

Oscar Wilde *An Ideal Husband*



Act II, Morning-room in Sir Robert Chiltern's house

a LibriVox full-cast recording

Oscar Wilde

The Ideal Husband

The "Ideal Husband" of the title is Sir Robert Chiltern, with his equally upright wife Lady Chiltern. He has never committed a crime, never had a "past" and never bowed to corruption or influence, or so she thinks... The disreputable Mrs Cheveley is about to appear and try her hand at both politics and blackmail - can the Chilterns come through the encounter with both public and private honour intact? And what about Miss Mabel Chiltern's roguish beau, Lord Goring? What does he have to do with all of this? Oscar Wilde's witty comedy of manners, trust and politics shows human nature in a typically merciless light. The main themes are blackmail, political corruption and the uses and abuses of power both in politics and in private life. Quote from the play: "It takes great deal of courage to see the world in all its tainted glory, and still to love it." (Summary by Beth Thomas)

Read by Beth Thomas; alanmapstone; Rob Marland; Zames Curran; Leanne Yau; Tomas Peter; Eva Davis; Kurt; DrPGould; TJ Burns; MichaelMaggs; Hope K; Foon; Nemo . Total running time: 3:12:24

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