



## The Siege of London (1883)

By Henry James

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### The Siege of London (1883) By Henry James

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

Jonathan Epstein does an outstanding job narrating James's novella about an American woman trying to earn a place in English society. Epstein's rich, soft tone depicts the quality of the story's well-mannered gentleman as well as the feminine wit of its heroine. Tension is created when the truth of the American woman's past is revealed to her new suitor and his family. Epstein capably expresses the emotional struggle that the gentleman undergoes as he decides whether or not he should betray the woman. With light piano music interspersed between chapters, this audiobook will give the listener a glimpse of the mores of late-nineteenth-century society. --AudioFile

#### About the Author

Henry James, OM (15 April 1843 – 28 February 1916) was an American-born writer. He is regarded as one of the key figures of 19th-century literary realism. He was the son of Henry James, Sr. and the brother of philosopher and psychologist William James and diarist Alice James. He is best known for a number of novels showing Americans encountering Europe and Europeans. His method of writing from a character's point of view allowed him to explore issues related to consciousness and perception, and his style in later works has been compared to impressionist painting. His imaginative use of point of view, interior monologue and unreliable narrators brought a new depth to narrative fiction. James contributed significantly to literary criticism, particularly in his insistence that writers be allowed the greatest possible freedom in presenting their view of the world. James claimed that a text must first and foremost be realistic and contain a representation of life that is recognisable to its readers. Good novels, to James, show life in action and are, most importantly, interesting. In addition to his voluminous works of fiction he published articles and books of travel, biography, autobiography, and criticism, and wrote plays. James alternated between America and Europe for the first twenty years of his life; eventually he settled in England, becoming a British subject in 1915, one year before his death. James was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1911, 1912, and 1916.

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