

www.freeclassicebooks.com

Armadale

By

Wilkie Collins

www.freeclassicebooks.com

Contents

TO JOHN FORSTER.....	4
PROLOGUE	5
I. THE TRAVELERS.....	5
II. THE SOLID SIDE OF THE SCOTCH CHARACTER.....	11
III. THE WRECK OF THE TIMBER SHIP.....	18
THE STORY.....	49
BOOK THE FIRST.....	49
I. THE MYSTERY OF OZIAS MIDWINTER.....	49
II. THE MAN REVEALED.....	84
III. DAY AND NIGHT	105
IV. THE SHADOW OF THE PAST.....	122
V. THE SHADOW OF THE FUTURE.....	140
BOOK THE SECOND	155
I. LURKING MISCHIEF.....	155
II. ALLAN AS A LANDED GENTLEMAN.....	169
III. THE CLAIMS OF SOCIETY.....	183
IV. THE MARCH OF EVENTS.....	196
V. MOTHER OLDERSHAW ON HER GUARD.....	211
VI. MIDWINTER IN DISGUISE.....	222
VII. THE PLOT THICKENS.....	230
VIII. THE NORFOLK BROADS.....	245
IX. FATE OR CHANCE?	259
X. THE HOUSE-MAID'S FACE.....	272
XI. MISS GWILT AMONG THE QUICKSANDS.....	286
XII. THE CLOUDING OF THE SKY.....	296
XIII. EXIT.....	302
BOOK THE THIRD.....	313
I. MRS. MILROY.....	313
II. THE MAN IS FOUND.....	324
III. THE BRINK OF DISCOVERY.....	335
IV. ALLAN AT BAY.....	349
V. PEDGIFT'S REMEDY.....	365
VI. PEDGIFT'S POSTSCRIPT.....	378
VII. THE MARTYRDOM OF MISS GWILT.....	384
VIII. SHE COMES BETWEEN THEM.....	399
IX. SHE KNOWS THE TRUTH.....	410
X. MISS GWILT'S DIARY.....	434
XI. LOVE AND LAW.....	464
XII. A SCANDAL AT THE STATION.....	473
XIII. AN OLD MAN'S HEART.....	481

XIV. MISS GWILT'S DIARY	498
XV. THE WEDDING-DAY.	528
BOOK THE FOURTH.	556
I. MISS GWILT'S DIARY.	556
II. THE DIARY CONTINUED.....	567
III. THE DIARY BROKEN OFF.....	588
BOOK THE LAST.	625
I. AT THE TERMINUS.....	625
II. IN THE HOUSE.	632
III. THE PURPLE FLASK.	643
EPILOGUE.	682
I. NEWS FROM NORFOLK.	682
II. MIDWINTER.	687
APPENDIX.	689

TO JOHN FORSTER.

In acknowledgment of the services which he has rendered to the cause of literature by his "Life of Goldsmith;" and in affectionate remembrance of a friendship which is associated with some of the happiest years of my life.

Readers in general--on whose friendly reception experience has given me some reason to rely--will, I venture to hope, appreciate whatever merit there may be in this story without any prefatory pleading for it on my part. They will, I think, see that it has not been hastily meditated or idly wrought out. They will judge it accordingly, and I ask no more.

Readers in particular will, I have some reason to suppose, be here and there disturbed, perhaps even offended, by finding that "Armada" oversteps, in more than one direction, the narrow limits within which they are disposed to restrict the development of modern fiction--if they can.

Nothing that I could say to these persons here would help me with them as Time will help me if my work lasts. I am not afraid of my design being permanently misunderstood, provided the execution has done it any sort of justice. Estimated by the clap-trap morality of the present day, this may be a very daring book. Judged by the Christian morality which is of all time, it is only a book that is daring enough to speak the truth.

LONDON, April, 1866.