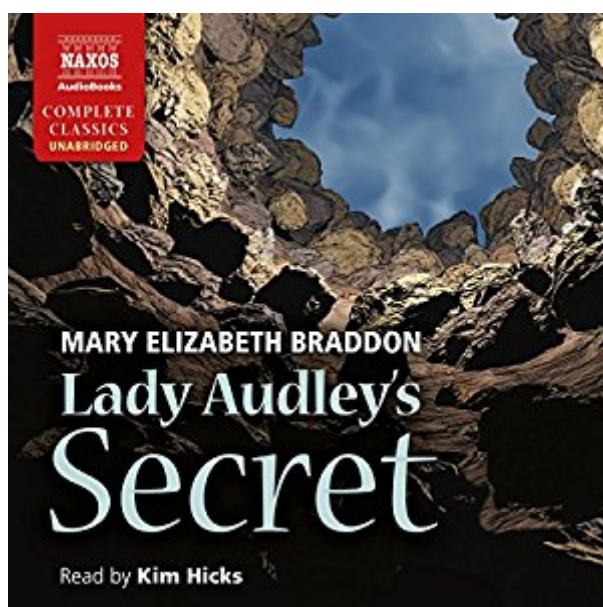


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Lady Audley's Secret



Synopsis

Lady Audley is universally adored: Beautiful, kind, and charming, she enamors all whom she meets. It is not until the strange disappearance of widower George Talboys that her behavior takes an odd turn. George's friend, Robert Audley, Lady Audley's nephew-in-law, is on the case; an upper-class layabout turned detective, he is determined to get to the bottom of things. Mystery, mayhem, madness, and despair: *Lady Audley's Secret* is the gripping and suspenseful novel that has been branded "the most sensationally successful of all the sensation novels" (John Sutherland) and rivals some of Wilkie Collins' best books, such as *The Moonstone* and *The Woman in White*. Robert Louis Stevenson, Charles Dickens, and Henry James all admitted to reading Braddon's work with great enjoyment; Alfred Lord Tennyson professed to have read everything she ever wrote. Kim Hicks gives an absorbing reading, full of charm and insight.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 15 hours and 18 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

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Audible.com Release Date: May 13, 2016

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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Customer Reviews

There's a treasure trove of free reading material in the public domain that's available for Kindle. One reader's treasure, however, may be another reader's trash. This was a treasure for me, but not only for the read itself but also because of the author and the story behind the read. Mary Elizabeth Braddon (1835-1915) was a prolific writer of plays, short stories, essays, poems and 75 novels during the Victorian era in England. Her mother and father separated when she was five, her brother left for India and then Australia (where he became prime minister of Tasmania) when she was ten. She herself worked for three years as an actress to support her mother and herself before her

writing career took off. Her life story fascinates me, especially since we're talking about a time of more repression of women than we have today. She seems to have been the kind of woman who decides to live her life her way, not the way society dictated. In 1860 she meets John Maxwell, a publisher of periodicals who is married with five children, but whose wife is in an asylum in Ireland. They live together and have six children, until marrying in 1874, when his wife died. Braddon wrote but also edited a literary magazine and founded another one. Such a busy woman, especially considering there were 11 children in the Braddon-Maxwell household. (I seem to be crushing on her, but, really, she must have been an amazing woman.) Her first novel was published in 1860 and her last in 1908. What a career. Well, I guess none of this is to the point of posting a review of this particular book. This is her most successful and most popular sensation novel and was published in 1862.

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