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**W. Somerset Maugham**

**Liza of Lambeth**



Title: Liza of Lambeth

Author: W. Somerset Maugham

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## Description

Maugham's first published novel - a vividly realistic portrayal of slum life. Down among the drab slums of Lambeth, eighteen-year-old Liza is the darling of Vere Street. Vibrant and bewitching, she has found an adoring if conventional beau in Tom. When she meets Jim Blakeston, a married man new to the area, she is immediately magnetized by his attentions. But the streets are wise to their illicit, passionate affair and before long the secret is out.

## Insightful reviews

Fred: I am a huge fan of Maugham's work. Every few months I eagerly dive in, and devour, another of his novels. I've spouted endlessly about my enjoying the Edwardian sensibilities and colorful characters that breath throughout his books. Missing from all the other novels, however, is the painstaking and distracting cockney dialog which my esteemed author chose to almost phonetically spell.

The end result, at least for me, is a deep puddle of molasses that laboriously drains out along with my attention every few sentences. If there is, perhaps, a translated version of this book I would LOVE to have a copy.

Nina: ????? ? ??????? ?????? ?? ????? ? ?????? ?? ? ?? ?????????? ?? ?????????? ?? ????????. ?? ???, ??? ?????????? ?? ??????? ?? ???????, ????? ?? ?????????? ?????????? ? ?????? ????? ??????????????? ? ?????????? ?????????? ?? ??????? ? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????????? ??????????????. ?????????? ? ?????????? ?????? ?????? ?????? ?????????????? ? ?? ?????????? ?? ?????? ????????????. ?????? ? ?????????????????? ???????, ?????????????? ?? ?????? "????". ????? ? ??????????????? ?? ??????, ??????? ?? ?????????, ??????????? ??, ??????? ?? ????????? ?????? ??????? ? ?????? ????. ?? ?????? ?????? ?????????? ???????, ????????????? ? ?????????? ?????????? ?? ??????????. ? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????????? ?????????????? ?????????????, ?????????????????? ????? ? ?????????? ?????????????, ????? ?? ? ?????????????? ??-????? ?? ?????????? ?? ??????.

Babette: I read this book in a few days. After not reading anything through, in awhile, I found this to be perfect. It held my attention, it was an easy read and I liked it. If you are looking for something that gets to the point, without going on and on in describing every little thing, it was perfect (for me). I can't stand unnecessary words even in articles. I had no trouble reading the English accents either.

Katie: In Liza of Lambeth, Maugham attracts on his personal reviews as a trainee health professional who could often be known as to wait on humans within the poorer parts of London. Liza is an eighteen 12 months previous manufacturing unit employee who enjoys dancing, drinking, donning new outfits and customarily residing existence to the full. She lives together with her getting older mother, walks out with Tom and spends time along with her good friend Sally. All this alterations while a brand new relatives circulate in to the road and the father, the a lot older Jim Blakestone, begins being attentive to Liza. although Jim is married, Liza reveals herself not able to withstand him and so starts her downfall. This isn't really in any respect this kind of booklet that it kind of feels to be from the 1st chapter, that is so packed with stereotypical

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cockney merriment and hijinks that I part anticipated Dick van Dyke to pop up and begin appearing a track and dance routine. However, it doesn't take lengthy for Maugham to bare the not easy truth of the day-by-day lives of the population of Vere Street, within which all males beat their wives, girls struggle every one other, and loss of life is an ever-present possibility. not one of the characters ever appear relatively unsatisfied with their lot in life, dealing with their relative poverty with equanimity and sturdy cheer, prosaically discussing the practicalities of getting insured somebody as they lie loss of life or excusing their husbands' violence as simply being all the way down to drink. Of course, this makes all of it the extra heart-breaking and stunning to learn as a contemporary reader or perhaps a Victorian reader of a better category with varied expectancies of what lifestyles may be like. There have been issues that I discovered frustrating during this e-book (although do keep in mind that I used to be predisposed to be annoyed anyway). the 1st is Maugham's try to reproduce a cockney accessory in his writing. even though it is generally attainable to determine what characters have been saying, in contrast to in a few books the place makes an attempt at written accents make a character's speech nearly unintelligible, it is vitally grating. I do know Maugham desires to cease readers from imagining the population of Vere road conversing in excellent RP, yet this can be already implied via vocabulary selection and the accessory copy was once a step too some distance for me. the opposite factor used to be Liza and Jim's relationship, which Maugham makes no try to explain. The appeal for older, married Jim is obvious, yet why does Liza fall in love with him? She is aware he's married with a daughter just a couple of years more youthful than her, she is aware he beats his wife, she is aware he will get inebriated and but nonetheless she is going with him. whilst Liza is first introduced, she is this sort of feisty and opinionated personality that I anticipated her to slap Jim and screech at him while she first feels him surreptitiously stroking her leg as he sits beside her within the cart, yet she retains quiet on the time and later we could him stick with her domestic and kiss her. might be her downfall is meant to appear the entire extra tragic simply because her love is inexplicable and illogical, yet I myself stumbled on it too unbelievable. I might have most likely loved this booklet extra had I no longer learn the creation first, now not simply because Maugham offers away something of the tale yet as the writing in it out-classes that of the particular tale completely. The creation is way extra polished, expert and fascinating and that I came upon it extra fascinating than the tale itself. Liza of Lambeth used to be Maugham's first novel, written whilst he was once in basic terms twenty-three, and the advent within the classic version of the e-book was once written for a retrospective selection of his works whilst he used to be a miles older guy with a far better constructed writing style, so the discrepancy is solely understandable. Nevertheless, the comparability that it invitations isn't really beneficial and so this can be one other advent which might be greater moved to the tip of the book, I think.

Danika: Liza of Lambeth isn't precisely a gloomy story, yet definitely dingy and dreary are applicable adjectives. The principal personality is a tender girl dwelling on a negative highway and dealing in a factory. on the time of its publication, the content material might were stunning and enlightening, yet now, family abuse, affairs, and such look common, daily fare, and the time previous seeing that its e-book make its social statement much less relevant. missing surprise value, the ebook turns out to have little else to offer. Parallels with Betty Smith's *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* may be seen, even though Maugham's publication happens in England and is determined many years prior to Smith's work. Maugham's characters, however, appear to lack all depth, and don't appear to own any power of introspection. even though this can be meant to

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point the sore desire for education, it sort of feels to dehumanize the characters, making them brainless cardboard cutouts. Smith's characters, notwithstanding definitely a bit greater educated, own either intensity and introspective abilities, making them extra sympathetic. there's additionally a whole hopelessness approximately Maugham's novel that's thankfully absent in Smith's. In *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, it kind of feels particularly attainable that Francie will develop as much as reside a greater lifestyles than her parents', and that her children, if she has any, might be at an advantage than she was. She is definitely on her solution to incomes extra money for herself than both of her mom and dad did, she's conscious of the lifestyles of an international past the local within which she grew up, and, although she is probably not clever approximately men, she is neither silly nor delusional. None of this stuff are precise for Liza. Her purely dad or mum is a needy, uncaring drunkard. notwithstanding she is ready to read, she makes no efforts to higher herself or to turn into extra conscious of the realm round her. although she turns out to have a hazy concept that having an affair with a married guy is wrong, she doesn't appear considerably excited by it or in a position to predicting power consequences. actual abuse, marriage, and alcoholism are inextricably entwined and appear to be seen as inevitable and normal. Even had she now not died on the finish of the unconventional of an alcohol-induced miscarriage, the results of the one scene within the novel within which her mom turns out to reveal satisfaction or fondness in her daughter, there has been nonetheless no prospect for her of residing any another way than her mother or father or her peers. This hopeless inevitability gave the complete ebook a sordid cast, and leaves a miles various style within the mouth than Smith's tale of Francie.

Alexander Arsov: *W. Somerset Maugham Liza of Lambeth* Vintage Classics, Paperback, 2000. \*First released through T. Fisher Unwin in 1897. \*Contains the preface written in 1934 for The accumulated variation released by means of Heinemann among 1934 and 1969.-----This is most likely the final publication of Somerset Maugham i'd suggest to someone who desires to learn him for the 1st time. it truly is really his first novel which Maugham wrote as a scientific pupil in London's St. Thomas hospital. It used to be released in 1897 whilst the writer used to be purely 23 years old. doubtless it has not anything to do together with his later works, regardless of his early books from the start of the XX century, not to mention together with his mature works written after *Of Human Bondage* released for the 1st time in 1915. (Interestingly, this novel was once truly Maugham's moment book; the 1st used to be a biography of Meyerbeer which was once by no means released and it appears burned by way of the author.) *Liza of Lambeth* has a definite appeal with its simplicity of plot and characters. it truly is written in trouble-free and convincingly real looking manner, i assume customarily simply because Maugham used his personal adventure as clinical pupil traveling the suburbs and little mind's eye as he himself confesses within the preface to The gathered version the 1st quantity of that's his first novel. by way of the way, this preface includes a lot a fascinating biographical information about Maugham and is really even more attention-grabbing than the radical itself. it truly is great that classic reprinted of their new edition. Back to *Liza*, regardless of a touching second the following and there, and the hugely charged and brutal finishing that's skilfully written, the radical has not anything striking to offer. Moreover, i personally at least, locate the dialogs in cockney very difficult to read. when it comes to characters' description and improvement *Liza* is a truly some distance cry from Maugham's mature works. have been it no longer for his identify at the cover, i might by no means bet that Maugham is the author. I bet Maugham selected to incorporate *Liza* within the

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amassed variation almost always due to its ancient importance. I believe it truly is a fascinating learn ordinarily for Maugham lovers who, realizing what heights he reached later, need to know the place the good author started. It really is not anything wanting miracle that a similar individual wrote *Liza* and, say, *The Moon and Sixpence* two decades later. It truly is renowned proven fact that Maugham used to be now not a born writer; he has to profit his craft at his personal expense. Among *Liza* and his first masterpiece, *Of Human Bondage* he wrote not less than seven novels, seventeen brief stories, one trip publication and *Heaven* understands what number plays. In my very humble opinion, his indefatigable and incessant striving for increase his writing is a beneficial instance how one may still reside one's existence and, as Maugham himself often placed it, to make a development of it.

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