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Rebecca



Synopsis

Rebecca is widely regarded as Daphne du Maurier's finest novel. It tells the story of Manderley - an exquisite house with gardens down to the sea, its owner Max de Winter and his new young wife...and of course Rebecca. Abridged.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Surely no audiobook collection should be without some version of this timeless classic, arguably the most famous and well-loved gothic novel of the 20th century, and this production would be an excellent choice. Read in wonderfully British cadences by Anna Massey, all the mysterious and oppressive nuances are made immediate and chilling. We even feel some sympathy for the absurdly timid and cowering heroine; it is, after all, easy to imagine feeling woefully inferior to the predecessor and desperately eager to please. Of course the story requires great leaps of credulity... Forget the movie; it makes mincemeat of the actual tale. A wise seven-year-old once told me, "The book is always better. It goes right into your head." This is a prime example. Listen again; it gets even better. Highly recommended. D. Harriet Edwards, East Meadow P.L., NY Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Rebecca is a novel of mystery and passion, a dark psychological tale of secrets and betrayal, dead loves and an estate called Manderley that is as much a presence as the humans who inhabit it: "when the leaves rustle, they sound very much like the stealthy movement of a woman in evening dress, and when they shiver suddenly and fall, and scatter away along the ground, they might be

the pitter, patter of a woman's hurrying footsteps, and the mark in the gravel the imprint of a high-heeled satin shoe." *Manderley* is filled with memories of the elegant and flamboyant Rebecca, the first Mrs. DeWinter; with the obsessive love of her housekeeper, Mrs. Danvers, who observes the young, timid second Mrs. DeWinter with sullen hostility; and with the oppressive silences of a secretive husband, Maxim. Rebecca may be physically dead, but she is a force to contend with, and the housekeeper's evil matches that of her former mistress as a purveyor of the emotional horror thrust on the innocent Mrs. DeWinter. The tension builds as the new Mrs. DeWinter slowly grows and asserts herself, surviving the wicked deceptions of Mrs. Danvers and the silent deceits of her husband, to emerge triumphant in the midst of a surprise ending that leaves the reader with a sense of haunting justice. -- For great reviews of books for girls, check out *Let's Hear It for the Girls: 375 Great Books for Readers 2-14*. -- From *500 Great Books by Women*; review by Vickie Sears --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a great book - if you get the full book. This Kindle edition doesn't start at the beginning. Rebecca has one literature's most famous first lines: "Last night I dreamt I went to *Manderley* again". This version skips the first chapter entirely and starts around chapter 3. It is an insult to a wonderful book. Don't make a mistake and get it. You will miss the real depth of the book.

This is a collection of four of Daphne du Maurier's novels and some are told in first person (like *Rebecca*) and some are told in third person (like *Jamaica Inn*). She is an author who crafted her stories in an unusual way, but she rarely disappoints. Her narrative descriptions make you feel like you are actually watching the scenes unfold in front of you. However, she avoids the method of writing long, burdensome passages that take page after page to set a single scene. Just one caution -- if you like your endings all happy and upbeat with all those loose ends tied up in a lovely bow, you may be frustrated with this author.

You can't beat du Maurier. Perhaps somewhat dated (they are from the middle of the last century), but very literate, very intelligent, excellent reading.

To some degree, I considered the writing and use of imagery quite brilliant. The fullness of the main character developed through perhaps neurotic meanderings is often incredibly captivating. However, as the intent must be to tell a story, there were several moments when I found so much imagery too much, excess verbiage. As it is a slow story, at times I was waiting for plot

development, a twist or something to justify reading. While I have read that somehow this book is a "classic", I have to say I found it overall unsatisfying.

It's strange how your perspective changes as you grow older. I first read this as a teenager and saw Max as the quintessential hero tall, handsome and urbane. But with the second reading I saw Max in a very different light. Even Mrs Danvers the epitome of gothic evil I now see in a somewhat different light. The story is told from the second Mrs de Winters POV. With this reading I couldn't take her perspective as being reliable, she was completely overshadowed by Rebecca. There is a lot to love about this wonderful mystery. The stage is set with the classic opening line, "Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again"....It has a wonderful air of dark, dreamy foreboding and suspense. A true classic.

I re-read this book every so often, I don't know why I like it so much. The nameless narrator, the second Mrs de Winter, is shy and awkward as hell and the ultimate introvert. The writing is so beautiful- you can taste the salt in the air, smell the scent of azaleas, hear the ocean pounding on the rocks. I wish a happy ending for Maxim and his new bride, but the ending is so open and vague I'm glad you can interpret it for yourself.

This book grips you from the start! It has all the elements of a true drama; mystery, love, crime, secrets and unforgettable characters. I love gothic novels and an aspect of them I truly love is that the houses these stories are set in are living breathing characters and at times can be more important to the story than any of the characters. As much as I loved this book I do have an issue with books that have no positive female figures. Daphne Du Maurier is certainly not the only author guilty of this but it remains frustrating. The protagonist is such a meek, weak, compliant woman that she isn't even worthy of having a name. Though I must say this could have been done on purpose - to illustrate just how different she is from her rival. Which brings me to Rebecca - Rebecca is a mean, calculating and promiscuous woman. Why is it that women in literature can't be well-rounded, multi-dimensional people. Either they are happy home-makers or sex-crazed villains or whatever other stereotypes the author feels like perpetuating. Now you're probably wondering why I gave this book such a good rating! This book truly deserves its modern classic status and will have you on the edge of your seat until the very last page.

A book has to be really great in my opinion to get five stars. I first read Rebecca when I was in high

school and now decades later I found it for my kindle and decided to give it a try again. I had forgotten much of the plot so it was like reading it for the first time. It is easy to see why it has become a classic. The reader becomes mesmerized by the tale as told in the first person by the heroine of the story. She describes in such detail the inner workings of her mind as the tension builds. This is a worthwhile read.

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Rebecca The Dance Fairies Boxed Set (7 Books) (Rainbow Magic, #1: Bethany the Ballet Fairy; #2: Jade the Disco Fairy; #3: Rebecca the Rock 'n' Roll Fairy; #4: Tasha the Tap Dance Fairy; #5: Jessica the Jazz Fairy; #6: Serena the Salsa Fairy; #7: Isabelle the Ice Dance Fairy) Candlelight for Rebecca (American Girl) Alex Webb and Rebecca Norris Webb: Slant Rhymes Read-n-See DVD Bible: Narrated by: Max Lucado, Joni Erickson Tada, Twila Paris, Rebecca St. James, Roy Clark & Others The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot: A 15-minute Summary & Analysis Rebecca's Bottom - Her True BDSM Life (As a young college student her life turn upside down when she walked into the Catholic Student Union meeting.) Gifts of Power: The Writings of Rebecca Jackson, Black Visionary, Shaker Eldress A Christmas Gift for Rebecca: An Amish Christian Romance Novella With Hymns and Recipes Rebecca Ringquist's Embroidery Workshops: A Bend-the-Rules Primer Finding Rebecca Summary and Analysis of The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks: Based on the Book by Rebecca Skloot (Smart Summaries) Summary and Analysis of The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks: Based on the Book by Rebecca Skloot A woman's book of choices : abortion, menstrual extraction, RU-486 / Rebecca Chalker and Carol Downer ; illustrations by Suzann Gage Rin the japanese hottest babe nude photo book S-Class Girls (REbecca) (Japanese Edition) Miki the japanese hottest babe nude photo book S-Class Girls (REbecca) (Japanese Edition) Clarke, Rebecca - Sonata For Viola and Piano (1919) - Chester Music Publication

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