

# Edward Gibbon

## MEMOIRS OF MY LIFE

Read by **David Timson**

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Edward Gibbon (1737–1794) was an English historian and Member of Parliament known for his monumental series *The Decline and Fall of The Roman Empire*, which chronicled the dissipation of the Roman dynasties in a lofty, majestic style unique to its author.

*Memoirs of My Life*, published posthumously in 1796, wholly unveils the character of the world's greatest historian in full candour and openness. We follow him from birth, through to his education at Oxford, to his time in Switzerland where he met Voltaire and fell in love with a Swiss girl. We accompany him on his travels through France and Lausanne, leading on to his eventual arrival in Rome, where he conceived his epic *Decline and Fall*.

Gibbon's *Memoirs* is a portrait of a rich and productive life and offers a compelling insight into a towering figure; it is essential listening for anyone interested in great literature.



**David Timson** has made over 1,000 broadcasts for BBC Radio Drama. For Naxos AudioBooks he wrote *The History of Theatre*, which won an award for most original production from the Spoken Word Publishers Association in 2001. He has also directed five Shakespeare plays for Naxos AudioBooks, including *King Richard III* (with Kenneth Branagh), which won Best Drama award from the SWPA in 2001. He has read both *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* and the complete *Sherlock Holmes* canon for Naxos AudioBooks.

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