



## Henry James: Complete Stories, 1892-1898 (Library of America)

*By Henry James, John Hollander*

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### Editorial Review

From Library Journal

The Library of America here kicks off a five-volume series on James. Together, these offer the full canon of James's 52 short stories. Also included are the standard series chronology of the author's life and notes by leading scholars.

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From the Back Cover

The 21 stories in *Complete Stories 1892-1898* represent James at the peak of his storytelling powers. Among them are "The Turn of the Screw", one of his most popular works, a terrifying exercise in psychological horror centering on the corruption of childhood innocence; "The Real Thing", a playful consideration of the illusions of art and the paradoxes of authenticity; "The Figure in the Carpet", "The Death of the Lion", and "The Middle Years", three very different expositions of the mysteries of authorship, embodying some of James's most profound insights into the nature of his own art; "The Altar of the Dead", a somber, ultimately wrenching meditation on the relation of the living to the dead; and "In the Cage", an extended evocation of the inner life of a young woman trapped in a dehumanizing job at a postal-and-telegraph office.

About the Author

**Henry James** (1843-1916), born in New York City, was the son of noted religious philosopher Henry James, Sr., and brother of eminent psychologist and philosopher William James. He spent his early life in America and studied in Geneva, London and Paris during his adolescence to gain the worldly experience so prized by his father. He lived in Newport, went briefly to Harvard Law School, and in 1864 began to contribute both criticism and tales to magazines.

In 1869, and then in 1872-74, he paid visits to Europe and began his first novel, **Roderick Hudson**. Late in 1875 he settled in Paris, where he met Turgenev, Flaubert, and Zola, and wrote **The American** (1877). In December 1876 he moved to London, where two years later he achieved international fame with **Daisy Miller**. Other famous works include **Washington Square** (1880), **The Portrait of a Lady** (1881), **The Princess Casamassima** (1886), **The Aspern Papers** (1888), **The Turn of the Screw** (1898), and three large novels of the new century, **The Wings of the Dove** (1902), **The Ambassadors** (1903) and **The Golden Bowl** (1904). In 1905 he revisited the United States and wrote **The American Scene** (1907).

During his career he also wrote many works of criticism and travel. Although old and ailing, he threw himself into war work in 1914, and in 1915, a few months before his death, he became a British subject. In 1916 King George V conferred the Order of Merit on him. He died in London in February 1916.

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