Charles Dickens

Little Dorrit

Read by **Anton Lesser**

In *Little Dorrit*, Dickens presents a society stultifying in its inactivity and apathy. Outmoded institutions like the Circumlocution Office, choking in its own red tape, contribute to a society that never moves forward. Against this stagnation, Dickens, with a gallery of vivid characters – from the foolish Flora Finching to the proud but broken William Dorrit – shows that it is individuals who, in acts of kindness, love and generosity, can revitalise society. Little Dorrit is one such, who sacrifices her own interests to help her family. Her father is incarcerated for debt in the Marshalsea Prison, which casts a sombre shadow over the whole novel, symbolic of imprisonment both literal and metaphorical.

One of Britain's leading classical actors, **Anton Lesser** has worked extensively at the National Theatre, and is an associate artist of the Royal Shakespeare Company, where, over the years, he has played many of the principal roles, including Romeo, Troilus, Petruchio and Richard III. A familiar voice on radio, he has been involved in countless plays and recordings, and has become particularly associated with his award winning readings of Dickens for Naxos AudioBooks.

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