Spellbound, George Gissing

VOLUME 1: THE STORYTELLER
VOLUME 2: A TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY REAPPRAISAL

A selection of George Gissing’s shorter fiction, the first to span the artist’s career.
Critically established texts, original illustrations and new scholarly essays,
available for the first time in one publication.

edited by Christine Huguet

Admired by Meredith, Conrad and Henry James, befriended by
Thomas Hardy and H. G. Wells, George Gissing was one of the
major English novelists of the late nineteenth century. It was,
however, as a short-story writer that he entered into the world of
literature and his instinct for suggestive compression soon secured his
place as an accomplished fin-de-siècle practitioner in the field of short
fiction. Chronologically planned from 1877 to the early 1900s, the
present book focuses on eleven specimens, many of them vintage
Gissing, of the artist’s 115 stories. It will recommend itself to all
lovers of late Victorian culture and short-story practices.

Contains:

One of Gissing’s finest juvenilia from America
“An English Coast-Picture”

Stories now difficult of access
“Gretchen” “Spellbound” “The Pig and Whistle”

The bilingual English-German variant of a tale
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Acknowledged masterpieces
“Lou and Liz” “The Day of Silence”
“The Foolish Virgin” “A Daughter of the Lodge”

Christine Huguet is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Charles-de-Gaulle Lille 3. Her doctoral
thesis was on George Moore’s Esther Waters. Amongst her publications are articles on Victorian
and Edwardian fiction, on the picaresque heritage and the Don Quixote tradition in British
literature. She has brought together a fine selection of Gissing short stories with critical appraisal
by M. D. Allen, Christine DeVine, David Grylls, Constance Harsh, Christine Huguet, Diana
Maltz, Markus Neacey, Bouwe Postmus, Barbara Rawlinson, Robert Selig and John Sloan.


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