

# Belinda

MARIA EDGEWORTH

Read by **Lucy Scott**

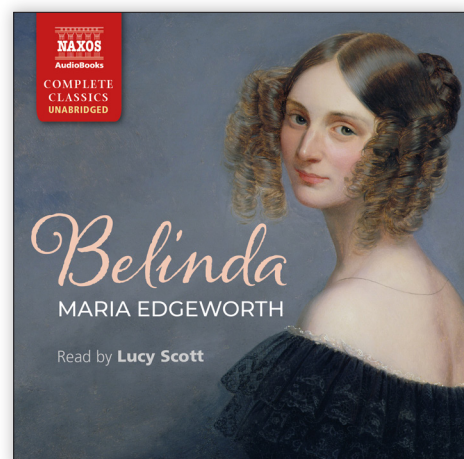


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Published in 1801, Maria Edgeworth's *Belinda* is an absorbing novel that mirrors social and domestic life among the English gentry. In her pursuit of a suitable marriage, Belinda encounters an array of characters including the dazzling socialite Lady Delacourt, the feminist Harriet Freke, the wealthy and handsome West Indian Mr Vincent and the impulsive Clarence Hervey.

*Belinda* follows the tradition of society novels charting the journey of an intelligent young woman in search of an ideal husband, with its heroine Belinda eschewing material wealth in favour of happiness and self-fulfilment. Anticipating the realism of Jane Austen's female heroines, the novel presents a vivid portrayal of life in late 18th-century London, depicting leisured society in all its aspects.



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**Lucy Scott** trained at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. Her stage credits include *Emma* (Tricycle Theatre), *Search and Destroy* (New End Theatre) and *Mansfield Park* (Chichester Festival). Her television credits include *Pride and Prejudice* (BBC), *Rosemary and Thyme* (ITV) and *Spooks* (BBC). She also appeared in the film *Tom Brown's Schooldays* with Stephen Fry. She has read many titles for Naxos AudioBooks, including Balzac's *Cousin Bette*, Eliot's *Romola*, Fontane's *Effi Briest* and Richardson's *Clarissa*.

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