

The Complete Mapp and Lucia, Volume 1

By E.F. Benson

Unabridged

Read by Georgina Sutton

DESCRIPTION

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 aplenty. 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.

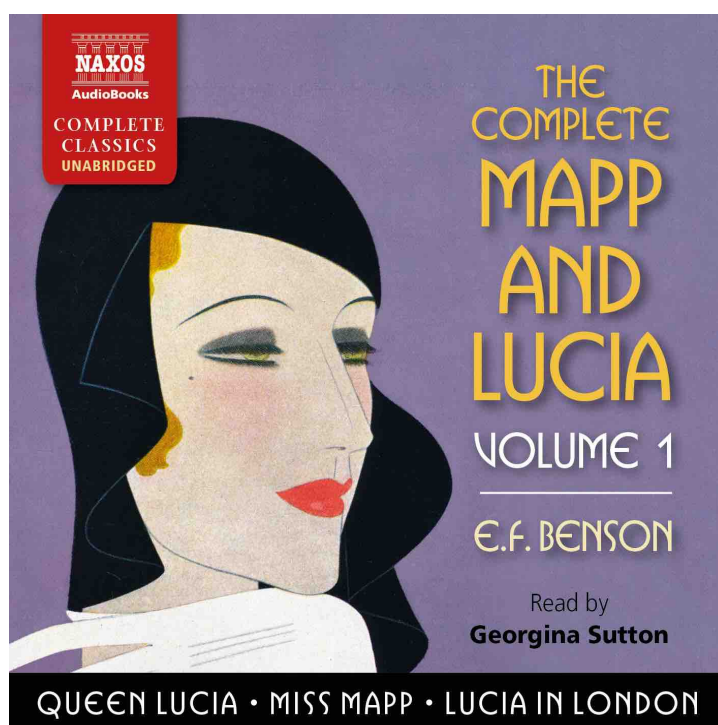
Queen Lucia: Imposing herself as social arbiter of Riseholme, a small village in the Cotswolds, Mrs Lucas insists on the Italianate title of 'Queen Lucia' even though her Italian is non-existent. As queen bee - flawlessly snobbish and overbearing - she rules over her unfortunate neighbours. Could her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

SALES AND MARKETING POINTS

- Seminal comedy classics that would appeal to fans of Oscar Wilde, Evelyn Waugh and other society satirists.
- A BBC television adaptation starring Miranda Richardson was released in 2014.



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