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HENRY
JAMES



Washington Square

WASHINGTON SQUARE

Washington Square

by Henry James (1843–1916)

Originally published in 1880 as a serial in *Cornhill Magazine* and *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, *Washington Square* it is a structurally simple tragicomedy that recounts the conflict between a sweet, but perhaps dull, daughter and her brilliant, domineering father. Her dilemma is to choose between faith in love, and obedience towards her family

The book is often compared to Jane Austen's work for the clarity and grace of its prose and its intense focus on family relationships. James was hardly a great admirer of Jane Austen, so he might not have regarded the comparison as flattering. In fact, James was not a great fan of *Washington Square* itself. He tried to read it over for inclusion in the New York Edition of his fiction (1907–1909) but found that he couldn't, and the novel was not included. Other readers, though, have sufficiently enjoyed the book to make it one of the more popular works of the Jamesian canon. (*Wikipedia*)

HENRY JAMES

Total running time: 7:57:27
Read by Dawn

cover design by Kathryn Delaney
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