

A.J.A. SYMONS

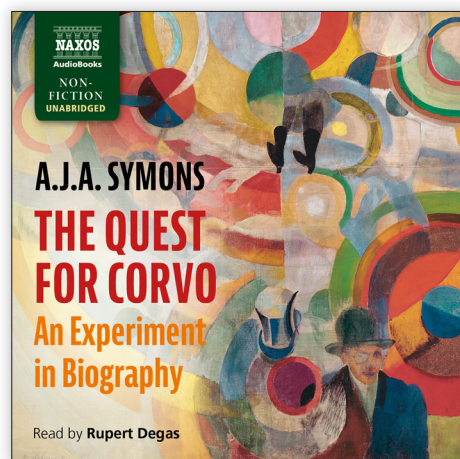
# THE QUEST FOR CORVO

## An Experiment in Biography

Read by **Rupert Degas**

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A.J.A. Symons discovered Frederick Rolfe's *Hadrian the Seventh* in 1925 and became consumed with fascination for its eccentric author, aka 'Baron Corvo'. His 'quest' takes the form of an irresistible detective story, the twists and turns of his investigation into Rolfe's unfortunate life resulting in a groundbreaking form of biography that reveals much about both men. It paints a tragi-comic portrait of a prickly, paranoid, talented Englishman who failed at becoming a Catholic priest and led a profligate lifestyle in Venice; a charmer with a sharp wit, a vituperative tongue and a talent for self-destruction. The process and the subject are as fascinating as each other, and this 'experiment' continues to stand out nearly a century after it was published.



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**Rupert Degas** has narrated over 150 audiobooks, including titles by Oscar Wilde, Arthur Conan Doyle, Mervyn Peake, Bram Stoker and many more. He has received particular critical acclaim for his performances of *Jupiter's Travels* and *Dreaming of Jupiter* by Ted Simon, *Flanagan's Run* by Tom McNab, and Gerald Durrell's memoirs *A Zoo in My Luggage*, *The Whispering Land*, *Beasts in My Belfry* and *The Aye-Aye and I* (all available on Naxos AudioBooks). He has won over 10 *AudioFile* Earphones Awards and has been nominated for several Audies. He lives in Sydney, Australia.

1	<b>The Quest for Corvo: An Experiment in Biography</b>	0:15	12	Chapter 11: The Queer Collaborator	43:25
2	Chapter 1: The Problem	35:38	13	Chapter 12: Interregnum	27:47
3	Chapter 2: The Clues	28:51	14	Chapter 13: The Happy Interval	32:25
4	Chapter 3: The Newspaper Attack	28:50	15	Chapter 14: Robert Hugh Benson	34:39
5	Chapter 4: The Reluctant Brother	25:26	16	Chapter 15: The Voluntary Exile	30:17
6	Chapter 5: The Theological Student	37:56	17	Chapter 16: The Venetian Outcast	38:49
7	Chapter 6: The Rejected Priest	23:17	18	Chapter 17: The Final Benefactor	29:47
8	Chapter 7: The Nowt of Holywell	1:00:45	19	Chapter 18: Epitaph	16:25
9	Chapter 8: The Strange Historian	38:35	20	Chapter 19: The Desire and Pursuit of the Whole	25:20
10	Chapter 9: The Chronicles	22:24	21	Chapter 20: The End of the Quest	35:58
11	Chapter 10: The Divine Friend	27:24			

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