

(Mobile pdf) Mary Barton

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Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell

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Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell : Mary Barton before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mary Barton:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Gaskell's first novel not as good as her later workBy -klantIn this first novel by Elizabeth Gaskell, we follow the life of Mary Barton, daughter of a mill-worker and union man, growing up in Manchester during a time of unrest between workers and employers. Depecting many of the well-known themes of all of Gaskell's works (rich vs. poor, relationships between children and parents), this is a deeply realistic novel. It's not a pleasant read, with all the sorrow going on in the story, but I think in her (Gaskell's) time this was a novel that should be written, clearly depicting the social problems of the mid-19th century. It is a very Victorian novel, with among others typical high (melo)drama and noble 'savages' playing an important part. Comparing it to other Gaskell books I've read, I wasn't surprised finding out this was her first novel. The prose is a bit rusty and I think in her later books she comes more into her own with more realistic character development and better story pacing.2 of 2 people

found the following review helpful. Its greatest achievement for me was the way in which it ...By SoniaInitially I thought that I could see where this novel was going but it exploded all the clichés. Its greatest achievement for me was the way in which it brought home the powerful sense of disparity between the classes. I also appreciated Gaskell's sensitivity to the human feelings and needs that transcend class. At times her attempts to bring the poor and the rich together were a little strained but there were moments when the agony on both sides of the social divide and the need for communication and understanding was acutely felt. At first the novel seems to follow the romantic pattern of a Jane Austen, although the interactions of the lovers are never dramatically rendered. Soon though it becomes evident that this novel is about so much more than Mary Barton. Class warfare, the attraction-repulsion between the rich and the poor, murder and intrigue - this novel takes you through it all; and then Gaskell asks you to forgive...1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Mary BartonBy Love2017I am new to Elizabeth Gaskell, but I am a fan. This is the second work of hers I have read and I really enjoyed this one even better than North and South. She is a writer who though her books may be a little slow to begin, knows how to make you love her characters. They are all fully developed and important to her stories. She gives satisfactory endings to ask the strings of her stories though this area not always happy. I also like that her stories have over arching societal themes and that she shows both sides of issues balance. An excellent edition of this book.

Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell, often referred to as Mrs Gaskell, was an English novelist and short story writer during the Victorian era. Her novels offer a detailed portrait of the lives of many strata of society, including the very poor, and are of interest to social historians as well as lovers of literature. Her first novel, *Mary Barton*, was published in 1848. Gaskell's *The Life of Charlotte Brontë*, published in 1857, was the first biography about Brontë. Some of Gaskell's best known novels are *Cranford* (1851), *North and South* (1854-55), and *Wives and Daughters* (1865)(font: Wikipedia)

This is Elizabeth Gaskell at her best, and Shirley Foster's edition is both sagacious and formally accurate. The appendices are invaluable and the explanatory notes are relevant without being obtrusive. A must for readers of *Mary Barton*. Dr. Antonio Ballesteros-Gonzalez, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha "Another splendid edition from Broadview with the usual high standard of helpful footnotes. Among the appendices in this volume are Gaskell's letters about writing the novel; contemporary reviews; essays and reports from the 1840s on industrialization, Chartism, emigration, prostitution and conditions in Manchester; brief selections from related fiction and poetry; and a very intelligible short summary of dates and events that shape the novel's politics." (Sally Mitchell)From the PublisherFounded in 1906 by J.M. Dent, the Everyman Library has always tried to make the best books ever written available to the greatest number of people at the lowest possible price. Unique editorial features that help Everyman Paperback Classics stand out from the crowd include: a leading scholar or literary critic's introduction to the text, a biography of the author, a chronology of her or his life and times, a historical selection of criticism, and a concise plot summary. All books published since 1993 have also been completely restyled: all type has been reset, to offer a clarity and ease of reading unique among editions of the classics; a vibrant, full-color cover design now complements these great texts with beautiful contemporary works of art. But the best feature must be Everyman's uniquely low price. Each Everyman title offers these extensive materials at a price that competes with the most inexpensive editions on the market-but Everyman Paperbacks have durable binding, quality paper, and the highest editorial and scholarly standards.