

# EDITH WHARTON

# THE HOUSE OF MIRTH

Read by **Laurel Lefkow**

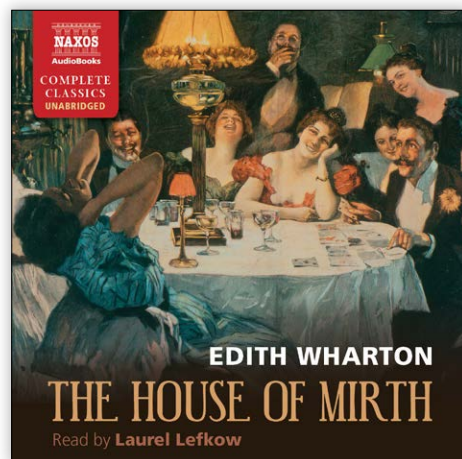
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A single woman of 29, Lily Bart is Edith Wharton's quintessential trapped heroine. Orphaned following the death of her parents, Lily understands that she must use her beauty, grace and charm to attain the social position she longs for, but she is caught between her desire for wealth and a strong moral conscience, which sabotages every opportunity she encounters. Lily's employment as a maid finds her visiting the houses of New York's upper echelons, where she is invited to live lavishly and party with her patrons until the early hours. She meets many eligible bachelors and rich men; however, she is captivated by Laurence Seldon, a struggling attorney who sees through the glossy superficiality of upper society. She cannot bring herself to marry a man of working class, nor a millionaire whom she does not love. Thus begins her downward spiral into penury...



**Laurel Lefkow** is an award-winning actress and voiceover artist. She has appeared in *Spooks*, *The Honourable Woman* and *You, Me and the Apocalypse* on television. She is a regular voice on BBC Radio 4 and recently played Mary Ann in *Tales of the City*. She has won awards for her audiobook recordings, and has read *Sister Carrie* and *The Age of Innocence* for Naxos AudioBooks.



**Total running time: 13:58:33**

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1	<b>The House of Mirth</b>	10:18	28	Mrs Peniston, on whom she had looked in a day...	10:30
2	Lily sank with a sigh into one of the shabby leather...	10:05	29	<b>Chapter 12</b>	14:24
3	He had seated himself on an arm of the chair...	9:34	30	Miss Farish's confidences were cut short...	14:31
4	<b>Chapter 2</b>	11:57	31	<b>Chapter 13</b>	12:50
5	But in spite of her efforts, conversation flagged...	12:36	32	'Look here, Lily, don't take that high and mighty...'	12:41
6	<b>Chapter 3</b>	11:56	33	<b>Chapter 14</b>	12:10
7	Ruling the turbulent element called home...	12:32	34	Reaching town, he was driven direct to his club...	11:58
8	Only one thought consoled her, and that was...	13:51	35	'The Trenors'?' exclaimed Mrs Jack Stepney.	12:02
9	<b>Chapter 4</b>	14:00	36	A ring at the door-bell caught her to her feet.	12:27
10	Miss Bart continued to smile without annoyance.	14:43	37	<b>Chapter 15</b>	10:40
11	<b>Chapter 5</b>	10:53	38	Lily was again silent. She knew she could not hope...	9:53
12	She looked down the long table...	10:28	39	'I mean to have her too,' he repeated, with a laugh...	10:20
13	The library was almost the only surviving portion...	11:13	40	<b>Book 2. Chapter 1</b>	11:36
14	<b>Chapter 6</b>	9:41	41	Now he suddenly felt the latent ache, and realized...	9:59
15	Lily had received his sympathy with languid...	10:01	42	Miss Bart, glowing with the haste of a precipitate...	11:02
16	Selden answered her with a shrug.	10:22	43	<b>Chapter 2</b>	11:03
17	<b>Chapter 7</b>	14:18	44	Miss Bart assented. 'Yes – I caught sight of you...'	10:42
18	The perception of this fact helped her to answer...	13:57	45	'If you won't go back, I must – don't make me...'	12:19
19	<b>Chapter 8</b>	10:36	46	<b>Chapter 3</b>	10:53
20	Lily smiled: she knew that Selden had always been...	10:00	47	If the girl was afraid, was she afraid for herself...	10:48
21	Miss Bart made an impatient movement...	11:05	48	The dinner, meanwhile, was moving to its...	10:47
22	<b>Chapter 9</b>	11:03	49	<b>Chapter 4</b>	14:37
23	Lily looked at her perplexedly. She was sure, now...	9:54	50	In her stuffy room at the hotel to which she had...	12:53
24	Lily was throbbing with fear, but the insinuation...	11:06	51	<b>Chapter 5</b>	12:58
25	<b>Chapter 10</b>	11:36	52	Gerty shook her head, mutely unconvinced.	13:43
26	He left Lily to a passion of disgust and fear.	11:27	53	<b>Chapter 6</b>	10:15
27	<b>Chapter 11</b>	9:47	54	Lily, on regaining the Gormer grounds...	10:17

55	It was the first time since her return from Europe...	9:09	65	She would have liked to sit there, drinking more tea...	13:18
56	<b>Chapter 7</b>	8:28	66	<b>Chapter 11</b>	9:51
57	He met this with a steady gaze of his small...	11:50	67	Lily took no sleeping-drops that night.	10:57
58	<b>Chapter 8</b>	10:41	68	<b>Chapter 12</b>	7:55
59	Lily met this query with an impatient gesture.	10:59	69	Her voice had gathered strength, and she looked...	7:51
60	Pitiable as such an attitude seemed to Gerty...	11:11	70	<b>Chapter 13</b>	11:55
61	<b>Chapter 9</b>	11:36	71	The strength of the victory shone forth from her...	10:57
62	Ned Silverton's relation to Stancy seemed...	13:13	72	Such a vision of the solidarity of life had never...	12:05
63	<b>Chapter 10</b>	12:19	73	<b>Chapter 14</b>	8:17
64	Lily slipped out last among the band of liberated...	11:43	74	On this table stood the empty bottle and glass...	7:01

Recorded, produced, edited and mastered by Rushforth Media

Executive Producer: Anthony Anderson

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Booklet and cover design: Hannah Whale, Fruition – Creative Concepts, using the image *The cards never lie* by Ernst Heileman, courtesy of akg-images

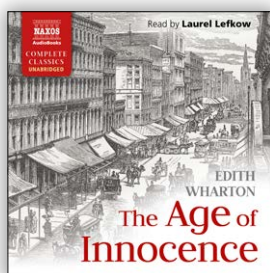
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**Catalogue no.: NA0215**

**ISBN: 978-1-78198-014-9**

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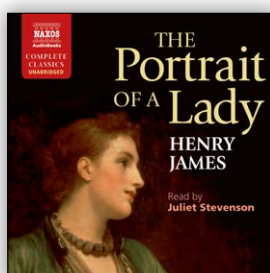
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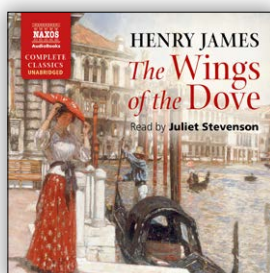
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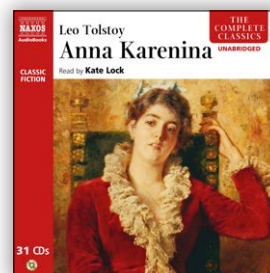
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