

Oscar Wilde: Art and Morality. A Defence of The Picture of Dorian Gray



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Edited by Stuart Mason (1872-1927)

This compendium work – skilfully assembled by the editor, Stuart Mason – ends with transcript of Wilde’s first appearance in the Old Bailey, when he was cross-examined on the alleged immorality of his novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. The disastrous outcome of these trials provides an ironic conclusion to the earlier knockabout exchanges between Oscar and his reviewers. In these he is at his flamboyant best, revelling in the publicity he pretends to disdain. His brave performances in the dock did nothing, however, to save him from hard labour, the treadmill and complete physical and moral breakdown which the law found it necessary to inflict on him.

In contrast to the hacks and lawyers, two refreshingly open-minded Americans write perceptively about the novel, as does Walter Pater, the grand old man of Aestheticism.

This project has 18 files and a total running time of 3:55:59.

Read by Martin Geeson

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Artwork from the original book by Louis Agassiz Furtés (1874-1927)

Cover design: Bart de Leeuw

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