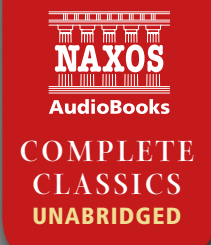




THE COMPLETE MAPP AND LUCIA VOLUME 1 • E.F. BENSON

Read by **Georgina Sutton**

QUEEN LUCIA • MISS MAPP • LUCIA IN LONDON



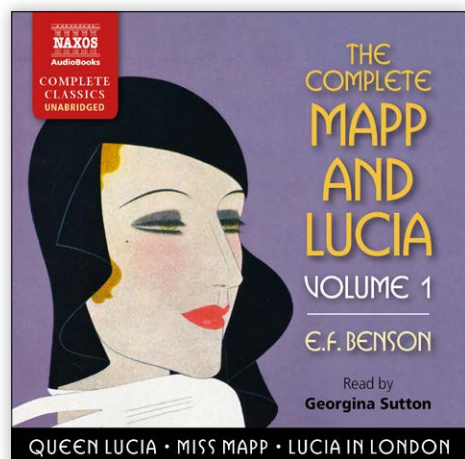
Sharply observant and wickedly funny, E.F. Benson's six 'Mapp and Lucia' novels satirise the upper-middle-class social climbers in 1920s and '30s rural England. Games of bridge and cups of tea fuel hilarious gossip and vindictive plots a-plenty. It is a masterfully sustained spotlight on the minutiae of village life – a clever and ultimately heart-warming series that seems tailor-made for audio.

Volume 1 contains the first three books.

Queen Lucia: Imposing herself as social arbiter of Riseholme, a small village in the Cotswolds, Mrs Lucas insists on the Italianate title of 'Queen Lucia' even though her Italian is non-existent. As queen bee – flawlessly snobbish and overbearing – she rules over her unfortunate neighbours. Could her position be threatened by the arrival of Olga the opera singer?

Miss Mapp: With a face 'corrugated by chronic rage and curiosity', Miss Mapp rules the village of Tilling as Lucia rules Riseholme. At the centre of the social jostling, she is kept alert and alive by anger and suspicion of every other resident, among whom are Diva Plaistow, Captain Puffin and Mrs Poppet.

Lucia in London: Can Lucia be queen of town and country? When Emmeline and Philip (Lucia and Peppino) inherit a house in London, Lucia moves into a new gear as she climbs the city's social ladder. It's time for Riseholme residents, feeling slighted by her desertion, to prove they can manage without her.



Total timings:

Book 1: 8:57:43

Book 2: 8:58:04

Book 3: 8:46:50

Volume 1: 26:42:37

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Georgina Sutton trained at the Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art. She has worked extensively in repertory theatres around the UK and her audio work includes voice commercials for Classic FM. Among her recordings for Naxos AudioBooks are Thackeray's *Vanity Fair*, Brontë's *Shirley* and Lawrence's *The Virgin and the Gypsy*.

1	Book 1: Queen Lucia. Chapter 1	11:32	18	The minutes went on, and still nobody appeared...	12:07
2	The house stood at the end of the village...	12:07	19	Chapter 8	14:02
3	She looked round the panelled entrance-hall...	12:00	20	Georgie with a fallen heart had first to satisfy himself...	14:38
4	Chapter 2	16:38	21	They waited. Presently the hands of the Cromwellian...	13:11
5	With tea was announced also the advent of Georgie...	15:31	22	Chapter 9	12:23
6	Chapter 3	13:31	23	For a moment in this juxtaposition of the topics of...	11:14
7	But here was Lucia, as proved by her note...	13:32	24	Chapter 10	14:42
8	Chapter 4	12:06	25	Riseholme got up rather late next morning...	16:55
9	The hours of the morning between breakfast...	14:34	26	Chapter 11	13:33
10	Already, though Lady Ambermere's motor had not...	7:29	27	It was as Georgie walked home after the delivery...	11:25
11	Chapter 5	16:21	28	Georgie found himself the last to arrive...	13:05
12	The sun was still hot when, half an hour afterwards...	11:10	29	Chapter 12	12:24
13	Chapter 6	12:19	30	A few days after the disaster of the Spanish-Brinton...	9:58
14	Georgie was not sorry to have the morning to...	15:21	31	Lucia lay long awake that night, tossing and turning...	11:21
15	The minutes passed on pleasantly enough...	14:40	32	Lucia had not determined on this declaration of war...	12:35
16	Chapter 7	16:27	33	Chapter 13	12:37
17	He went back to the house, where the front door...	12:53	34	It was after the first séance that the frenzy...	12:39

35	Georgie quite agreed with that, but did not think...	13:26	81	It was time (and indeed late) to set forth...	10:43
36	Chapter 14	13:26	82	For these December days were dark...	11:14
37	Georgie put down his picture and painting-apparatus...	9:57	83	Chapter 12	17:00
38	The opening of the door was lost on Lucia...	11:21	84	Epilogue	7:58
39	Chapter 15	14:48	85	Book 3: Lucia in London. Chapter 1	12:55
40	Soon after Georgie's hall began to fill up with guests...	16:44	86	Georgie moved away from the telephone...	16:12
41	Epilogue or Preface	10:51	87	The evening had turned chilly, and he put on his blue...	11:30
42	Book 2: Miss Mapp. Preface	00:42	88	Lucia twirled round the Elizabethan spit...	10:32
43	Chapter 1	12:58	89	Chapter 2	12:18
44	Miss Mapp had a mind that was incapable of...	11:57	90	Georgie's head buzzed with inductive reasoning...	12:34
45	This spiteful retrospect passed swiftly and smoothly...	11:45	91	And such a talk he had had with Olga last night...	15:33
46	In spite of her malignant curiosity and her cancerous...	13:55	92	Olga, at the machine, was out of sight of Lucia...	14:25
47	Chapter 2	12:59	93	Chapter 3	14:37
48	Captain Puffin limped away pretending not to hear...	9:39	94	Life under the new conditions was not easy...	13:48
49	Miss Mapp, of course, denied it all...	11:30	95	He briskly put the letter away, and began to consider...	13:40
50	Interesting as was Miss Mapp's walk home...	15:32	96	Georgie left Daisy still attempting to detect more...	10:12
51	Miss Mapp was so impenetrably wrapped in thought...	14:03	97	Chapter 4	10:58
52	Chapter 3	13:43	98	Georgie found, when he arrived next afternoon...	14:13
53	Just about the time that this harmonious party began...	13:46	99	Georgie popped in, as they all said at Riseholme...	10:00
54	Major Flint choked and laughed and inhaled tobacco...	12:20	100	Lucia felt that her attitude hadn't quite produced...	10:55
55	Diva suddenly jumped up with a happy squeal...	12:02	101	Chapter 5	13:59
56	Chapter 4	11:09	102	There was no reason why Georgie should not finish...	16:25
57	She was out early for her shopping next morning...	12:49	103	Her guests mostly breakfasted upstairs...	16:09
58	Diva intentionally arrived a full quarter of an hour...	14:03	104	Nemesis meantime had been dogging Lucia's...	11:53
59	Chapter 5	12:41	105	Chapter 6	9:50
60	This gaseous mood, athletic, amatory or otherwise...	11:23	106	Lucia was beginning to feel sick with envy.	12:04
61	It was still dark when he awoke, but the square of his...	11:14	107	Riseholme settled back into its strenuous life again...	16:11
62	The events of that night and morning, as may easily be...	14:42	108	Lucia did not get home till three o'clock...	12:05
63	Chapter 6	12:29	109	Chapter 7	15:45
64	Diva felt that she had never laid out four shillings...	14:42	110	She reached home to find that Adele had already...	12:22
65	After this excursion into Elysian fields...	17:30	111	It was, however, without much misgiving...	12:18
66	Chapter 7	12:03	112	There were yet ten days before that...	11:40
67	This was a bribe, and Mrs Poppit instantly pocketed...	11:22	113	Chapter 8	12:34
68	The news that nobody in Tilling believed her...	11:37	114	Riseholme lingered on the green that morning...	12:18
69	All three ladies were on tenterhooks of anxiety...	11:19	115	Lucia visited the Museum next, and arranged the spit...	10:05
70	Chapter 8	11:14	116	Chapter 9	12:54
71	About eleven o'clock a little mist had begun to form...	14:31	117	Adele did not expect any of her guests till teatime...	11:15
72	Her brain still violently active switched off for a...	13:35	118	Lucia felt that dinner, as far as she went...	9:24
73	Chapter 9	13:28	119	Lucia distributed little pressures and kisses...	11:52
74	Up till this moment Miss Mapp had not made up her...	13:46	120	Chapter 10	12:33
75	Though the night was dark and moonless...	12:08	121	Just now she was nothing in Riseholme...	14:03
76	Chapter 10	12:56	122	Daisy and Piggy, starting before them, were playing...	13:33
77	Nor was this the sum of Miss Mapp's mental activities...	12:31	123	Chapter 11	13:58
78	It was important, therefore, to be at home...	13:15	124	Daisy instantly got out her planchette...	14:00
79	Chapter 11	13:02	125	Instantly the words of Vittoria about the dog...	13:19
80	There were embarrassing moments during dinner...	14:47			

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