



Blind Love

Wilkie Collins , Walter Besant , Amédée Forestier (Illustrator)

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Blind Love is Wilkie Collin's final novel. Although he did not live to complete the work, he left detailed plans for the last third of this novel which were faithfully executed by his colleague, the popular author Sir Walter Besant. The novel is set during the Irish Land War of the early 1880s and tells the story of Iris Henley, an independent young woman who marries the "wild" Lord Harry Norland, a member of an Irish secret society, and becomes unhappily drawn into a conspiracy plot." The Broadview edition of Blind Love includes a critical introduction and primary source materials that address the novel's focus on movements for Irish independence. Appendices include newspaper accounts of Ireland during the Land War and of the fraud case on which Collins based his story, articles reacting to Collins's sudden death, Punch cartoons depicting the English attitudes toward the Irish, and contemporary reviews.

Blind Love Details

Date : Published October 1st 1986 by Dover Publications (first published 1890)

ISBN : 9780486251899

Author : Wilkie Collins , Walter Besant , Amédée Forestier (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Blind Love for online ebook

Megan says

Not my favorite by Collins, but it was still a fun read. The plot was fairly similar to the Woman in White, which made it difficult to finish. Plus the book was finished by someone else because Collins died before he could finish it himself. It was a fast read like all of his other novels-interesting and absorbing as well. I wish he could've finished the book himself!

Olga Wojtas says

Mr C died before completing this, and wasn't on form beforehand. He left detailed notes enabling his chum Walter Besant to finish it, but the join's obvious. He has a superb character in Mrs Vimpany but she sadly loses verve midway through.

Kathy says

What can I say? Wilkie Collins. Genius.

Pam says

A cautionary tale marrying the wrong man!

Dd says

Too sad till end

April Sparrow says

Did not enjoy as much as his other works. female lead was not to my taste. Ending not as satisfactory either.

David says

Not nearly as good as *The Woman in White* or *The Moonstone*--granddaddy of all locked-room mysteries. Very slow in the beginning, picked up some near the end.

Suzy says

This wasn't my favorite book, but I liked the idea it presents that sometimes we love not because of what we see, but what we want to see. Iris was so in love with the idea of Harry that she married him and later was unhappy when she realized her fantasy was not who he was. And after his death, she went right back to loving the fantasy. It's thought provoking. The moral I got was make sure you love the person and not your made-up version of the person.

Ruby Bibi says

- It's the mid to late 1800's and Iris Henley, who comes from a fine family, though not nobility, is being pushed by her father to marry Hugh Mountjoy, who is respected and wealthy. Iris, though, has her heart set on Lord Harry Norland, who is the second son and titled, but who has led a life of notoriety.
 - Despite Hugh being the finer man and more suited to a woman of character, like Iris, Iris remains drawn to Lord Harry. Hugh Mountjoy was a childhood friend of Iris, and, despite his own strong feelings for Iris, he remains willing to be her friend through all that she goes through.
 - Against the wishes of her father, Iris decides to marry Lord Harry. Her father wants nothing to do with her, as he foresees that this will be an ill fated marriage and he can't contend with the idea that his daughter has disobeyed him.
 - The two newlyweds must leave England, for Lord Harry had gotten involved with a criminal element called the Invincibles, from whom a member is never allowed to secede. When Lord Harry's close friend, who also happens to be Hugh Mountjoy's brother, was assassinated by a member of the the Invincibles, Lord Harry tried to take revenge. In turn, he became a marked man by that group.
 - The couple live in Paris, but Lord Harry, who was not given funds by his father because of the reputation that Lord Harry earned, must come up with other means of making money. Although Iris was not given any money by her father, she did have a small inheritance from her mother, which she had access to.
 - Lord Harry had gotten involved with a Dr. Vimpany, who was always scheming to try to supplement his income. When an investment that Lord Harry made with the bulk of Iris' inheritance turned sour, he allowed himself to fall under the influence of Dr. Vimpany, to defraud others out of a sizeable amount of money.
 - Iris has three devoted people which, because of her fine and kind character, are willing to do anything to help her, and they get involved in uncovering the fraud, but only after Lord Harry pulled Iris to be an accomplice.
 - Again and again, Iris' feelings of devotion, which are returned by Lord Harry, blind her to the fact that Lord Harry has a knack for associating with very low elements of society, and despite their feelings for each other, this can only lead to heartache. As in real life, not everyone is all bad, nor all good, and there is a good deal of remorse by many characters who are influenced to follow a bad path, but who ultimately rebel against their situation to make amends.
 - Very well done and a good examination of how even good people can fall prey to evil when they feel they have no place to turn.
-

Trudy Pomerantz says

This is the second novel that I have read by Wilkie Collins. It is interesting to read novels from a different

age which illustrate the ways in which our thinking has changed. While I enjoyed this novel and did not struggle to finish it, it was certainly not as gripping as Armadale.

Laura says

Free download available at Project Gutenberg.

Lauren Zajackowski says

edited

Beatrice Luiza Mosor says

As the title shows it's a story about a woman who falls blindly in love with the wrong man. The ending will make some happy and some not, but it's a realistic point of view. I rated it with 2 stars because, beside the mistery and the predictable romance, there was not much more. The story dragged on for far too long and the action, which appears complicated, mysterious and interesting because of the way it is written, is actually not so.

I appreciated Wilkie Collins's "The woman in white" , therefore I admire him as a writer. On the other hand, this book disappointed me.

Lavinia Chirica says

O carte usoara, de citit inainte de somn...

Dianne says

Wilkie Collins died during the writing of this novel but left instructions on how it was to be finished, the details of which Walter Besant was faithful to follow. The novel is set in the late 1880s and follows the story of Iris Henley, who is disinherited by her father when she marries bad boy Lord Harry Norland. I love the language of that age, but I'm finding many of the the stories I read quite similar in plot line. Unfortunately, I was reading Henry James' The Portrait of a Lady at the same time and I found myself getting the characters mixed up, what with both leading ladies marrying the wrong man and slowly coming to their senses later. It didn't help that one was Isabel and one was Iris but I probably shouldn't have been reading them at the same time anyway. I liked The Woman in White better than this one, but still, it wasn't bad.
