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The Dead James Joyce (1882 – 1941)

Elizabeth Klett Read by: Language: English Length: 1 hour 36 minutes Style: Solo

Genre(s): Fiction, Short Fiction, Novells

Product Formats and Options				
Format	Package	Catalog	EAN/UPC	MSLP
MP3 CD	DVD case	DB-6011	Special order	\$7.99
MP3 CD	Jewel case	JB-6011	Special order	\$7.99
MP3 CD	CD jacket	CJ-6011	0682550992228	\$6.99
MP3 CD	Security sleeve	CD-6011	Not applicable	\$2.99
MP3 download	Zip file	DL-6011	Not applicable	\$2.99

"The Dead" is a long short story, or novella, by James Joyce that appears as the last item in Dubliners. The central character is Gabriel Conroy, a professor and part time reviewer of books. The setting is a Christmas party thrown by his two aunts, Kate and Julia Morkin, doyennes of the Dublin music world. As the party is breaking up, Gabriel sees how intensely his wife, Gretta, is listening to a song sung by Bartell D'Arcy, a noted Irish tenor, only to learn later that her emotions had been prompted by her memory of a young lover, Michael Furey, who had preceded Gabriel and who had died for her love. When she declines his lovemaking overtures and goes to bed, he is left alone to

dwell on and in his loneliness. He has the unfortunate epiphany that she has never felt as passionate in their marriage. The silver lining is that he at last experiences a spiritual connection to others The story is the crowning glory of Dubliners and considered one of the best ever written by anyone. Joyce biographer Richard Ellmann wrote "In its lyrical, melancholy acceptance of all that life and death offer, 'The Dead' is a linchpin in Joyce's work."

James Augusta Aloysius Joyce (February 2, 1882 – January 13, 1941) as born 1882 in the Dublin suburb of Rathgar. The eldest of ten surviving children, he grew up in Dublin and attended Jesuit schools where the good fathers were duly impressed and not a little intimidated by his formidable intelligence. Joyce took to literature early on, displaying an uncanny facility for reading, analyzing, memorizing and commenting upon the Irish literature of that time and how the next generation of Irish writers (read: Joyce, himself) might be improve upon the then current model. He wrote short stories, Dubliners (1906), which contains his universally accepted masterpiece, The Dead. He met Nora Barnacle and, with the unfinished manuscript of A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man in hand, moved with Nora to Trieste to escape the claustrophobic confines of British rule, Catholic dogma and family conventions. He began his great work, Ulysses, which he continued and finished in Paris ten years later in 1922. On publication Ulysses ranked Joyce with the greatest writers in English. With the outbreak of World War II, Joyce moved to Zurich where he put the finishing touches on his fourth, least accessible and most difficult work, Finnegan's Wake. Having struggled with blindness caused by cataracts and other health problems, and having become very depressed over the failing mental health of his brilliant daughter Lucia, Joyce died in 1941 at the age of 59.