



E. M. Forster

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[Mobile book] Howards End

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E. M. Forster : Howards End before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Howards End:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great bookBy SiriusFriend told me that Forster's writing style reminded her of Chechov's works. We both grew up with Russian classics and I had to try this one - I know it is a famous work, but I will probably never catch up with all "cultural gaps" I still have in English written literature. Actually, I have read one work by this author - "Maurice", so I was somewhat familiar with his writing, but nothing else. I loved it - I read a lot of genre fiction and mostly review romance books, but I had to say at least something about this one. Yes, it did remind me of Chechov a lot and mostly because author's look at his characters was so very sympathetic no matter how unsympathetic these people could act. It is a realistic book, that's pretty much sums it up in my opinion. Yes, it is also a portrayal of British culture at that time, but I did not grew up in that culture, so I cannot say how well it was done, I just enjoyed very well written story which felt like real life, but made sense.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Highly Relevant Today ** Wood 5 minute reviewBy Darlene S. WoodThis book has a symmetry that reminds me of that of All the Light You Cannot See, which makes it inherently satisfying. Sadly, its social commentary is still very relevant today, making it a great reading choice, but a disturbing one. The writing itself falls a little clumsily on the modern ear, and some of it is a little obtuse. All in all, it is a very interesting look at British aristocracy in its waning days of the Empire.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ... of free Kindle facsimilie books - the illustrations are poor, but the price is wonderfulBy Gail MacFarlaneI get a lot of free Kindle facsimilie books - the illustrations are poor, but the price is wonderful! EM Forster is up my alley and I am re reading almost all his novels. Great escape. In this case, there are photos at the end of the book - worth a look, since the

original house that inspired the book is pictured. Count me as a person who loves literature from the days before there were telegrams, telephones and . . . people communicated more personally and the literature of the time reflects that.

The self-interested disregard of a dying woman's bequest, an impulsive girl's attempt to help an impoverished clerk, and the marriage between an idealist and a materialist all intersect at a Hertfordshire estate called Howards End. The fate of this beloved country home symbolizes the future of England itself in E. M. Forster's exploration of social, economic, and philosophical trends, as exemplified by three families: the Schlegels, symbolizing the idealistic and intellectual aspect of the upper classes; the Wilcoxes, representing upper-class pragmatism and materialism; and the Basts, embodying the aspirations of the lower classes. Written in 1910, *Howards End* won international acclaim for its insightful portrait of English life during the post-Victorian era.

When Margaret Schlegel, engaged to the much older, widowed Henry Wilcox, meets her intended the morning after accepting his proposal and realizes that he is a man who has lived without introspection or true self-knowledge. As she contemplates the state of Wilcox's soul, her remedy for what ails him has become one of the most oft-quoted passages in literature: Only connect! That was the whole of her sermon. Only connect the prose and the passion and both will be exalted, and human love will be seen at its height. Live in fragments no longer. Like all of Forster's work, *Howards End* concerns itself with class, nationality, economic status, and how each of these affects personal relationships. It follows the intertwined fortunes of the Schlegel sisters, Margaret and Helen, and the Wilcox family over the course of several years. The Schlegels are intellectuals, devotees of art and literature. The Wilcoxes, on the other hand, can't be bothered with the life of the mind or the heart, leading, instead, outer lives of "telegrams and anger" that foster "such virtues as neatness, decision, and obedience, virtues of the second rank, no doubt, but they have formed our civilization." Helen, after a brief flirtation with one of the Wilcox sons, has developed an antipathy for the family; Margaret, however, forms a brief but intense friendship with Mrs. Wilcox, which is cut short by the older woman's death. When her family discovers a scrap of paper requesting that Henry give their home, *Howards End*, to Margaret, it precipitates a spiritual crisis among them that will take years to resolve. Forster's 1910 novel begins as a collection of seemingly unrelated events--Helen's impulsive engagement to Paul Wilcox; a chance meeting between the Schlegel sisters and an impoverished clerk named Leonard Bast at a concert; a casual conversation between the sisters and Henry Wilcox in London one night. But as it moves along, these disparate threads gradually knit into a tightly woven fabric of tragic misunderstandings, impulsive actions, and irreparable consequences, and, eventually, connection. Though set in the early years of the 20th century, *Howards End* seems even more suited to our own fragmented era of e-mails and anger. For readers living in such an age, the exhortation to "only connect" resonates ever more profoundly. --Alix Wilber With a new Introduction by James Ivory Commentary by Virginia Woolf, Lionel Trilling, Malcolm Bradbury, and Joseph Epstein "*Howards End* is a classic English novel . . . superb and wholly cherishable . . . one that admirers have no trouble reading over and over again," said Alfred Kazin. First published in 1910, *Howards End* is the novel that earned E. M. Forster recognition as a major writer. At its heart lie two families: the wealthy and business-minded Wilcoxes and the cultured and idealistic Schlegels. When the beautiful and independent Helen Schlegel begins an impetuous affair with the ardent Paul Wilcox, a series of events is sparked: some very funny, some very tragic that results in a dispute over who will inherit *Howards End*, the Wilcoxes' charming country home. As much about the clash between individual wills as the clash between the sexes and the classes, *Howards End* is a novel whose central tenet, "Only connect," remains a powerful prescription for modern life. "*Howards End* is undoubtedly Forster's masterpiece; it develops to their full the themes and attitudes of [his] early books and throws back upon them a new and enhancing light," wrote the critic Lionel Trilling. From the Publisher 9 1.5-hour cassettes