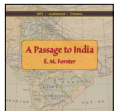


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A Passage to India

E. M. Forster (1809 - 1852)

Read by: Kirsten Wever Language: English
Length: 13 hours 43 minutes Style: Solo
Genre: Fiction

Product Formats and Options

Format	Package	Catalog	EAN/UPC	MSLP
MP3 CD	DVD case	DB-1336	0674012595375	\$11.99
MP3 CD	CD jacket	CJ-1336	0674012595382	\$10.99
MP3 CD	Security sleeve	CD-1336	NA	\$4.99
MP3 download	Zip file	DL-1336	NA	\$4.99

A Passage to India takes place during the beginnings of the Indian independence movement in the 1920s and the beginning of the end of the British Raj. It centers on four characters: Dr. Aziz, his friend Cyril Fielding, Mrs. Moore, and Miss Adela Quested. The conflict occurs during a trip to the fictitious Marabar Caves, when Adela believes she has been alone in a cave with Dr. Aziz, when in fact he was absent. A sexual assault is assumed, and the ensuing charges, trial, and its aftermath enflame the simmering racial tensions of the colonial era. The work is known for its development of the relationships between the characters. Forster takes his famous theme expressed by “only connect” in *Howards End* to its limits, examining the difficulties and the inherent impossibility of “connection” across racial, sexual, religious, and social divisions.

The novel is based on Forster’s experiences in India and derives its title from Walt Whitman’s poem “Passage to India”. It appears on the Modern Library list of the 100 great works of 20th century English literature and the Time magazine “All Time 100 Novels” list.

Edward Morgan (E. M.) Forster (January 1, 1879 – June 7, 1970) was an English author known best for his ironic novels examining class and hypocrisy in early 20th-century British society. He was born in London the only child of a middle class Anglo-Irish and Welsh family. His father died when he was a toddler. He inherited a substantial sum at age 8 that gave him enough to survive and become a writer. He attended King’s College, Cambridge and belonged to the Apostles discussion group, whose membership included many who would belong to the Bloomsbury Group. After university he traveled widely in Europe, Egypt, and India. He volunteered with the Red Cross in Egypt during the First World War. In the 1920’s he served as private secretary to the Maharajah of Dewas, and wrote *A Passage to India* (1924) upon his return to England, winning the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for fiction. In the 1930’s and 1940’s he became a successful broadcaster with the BBC.

Forster was a lifelong bachelor and an unapologetic homosexual, open to friends such as Benjamin Britten and Christopher Isherwood, but closeted in his public life. His novel *Maurice*, a gay love story written before the First World War, caused a stir when it was published shortly after his death.