

NAXOS YOUNG ADULT CLASSICS

# The Henry James Turn of the Screw

Read by **Emma Fielding**  
and **Dermot Kerrigan**

**Bonus  
CD-ROM**

with  
Full Text +  
Study Guide

*Know it... enjoy it.*



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1	The manuscript	9:05
2	The account begins	3:08
3	A disturbing incident	6:39
4	Miles comes home	4:00
5	The stranger appears	5:02
6	Mrs Grose questioned	5:40
7	A horrible realisation	5:34
8	Another visitation	3:58
9	More revelations	5:41
10	Lies	5:16
11	On the stairs	5:12
12	A sleepless night	7:29
13	Miles's explanation	4:47
14	A threat	4:42

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15	The days pass	3:01
16	To church	4:46
17	In the schoolroom	4:50
18	A decision	3:46
19	Miles questioned	7:22
20	The letter	4:30
21	At the lake	4:46
22	Flora confronted	8:28
23	Flora leaves	10:17
24	Alone with Miles	4:00
25	More lies	7:35
26	Confessions	8:31
27	Victory?	3:55

**Total time: 2:32:19**

**ALSO INCLUDED IN THE DOWNLOAD PACKAGE  
ARE THE STUDY GUIDE, AND THE ABRIDGED  
AND UNABRIDGED TEXT. (see page 3)**

The PDFs

# The Turn of the Screw

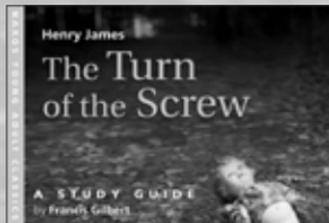
A Study Guide



By Francis Gilbert

This unique study guide is designed to help you understand Henry James's *The Turn of the Screw* in more depth. Both the abridged and unabridged texts of the novel are also provided as separate PDFs.

All three PDFs are included in the download package.



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## Why Study Literature?

The famous Greek philosophers Plato (427–347 BC) and Aristotle (384–322 BC) first clashed when answering this age-old question. Plato felt that literature should be banned. He believed that it was a poor copy of the real world and inflamed people to do stupid and wild things in the manner of its heroes. But Plato's pupil Aristotle argued that far from corrupting our minds literature actually improves us, enabling us to become more moral by making us feel both pity and fear for its central characters.

The argument today remains more or less the same. Literature's detractors believe it can lead us astray by making us feel sympathy for evil characters, while literature's defenders take Aristotle's view that by feeling for fictional characters we become better people, better at empathising and imagining ourselves in different situations.

As a teacher and lover of literature, I take Aristotle's view: literature takes us to places that we would never otherwise experience. And reading about murderers doesn't mean we will imitate them; we may actually learn from their grave errors. Literature affords us the chance to live through other people's tragedies and triumphs, as a result of which we ourselves may emerge wiser, more thoughtful and happier than before.

**Francis Gilbert**



## Henry James's Life

- 1843** Born 15 April in New York. His family was wealthy, and his father was one of the best-known intellectuals in America, whose friends included Thoreau, Emerson and Hawthorne.
- c. **1853** Travelled abroad, studying in Geneva, London, Paris, Bologna and Bonn.
- 1862** Eager to do something other than being 'just literary', he briefly attended Harvard Law School, but then decided to become a full-time writer. His brothers Wilky and Bob enlisted in the Union Army.
- 1865** President Lincoln assassinated on Henry's 22nd birthday.
- 1867** Met Dickens at a dinner party. Described it as 'a confrontation with [his] own future', hoping that one day he would also be 'the representative of both art and life'.
- 1871** *Watch and Ward*, his first full-length work of fiction, published.
- 1876** Moved from Paris to London, believing that English–American subjects would be more productive for his writing than French–American.
- 1879** *Daisy Miller*, in which a young girl finds that her American values conflict with European sophistication, published.

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- 1881** *The Portrait of a Lady*, again about an American girl who suffers from her own provincialism whilst travelling Europe, published.
- 1886** *The Bostonians*, set in the time of the rising feminist movement, published.
- 1897** *What Maisie Knew* published.
- 1898** *The Turn of the Screw*, a ghost story, published.
- 1902** *The Wings of the Dove*, in which an inheritance destroys a young couple's love, published.
- 1903** *The Ambassadors* published.
- 1905** Visited America for the first time in 25 years.
- 1906–10** Revised many of his tales and novels for the New York edition of his complete works.
- 1913** *A Small Boy and Others*, his autobiography, published.
- 1914** *Notes of a Son and Brother*, a continuation of his autobiography, published.
- 1915** Shocked by the outbreak of World War I, he declared loyalty to his adopted country by becoming a British citizen, and protested at the US's refusal to enter the War.
- 1916** Died 28 February in Rye, three months after suffering a stroke.
- 1917** *The Middle Years*, the third volume of his autobiography, published posthumously.



**Emma Fielding** trained at RSAMD. She has worked for the Royal National Theatre in Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*, for the Royal Shakespeare Company in *Twelfth Night* and in John Ford's *The Broken Heart* for which she won the Dame Peggy Ashcroft Award for Best Actress. She also won the Ian Charleson Award and has recorded numerous radio plays for the BBC.



The Irish actor **Dermot Kerrigan** trained at LAMDA and has since appeared with the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford and in plays at the Royal Court. He also reads *Classic Chilling Tales* and *The New Testament – Selections* for Naxos AudioBooks.



**Francis Gilbert** has taught English literature in the UK for nearly two decades and has published four books, including the bestselling *I'm A Teacher*, *Get Me Out Of Here* and *Yob Nation*. He lives in London, teaches part-time and writes. He regularly appears on television and radio, commentating on education.

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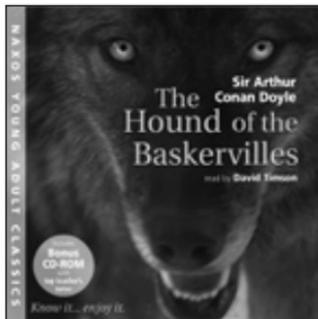
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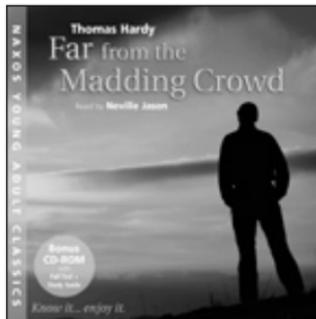
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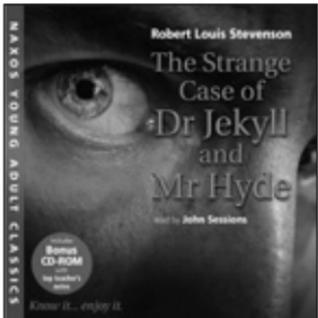
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# The Turn of the Screw

Written by **Henry James**  
Read by **Emma Fielding**  
and **Dermot Kerrigan**

Perhaps the most brilliantly successful ghost story ever written, *The Turn of the Screw* creates a terrifyingly believable impression of innocent children so corrupted by evil that they remain deceptive pictures of innocent beauty. Their governess must struggle alone to confront and exorcise the demons which she believes possess their souls...

## Bonus CD-ROM – A Study Guide



**What makes the characters tick?**  
**What are the key themes?**

- Top teacher Francis Gilbert gives you the notes and the quotes you need.
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## YOUNG ADULT CLASSICS

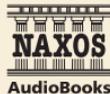
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Nicolas Soames

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**ABRIDGED**

**Total time**  
**2:32:19**

