

THE NETHER WORLD

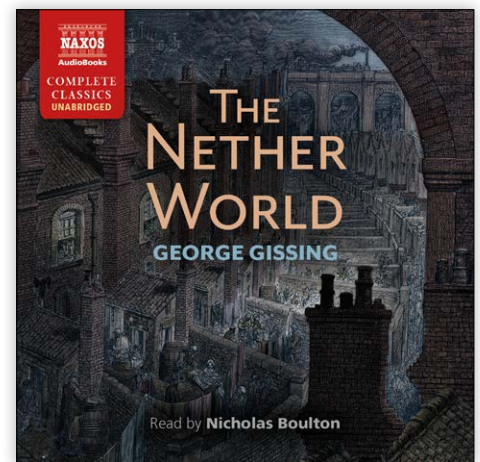
GEORGE GISSING

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**COMPLETE
CLASSICS
UNABRIDGED**

Read by
**Nicholas
Boulton**

Dramatic, fast-moving and brutal, Gissing's highly regarded early novel lays bare the reality of urban poverty in 1870s London. Old Michael Snowdon returns to the city with an inheritance that he determines should go towards helping the poor – but goodness and charity are not to play a part here. Everyone has an agenda, and scheming spreads through the story like a disease. Gissing's own experience of London as an outsider in a vast city that both fascinated and appalled him gave him the tools and the drive to create a visceral sense of place. Life is unremittingly grim for just about everyone, from the weak and well-intentioned Jane to the coarse, cunning Clem Peckover and her feckless rival Pennyloaf Candy. The author offers no escape from the gloomy cycle, and there is something alarmingly timeless in the unvarnished portrait of human nature.



Total running time: 16:34:50
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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).

This is a faithful reproduction of the original 19th-century text, and as such it contains occasional use of language now considered offensive.

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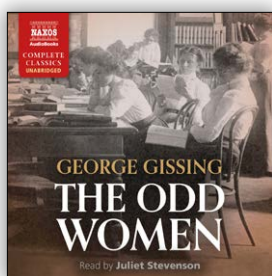
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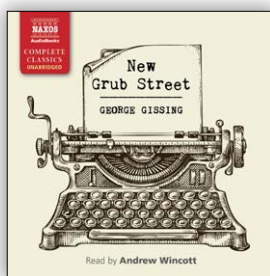
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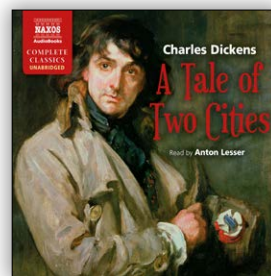
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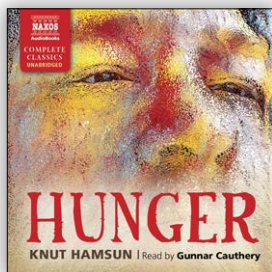
George Gissing
The Odd Women
Read by Juliet Stevenson



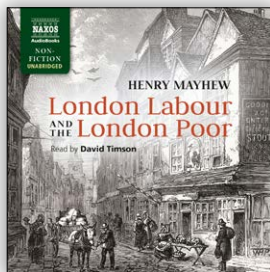
George Gissing
New Grub Street
Read by Andrew Wincott



Charles Dickens
A Tale of Two Cities
Read by Anton Lesser



Knut Hamsun
Hunger
Read by Gunnar Cauthery



Henry Mayhew
London Labour and the London Poor
Read by David Timson



Émile Zola
L'Assommoir
Read by Leighton Pugh