

HENRY JAMES

The Spoils of Poynton

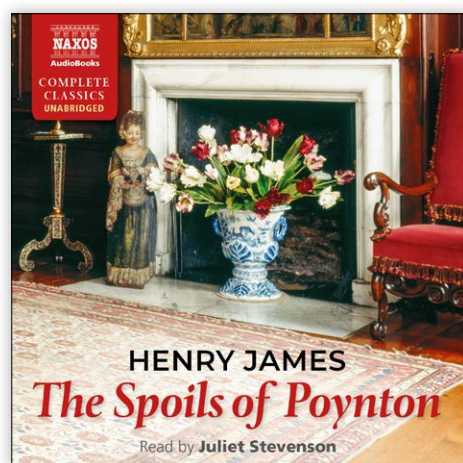
Read by **Juliet Stevenson**

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Published in 1897, *The Spoils of Poynton* is one of the quintessential works of James's middle period. The 'spoils' of the book's title refer to furniture and other *objets d'art* that the widow Adela Gereth moves to her cottage so that they are kept away from the clutches of her coarse future daughter-in-law, Mona Brigstock. However, events take an unexpected turn when her married son Owen is attracted to her friend, Fleda Vetch. This tightly constructed novel, one of James's shortest, depicts the struggle between mother and son, with the idealistic and put-upon Fleda caught in the crossfire.



Juliet Stevenson, one of the UK's leading actresses, has worked extensively for the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Royal National Theatre. She received an Olivier Award for her role in *Death and the Maiden* at the Royal Court, and a number of other awards for her work in the film *Truly, Madly, Deeply*. Other film credits include *The Trial*, *Drowning by Numbers* and *Emma*. For Naxos AudioBooks she has recorded *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Emma*, *Northanger Abbey*, *Persuasion*, *Stories from Shakespeare*, *To the Lighthouse*, *Bliss and Other Stories*, *The Road Home*, *Middlemarch* and many more.



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|----|--|-------|----|---|-------|
| 1 | The Spoils of Poynton | 9:02 | 22 | She had the sense for a while of Mrs Gereth's... | 9:44 |
| 2 | When, as criticism deepened, Fleda dropped the... | 6:58 | 23 | Chapter 11 | 6:48 |
| 3 | Chapter 2 | 8:32 | 24 | Her hostess, without taking up her ejaculation... | 8:38 |
| 4 | 'Well, then, if he doesn't care!' – Fleda exclaimed... | 8:10 | 25 | Chapter 12 | 12:30 |
| 5 | Chapter 3 | 10:32 | 26 | If Fleda handed this communication to her friend... | 10:28 |
| 6 | She was not so stupid as not to see that something... | 12:01 | 27 | Chapter 13 | 8:11 |
| 7 | Chapter 4 | 13:58 | 28 | Fleda had fully recognized, the first days, that... | 8:58 |
| 8 | She was absent from luncheon, where indeed Fleda... | 9:24 | 29 | Chapter 14 | 9:34 |
| 9 | Chapter 5 | 9:18 | 30 | Owen stared. 'Why, for the reason I told you...' | 9:12 |
| 10 | All this was of no great help to Fleda, in so far as Fleda... | 9:02 | 31 | Owen looked out into Raphael Road. 'She did care...' | 11:45 |
| 11 | Chapter 6 | 11:54 | 32 | Chapter 15 | 9:22 |
| 12 | The day after Fleda received this letter she had... | 12:17 | 33 | 'I made a point of letting Mona know that I should be...' | 9:11 |
| 13 | Chapter 7 | 9:41 | 34 | Chapter 16 | 9:54 |
| 14 | ""Even" the Maltese cross?' Mrs Gereth rose as she... | 10:43 | 35 | Owen stared. 'You haven't lifted a finger!' | 9:38 |
| 15 | Something else, however, when morning came... | 8:20 | 36 | 'Ah, all the while you <i>cared</i> ?' Owen read the truth... | 7:32 |
| 16 | Chapter 8 | 9:18 | 37 | He looked about him and took up his hat... | 9:23 |
| 17 | 'I wasn't sure, but I thought it right to try – to put it to...' | 9:06 | 38 | Chapter 17 | 13:23 |
| 18 | Fleda knew exactly how much worse, but she felt a... | 9:27 | 39 | Fleda shook her head sadly; she was more startled... | 12:53 |
| 19 | 'When I got into this I didn't know you, and now that I...' | 8:27 | 40 | Chapter 18 | 8:46 |
| 20 | Chapter 9 | 9:42 | 41 | 'You mustn't think I don't adore him when I've told...' | 10:02 |
| 21 | Chapter 10 | 10:48 | 42 | Fleda was silent: the worst of it all was that there... | 9:19 |

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|----|---|-------|----|---|-------|
| 43 | Chapter 19 | 13:03 | 47 | 'Does it happen to be in your power to give it a...' | 5:38 |
| 44 | Chapter 20 | 10:19 | 48 | Chapter 22 | 12:13 |
| 45 | Fleda was so far from a wish to triumph that she... | 9:49 | 49 | Fleda read that last sentence over more times even... | 14:27 |
| 46 | Chapter 21 | 8:57 | | | |

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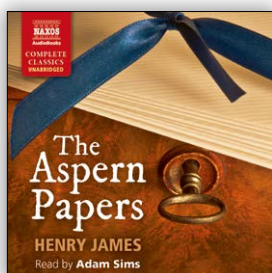
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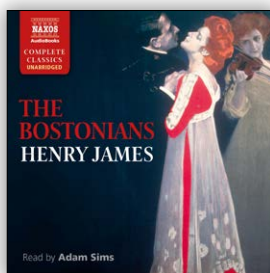
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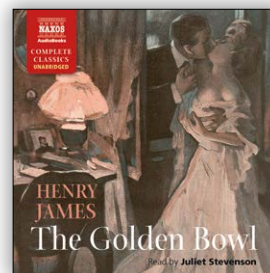
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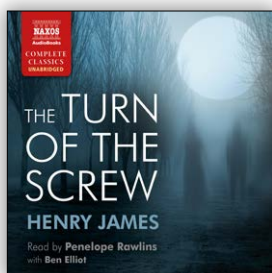
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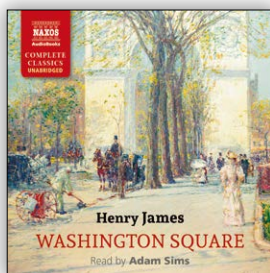
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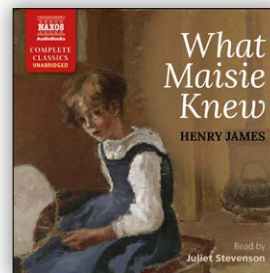
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