

Vathek

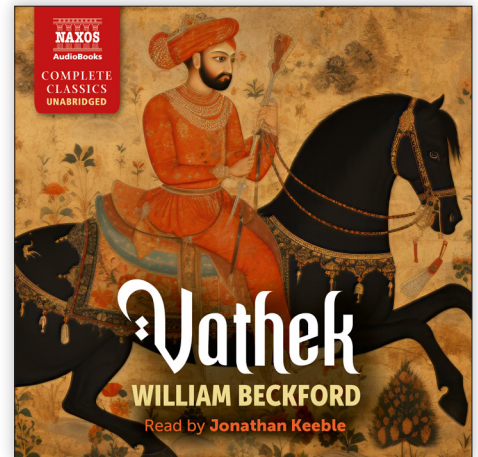
WILLIAM BECKFORD

Read by Jonathan Keeble

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Written in 1786, this Oriental fantasy tells the story of a dissolute and debauched Caliph, Vathek. Having become obsessed with power and immortality, Vathek embarks on a journey to obtain supernatural powers, in pursuit of which he proves willing to renounce his religion and sacrifice both his children and his soul. We follow Vathek's remarkable travels to the subterranean palace of Eblis, where his ultimate fate awaits him. Among the themes explored in *Vathek* are ambition, desire and the consequence of unbridled power. The novel influenced several later writers, including Poe and Lovecraft, and is given an exhilarating reading here by Jonathan Keeble.



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Jonathan Keeble is an award-winning actor who combines his audio work with a busy theatre and TV career. Much in demand, his voice work ranges from the voice of God in the Sistine Chapel to the Angel of Death in the film *Hellboy 2*, with all stops in between. He has featured in over 700 radio plays for the BBC, appearing in everything from Shakespeare to *Sherlock Holmes* and *Dr Who*; he also played the evil Owen in *The Archers*. He has recorded over 400 audiobooks, for which he has won multiple awards.

1	Vathek	0:11
2	Vathek, ninth Caliph of the race of the Abassides...	58:19
3	Prayer at break of day was announced...	59:16
4	This conversation was cut short by Fakreddin...	1:03:50
5	It was day-break, and the guards were snoring on their posts...	57:22

Edited and mastered by Thomas Goose

Executive producer: Anthony Anderson

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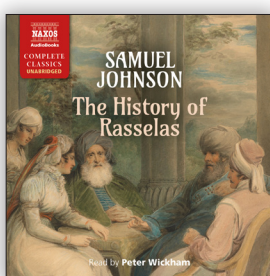
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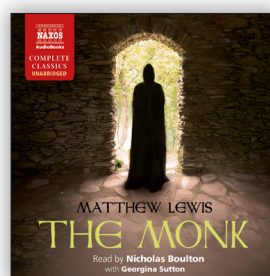
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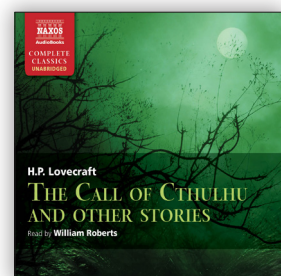
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