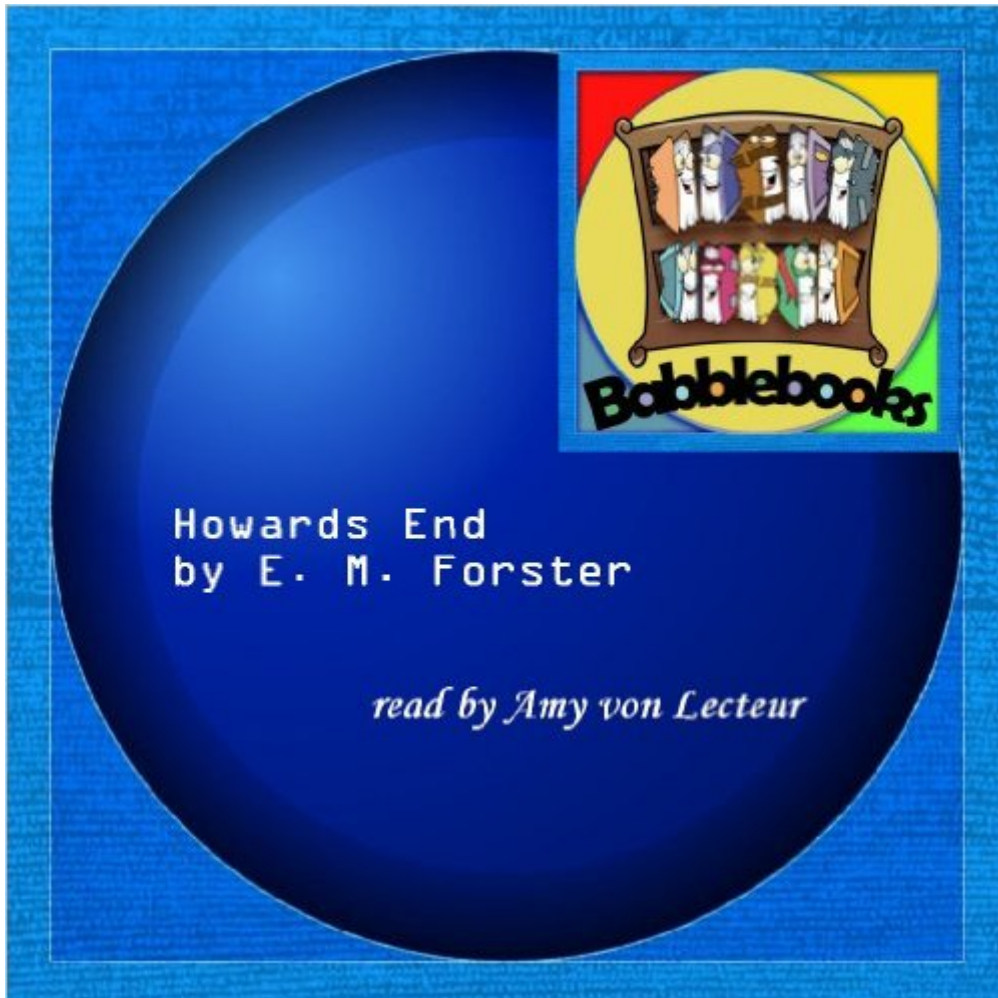


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Howards End



Synopsis

The unabridged classic on MP3 audio, narrated by Amy von Lateur. Three playback speeds on one disk; etext edition included. Running time: 12.1 hours (slow), 11.0 hours (medium), 10.0 hours (fast). A study in class struggle in turn-of-the-century England, *Howards End* tells of three families: the Wilcoxes, rich capitalists with a fortune made in the Colonies; the half-German Schlegel siblings (Margaret, Tibby, and Helen), intellectuals much like the real-life Bloomsbury Group; and the Basts, members of the struggling lower-middle class. The motto of the book is "Only connect..."

Book Information

Audio CD: 313 pages

Publisher: Babblebooks (August 31, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1601129769

ISBN-13: 978-1601129765

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 4.9 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (239 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,161,926 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Buttons](#) #13638 in [Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > General](#)

Customer Reviews

I first read *Howards End* during the final year of my Undergraduate degree, and it quickly became my favourite book (displacing *Wuthering Heights*). There is something within it that really speaks to some people --- I say 'some,' because I have recommended it to many friends, and their responses have run the gamut from a fascination similar to my own, to outright boredom and frustration with the book. Personally, I felt I connected with Forster's lament regarding the loss of a sense of place and permanence in the modern world. I must disagree with some of the reviewers here, when they say that the issues Forster tackles have little relevance today. I think what attracted me to this book was Forster's examination of those very issues --- most specifically, the quandry that still plagues us today: how can we live an examined, meaningful life in the entropic modern world? I would argue that *Howards End* is still very relevant. Forster depicts a society in change, but also a society that is a direct relative of our own. He shows the conflicts of modern VS rural, city VS nature, business/sport VS intellect/art, and smug patriarchy VS proto-feminism. If you identified with the

second choice in those four sets, then it is likely that you will very much appreciate the social commentary woven into *Howards End*, and you will find its sermon of "Only Connect!" something of a mission statement --- I certainly did. Really, *Howards End* almost reads like an allegory. The different families (Schlegel, Wilcox, and Bast) each represent aspects of a society in transition, each one lacking some vital component to make it viable.

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