

EDITH WHARTON

The Age of Innocence

Read by **Laurel Lefkow**

'The real loneliness is living among all these kind people who only ask one to pretend!'

Awarded the 1921 Pulitzer Prize (the first to be presented to a woman), Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence* is a powerful depiction of love and desire in New York's glamorous Gilded Age. When Newland Archer, happily engaged to May Welland, meets his fiancée's cousin Ellen, his entire future is cast into doubt: strong-willed, witty, and entirely unpretentious, Ellen is unlike any woman he has ever met. He is torn between his infatuation for her and his duty to marry May. In subtle and elegant language, Wharton delivers a critical look at the social mores of the time.



Laurel Lefkow is an award-winning actress and voiceover artist. She has appeared in *Spooks*, *The Honourable Woman* and *You, Me and the Apocalypse* on television. She is a regular voice on BBC Radio 4 and recently played Mary Ann in *Tales of the City*. She has won awards for her audiobook recordings, including *The Bone Clocks*, *The Time Traveller's Wife* and *Paper Moon*.

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