

《THE MAYOR OF CASTERBRIDGE卡斯特桥市长  
( ISBN=9780553210248 ) 》

书籍信息

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## 编辑推荐

From Library Journal

If this audiobook were a movie, it might drain the entire West End to replace the single voice of Tony Britton. Not only does he display extraordinary command of old dialects, but he also reveals deep understanding of the rural inhabitants of 18th-century Wessex. So skilled is the reading that it could be the colorful characters themselves sounding off at The Three Mariners in the center of Casterbridge. Of course author Hardy (*Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, Audio Reviews, LJ 5/15/92) has done his part. This novel is one of his most inspiring creations. It is about a common field laborer, Michael Henchard, who becomes a leader in this small market town and then through his own failure sinks back miserably to his humble beginnings. As this tragic figure moves across the landscape of Hardy's native Dorset, descriptions of the countryside are as evocative as paintings by John Constable and as lively as scenes by Peter Brueghel. Highly recommended. Jo Carr, Sarasota, Fla. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. -- This text refers to the Audio Cassette edition.

Review

Hardy's world is a world that can never disappear. Margaret Drabble -- Review -- This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Review

"Wonderful, comprehensive edition at reasonable cost to students. The chronology, maps, notes on text, and introduction by the talented Dale Kramer make this edition a great value for the money." -- Bonnie W. Epstein, Plymouth State College  
-- This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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## 内容简介

From its spectacular opening — the astonishing scene in which drunken Michael Henchard sells his wife and daughter to a passing sailor at a county fair — to the breathtaking series of discoveries at its conclusion, *The Mayor of Casterbridge* claims a unique place among Thomas Hardy's finest and most powerful novels.

Rooted in an actual case of wife-selling in early nineteenth-century England, the story builds into an

awesome Sophoclean drama of guilt and revenge, in which the strong, willful Henchard rises to a position of wealth and power – only to suffer a most bitter downfall. Proud, obsessed, ultimately committed to his own destruction, Henchard is, as Albert Guerard has said, “ Hardy ’ s Lord Jim...his only tragic hero and one of the greatest tragic heroes in all fiction.

## 作者简介

Thomas Hardy, whose writings immortalized the Wessex countryside and dramatized his sense of the inevitable tragedy of life, was born near Egdon Heath Dorset in 1840, the eldest child of a prosperous stonemason. As a youth he trained as an architect in 1862 obtained a post in London. During this time he began seriously to write poetry, which remained his first literary love and his last. In 1867-68, his first novel was refused publication, but *Under the Greenwood Tree* (1872), his first Essex novel, did well enough for him to continue writing. In 1874, *Far from the Madding Crowd*, published serially and anonymously in the *Cornhill Magazine*, became a great success. Hardy married Emma Gifford in 1874, and in 1855, they settled at Max Gate in Dorchester, where he lived the rest of his life. There he wrote *The Return of the Native* (1878) *The Mayor of Casterbridge* (1886), *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* (1891), and *Jude the Obscure* (1895). With *Tess* Hardy clashed with the expectations of his audience; a storm of abuse broke over the “ infidelity ” and “ obscenity ” of this great novel he had subtitled “ A Pure Woman Faithfully Presented. ” *Jude the Obscure* aroused even greater indignation and was denounced as pornography. Hardy ’ s disgust at the reaction to *Jude* led him to announce in 1896 that he would never write fiction again. He published the *Wessex Poems* in 1898, *Poems of the Past and Present* in 1901, and from 1903 to 1908, *The Dynasts*, a huge drama in which Hardy ’ s conception of the Immanent Will, implicit in the tragic novels, is most clearly stated. In 1912, Hardy ’ s wife Emma died. The marriage was childless and had long been a troubled one, but in the years after her death, Hardy memorialized her in several poems. At 74, he married his long-time secretary, Florence Dugdale, herself a writer of children ’ s books and articles, with whom he lived happily until his death in 1928. His heart was buried in the Wessex countryside; his ashes were placed next to Charles Dickens ’ s in the Poets Corner of Westminster Abbey.

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