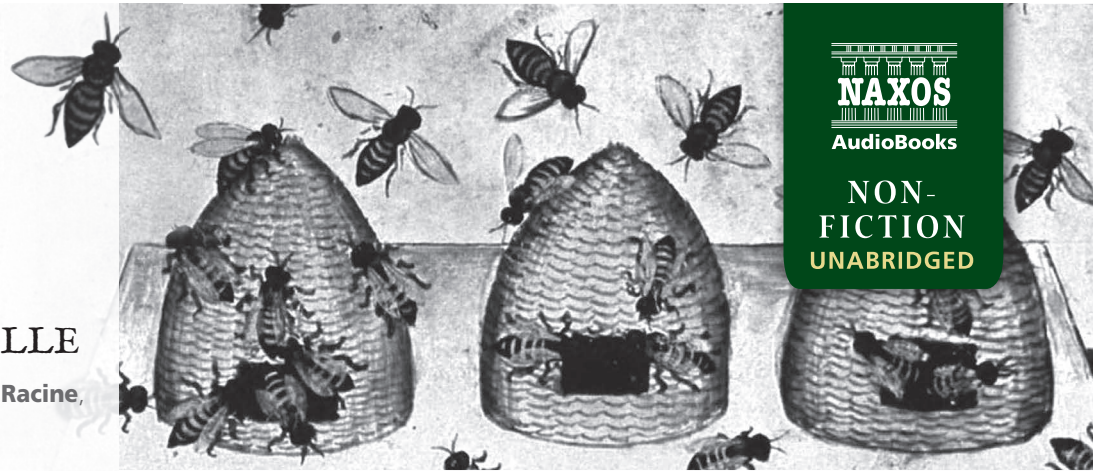


THE FABLE OF THE BEES

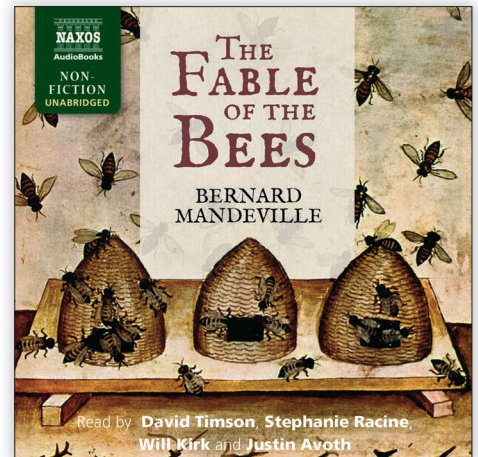
BERNARD MANDEVILLE

Read by **David Timson, Stephanie Racine, Will Kirk and Justin Avoth**



The Fable of the Bees – a satirical poem, prose discussion, three essays and six dialogues completed in 1729 – exposes human vices but defends them as a necessity within a wealthy society. Mandeville's bees thrive until they start living by honesty and virtue... then they are impoverished. Mandeville did not play by the rules: he satirised the sins of society but also ridiculed the widespread hypocrisy of deploring these sins whilst reaping their benefits. He and his work were attacked for the rest of the century. The wicked bees' comeuppance is not for their vices – society's accepted moral code – but, instead, for the folly of denying them. There is no judgement on whether a rich society is superior to a poor one; Mandeville simply analyses, with incorrigible playfulness, the status quo as he sees it. The fascination of his arguments and the ensuing controversy have caught and influenced philosophers and thinkers ever since.

Includes Mandeville's complete text (both Parts 1 and 2), in a multi-voice recording headed by the outstanding David Timson.



Total running time: 22:31:38

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Cast

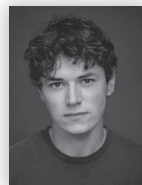
David Timson Narrator (Bernard Mandeville), **Justin Avoth** Cleomenes, **Will Kirk** Horatio, **Stephanie Racine** Fulvia



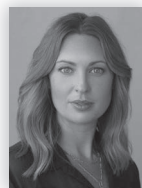
David Timson has worked extensively in BBC Radio Drama since winning the BBC Student Prize in 1971. He has made over a thousand broadcasts and has worked regularly for Naxos AudioBooks as actor, director and writer since 1997. For Naxos AudioBooks, he has recorded the complete Sherlock Holmes stories, five Dickens novels, and a complete unabridged reading of Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. In conjunction with Naxos AudioBooks and Cambridge University Press, David has directed five of the successful audio series of Shakespeare's plays. In 2001, he won the Spoken Word Publishers Association Award for Best Original Production with *The History of Theatre*, which he wrote, as well as Best Drama Production with *Richard III* (with Kenneth Branagh), which he directed. In 2002 he won the Audiobook of the Year Award for his reading of *A Study in Scarlet*. Since 2004, he has been a teacher at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.



Justin Avoth was born in Cardiff and grew up in Shropshire. He trained at RADA and has worked for over 30 years in theatre, television, film and radio. His work in theatre includes productions at the National Theatre, the RSC, Hampstead Theatre, the Almeida Theatre, Headlong Theatre Company, the Orange Tree Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe, Southwark Playhouse, the Print Room, Curve Theatre, the Royal Exchange Theatre, Birmingham Rep, The Wrestling School and Fiery Angel among others. Justin's work in television has been similarly varied, with performances in *Ripper Street*, *Bad Education*, *Medici: Masters of Florence*, *Dracula*, *The Borgias*, *Merlin*, *Spooks*, *Father Brown*, *Judge John Deed*, *Whitechapel* and *Persuasion*. His radio work includes many audio dramas.



Will Kirk trained at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and was a recipient of the BBC Carleton Hobbs Award. His theatre credits include *The Snow Queen* (Storyhouse), *The Sicilian Courtesan* (Richard Burton Theatre Company), *Between Eternity and Time* (Sherman Theatre and Richard Burton Theatre Company), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (The Marlowe Society) and *Ginger Beer* (King's Head Theatre). His television and film credits include *The Gathering* (Channel 4) and *Serial Cheat* (Sketchlighthouse Films) and his selected radio credits include *The Shell Seekers*, *Middlemarch*, *A Charles Paris Mystery*, *The Pallisers*, *Stalingrad*, *The Mill on the Floss*, *Henry IV Part II* (BBC Radio), *Doctor Who: Anti-Genesis*, *Torchwood: God Among Us* (Big Finish Productions).



Stephanie Racine began her acting career by winning the Carleton Hobbs award and working with the BBC in their radio drama company. She has acted in over 60 radio dramas over the years including *The Count of Monte Cristo*, *Clayton Grange* and *The Archers*, and has voiced a Sony Award-winning campaign for the BBC's Gothic Imagination season. Her stage credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Blue Stockings*, both for Shakespeare's Globe. For TV and film, she has had roles in *Holby City* (BBC), *The Royals* (Lionsgate) and most recently *Ham* (Messy Films). Alongside her stage, screen and radio drama work, Stephanie has narrated over 100 audiobooks, including numerous *New York Times*, US and UK bestsellers.

1	The Fable of the Bees	0:27
2	Part 1	0:05
3	Preface	14:22
4	The Grumbling Hive or, Knaves Turn'd Honest	21:41
5	The Introduction	1:34
6	An Enquiry into the Origin of Moral Virtue	27:33
7 – 29	Remarks	6:27:23
30 – 31	An Essay on Charity, and Charity-Schools	2:23:28
32 – 33	A Search into the Nature of Society	1:36:08
34	A Vindication of the Book from the Aspersions contained in a Presentment of the Grand Jury of Middlesex and an Abusive Letter to Lord C____	54:20
35	Part 2	0:27
36	Preface	49:45
37	The First Dialogue: Between Horatio, Cleomenes, and Fulvia	55:28
38	The Second Dialogue: Between Horatio and Cleomenes	1:05:58
39 – 40	The Third Dialogue: Between Horatio and Cleomenes	1:20:27
41	The Fourth Dialogue: Between Horatio and Cleomenes	1:17:44
42 – 43	The Fifth Dialogue: Between Horatio and Cleomenes	1:57:33
44	The Sixth Dialogue: Between Horatio and Cleomenes	2:37:13

Recorded at Temple Music Studio, Sutton

Produced by Neil Rosser

Edited and mastered by Timothy Brown

Executive producer: Genevieve Helsby

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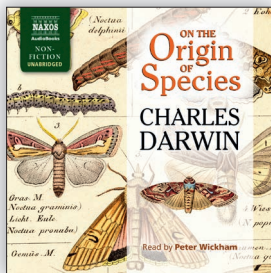
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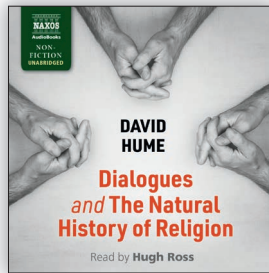
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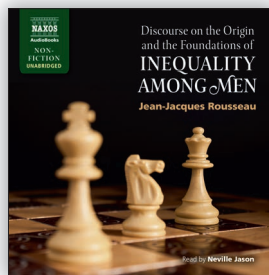
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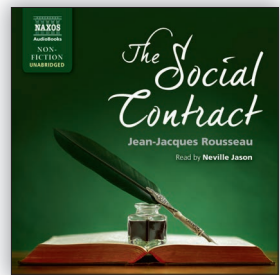
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