclaimed Mr. Brock...	10:38	47	She smiled and hesitated. 'I don't exactly remember...'	11:37
24	'Those books mark the next change in my life...'	13:30	48	Chapter 3: The Claims of Society	14:19

49	'In the event of circumstances not disposing you...'	14:24	116	Chapter 10: Miss Gwilt's Diary	10:08
50	'Sir, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your favour...'	5:37	117	'This sort of plain, unaffected letter...'	9:59
51	Chapter 4: The March of Events	10:08	118	'She seemed to have had a bad night too...'	10:23
52	'I was not aware that both the house and the town...'	11:05	119	'So here I wait, without knowing how things will end...'	10:35
53	'Cheer up!' said Allan. 'Your affairs are...'	9:52	120	'The post is late this morning.'	10:14
54	'My dear Miss Milroy, if you say a word more...'	8:11	121	'Half-past ten. Oh, dear! oh, dear!'	10:04
55	Chapter 5: Mother Oldershaw on her Guard	13:23	122	'I read no further. When I had got on...'	10:08
56	Letter 2. From Miss Gwilt to Mrs. Oldershaw	7:51	123	'Seven o'clock. The letter has gone to the post.'	12:06
57	Letter 3. From Mrs. Oldershaw to Miss Gwilt	8:42	124	Chapter 11: Love and Law	12:03
58	Chapter 6: Midwinter in Disguise	10:24	125	'We are not at the end of it yet. The Void is nothing...'	10:58
59	'At the first words, his mind fell back again...'	8:54	126	Chapter 12: A Scandal at the Station	10:56
60	Chapter 7: The Plot Thickens	9:55	127	The last of the party to go was a slow old gentleman...	10:01
61	'Put on your hat,' reiterated Allan...	10:17	128	Chapter 13: An Old Man's Heart	10:48
62	'Mr. Pedgift's time is too valuable, sir, to be wasted...'	9:31	129	'The window was open at the great house...'	11:08
63	'My Dear Midwinter. I write more for the purpose...'	10:27	130	The change in Mr. Bashwood's face and manner...	11:40
64	Chapter 8: The Norfolk Broads	9:38	131	'My Dear James, You will be surprised, I am afraid...'	10:13
65	The carriages stopped, the love-making broke off...	10:19	132	Chapter 14: Miss Gwilt's Diary	9:39
66	'Look behind you, Mr. Armadale,' whispered young...	8:15	133	'Knowing of no other professional person whom...'	10:08
67	Having favoured his audience with those two...	8:25	134	'I have promised to meet him to-morrow morning...'	10:12
68	Chapter 9: Fate or Chance?	9:45	135	'To this effect the major spoke.'	10:47
69	Thus, with merciless dexterity of manipulation...	10:39	136	'Either of the two solicitors at Thorpe Ambrose...'	11:58
70	Left by himself, Allan lit a cigar, and took a turn...	10:47	137	'August 6th. If anything could startle me now...'	10:14
71	Chapter 10: The House-Maid's Face	14:33	138	'Seven o'clock. My spirits have risen again.'	8:04
72	'Tuesday. My dear Midwinter...'	12:22	139	'Boscombe Rectory, August 2nd.'	10:04
73	The hair in the rector's description was light brown...	11:41	140	Chapter 15: The Wedding Day	9:56
74	Chapter 11: Miss Gwilt Among the Quicksands	2:26	141	'She's a devilish clever woman,' said Bashwood...	10:57
75	Letter 2. From Miss Gwilt to Mrs. Oldershaw.	10:22	142	Bashwood the younger referred to the papers.	11:20
76	'In this awkward position, my own cautious conduct...'	9:01	143	'Did she like the captain?' suggested Bashwood...	9:01
77	Letter 3. From Mrs. Oldershaw to Miss Gwilt.	4:30	144	'Quite right, old gentleman!' rejoined Bashwood...	11:22
78	Letter 4. From the Reverend Decimus Brock...	2:14	145	They hailed a cab in the street...	9:36
79	Chapter 12: The Clouding of the Sky	13:53	146	'She's gone!' cried his father.	9:01
80	Chapter 13: Exit	9:44	147	Book the Fifth. Chapter 1: Miss Gwilt's Diary	9:45
81	He waited for a word of answer, but none came.	9:41	148	'We are living here (for economy's sake)...'	10:56
82	'I don't like it,' said Allan. 'I don't like your leaving me...'	8:39	149	'October 17th. A letter for Midwinter this morning...'	8:59
83	Book the Fourth. Chapter 1: Mrs. Milroy	10:08	150	Chapter 2: The Diary Continued	11:06
84	It was far otherwise with the major's wife.	8:25	151	'"When Allan comes here to-morrow," he resumed...'	10:41
85	'Has the postman come?' asked Mrs. Milroy.	9:00	152	'"Now do you understand my motive in coming..."'	10:08
86	Chapter 2: The Man is Found	8:53	153	'"The person is a rich young Englishman," I said.'	10:27
87	Many girls at Neelie's age would have failed...	7:25	154	'At noon to-day he was on the Mole, it seems...'	11:56
88	'What!' cried Mrs. Milroy. The word burst from her...	7:26	155	Chapter 3: The Diary Broken Off	11:22
89	Chapter 3: The Brink of Discovery	14:59	156	'Disaster at Sea. Intelligence has reached...'	10:52
90	Meanwhile the train had started from the Thorpe...	12:32	157	'As you have no further interest in my wicked...'	9:04
91	In a little while the two re-appeared...	11:14	158	'Fairweather Vale proved to be a new neighbourhood...'	10:38
92	Chapter 4: Allan at Bay	15:00	159	'"What!" I exclaimed, in astonishment.'	12:10
93	'Private. The Cottage, Thorpe Ambrose, Wednesday.'	14:06	160	'Mr. Darch, acting for Miss Blanchard...'	13:26
94	'Private and Confidential. High Street...'	13:13	161	'Fiume, Illyria, November 21, 1851.'	10:12
95	Chapter 5: Pedgift's Remedy	10:55	162	'I looked up when I had come to the end of the letter...'	9:58
96	Allan handed the letter to his lawyer...	10:52	163	'"Have you thought," I inquired...'	10:23
97	'We have no reason to suppose that,' said Allan...	11:02	164	Book the Last. Chapter 1: At the Terminus	8:13
98	Chapter 6: Pedgift's Postscript	15:02	165	There was another moment of silence.	7:30
99	Chapter 7: The Martyrdom of Miss Gwilt	9:42	166	Chapter 2: In the House	13:54
100	His past existence had disciplined him to bear disaster...	10:20	167	'What does that mean?' he asked...	12:05
101	They sat down at the one little table in the room.	10:44	168	Chapter 3: The Purple Flask	9:24
102	Midwinter suddenly rose from his chair...	11:46	169	'A more unlikely chance,' pursued the doctor...	10:56
103	Chapter 8: She Comes between Them	13:32	170	He threw open the door of a room at one extremity...	10:33
104	'Yes,' said Allan, speaking, for the first time...	12:24	171	The doctor glanced at his assistant...	9:57
105	Chapter 9: She Knows the Truth	10:10	172	She put back the Flask, and locked the cover...	9:44
106	Letter 2. From Mrs. Oldershaw to Miss Gwilt.	2:26	173	'Is the major in Norfolk?' he asked...	10:37
107	Letter 3. From Mr. Bashwood to Miss Gwilt.	8:55	174	Having paved the way in those words...	10:33
108	Letter 4. From Allan Armadale to the Reverend...	0:58	175	Mr. Bashwood had seen him at the apparatus...	9:29
109	Letter 5. From Robert Stapleton to Allan Armadale, Esq.	1:48	176	The minute hand of the clock travelled on halfway...	10:06
110	Letter 6. From Mrs. Oldershaw to Miss Gwilt.	1:01	177	Her first impulse hurried her to the staircase door...	10:44
111	Letter 7. From Miss Gwilt to Mrs. Oldershaw.	0:35	178	Epilogue. Chapter 1: News from Norfolk	8:44
112	Letter 8. From Mrs. Oldershaw to Miss Gwilt.	3:30	179	'You will wonder how I came to be in London.'	6:40
113	Letter 9. From Miss Gwilt to Mrs. Oldershaw.	10:10	180	Chapter 2: Midwinter	5:22
114	'I folded up the paper, and came on him suddenly...'	10:13	181	Appendix	2:41
115	'"I don't believe you love me," I said.'	12:11			

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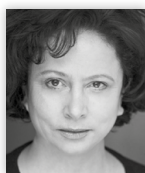
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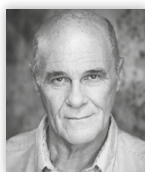
Nicholas Boulton graduated from The Guildhall School of Music and Drama, winning the BBC Carleton Hobbs Award for Radio. He has since featured in countless BBC radio dramas, narrated a plethora of award-winning audiobooks, and died a thousand deaths in various video games. Film, TV and theatre appearances include *Shakespeare in Love*, *Game of Thrones* and *Wolf Hall* (RSC).



Rachel Atkins trained at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Her recent theatre credits include *Romeo and Juliet* at Home and *The Country Girls* at Chichester. She has appeared on television many times, most recently in *Chernobyl* (HBO/Sky), *Humans* (AMC/Channel 4) and *The Rook* (Starz). She has recorded hundreds of radio dramas and comedies for the BBC and has been in *The Archers*. She has recorded many audiobooks.



John Foley has worked as an actor in theatres throughout the UK and US. He has published reference books and children's stories, and written and voiced more than 600 scripts for BBC World Service and Radio 4; other radio includes numerous adaptations of works by writers such as Brecht, Ibsen, John Osborne, Alan Bennett and Victoria Wood. He has also produced a number of audiobooks for Naxos AudioBooks and Random House.



David Rintoul studied at Edinburgh University and won a scholarship to RADA. He has worked in many of Britain's major theatres, including the Royal Court, National Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe and Royal Shakespeare Company. On television he has played Mr Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice* and the title role in ITV's *Doctor Finlay*. Films include *Unrelated*, *My Week with Marilyn*, *The Iron Lady* and Roman Polanski's *The Ghost Writer*.



John Sackville has worked extensively in theatre, film and television. He has also narrated over fifty audiobooks, covering a wide range of fiction and non-fiction titles. He has worked with the RSC, the National Theatre and in the West End. His television credits include two seasons of *The Crown* (Netflix), and *Genius* (National Geographic). Recent film work includes James Gray's *The Lost City of Z* and Philippa Lowthorpe's *Misbehaviour*, in which he plays Robin Day.



Lucy Scott trained at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. Her stage credits include *Emma* (Tricycle Theatre), *Search and Destroy* (New End Theatre) and *Mansfield Park* (Chichester Festival). Her television credits include *Pride and Prejudice* (BBC), *Rosemary and Thyme* (ITV) and *Spooks* (BBC). She also appeared in the film *Tom Brown's Schooldays* with Stephen Fry. She has narrated many audiobooks and has been acclaimed for her role in the Naxos AudioBooks production of *Clarissa*.