



## **The Importance of Being Earnest**

**Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)**

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Read by:	Multiple readers	Format:	MP3 CD in DVD case
Length:	2 hours 10 minutes	Catalog:	DB-1049
Language:	English	UPC:	0684758936325
Style:	Dramatic	MSLP:	\$9.99
Genre:	Plays		

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*The Importance of Being Earnest, A Trivial Comedy for Serious People* was first performed on February 14, 1895 at the St. James's Theatre in London. It is a farcical comedy in which the protagonists maintain fictitious personae in order to escape burdensome social obligations. Working within the social conventions of late Victorian London, the play's major themes are the triviality with which it treats institutions as serious as marriage, and the resulting satire of Victorian ways. Contemporary reviews all praised the play's humor, though some were cautious about its explicit lack of social messages, while others foresaw the modern consensus that it was the culmination of Wilde's artistic career so far. Its high farce and witty dialogue have helped make *The Importance of Being Earnest* Wilde's most enduringly popular play. It has been revived many times since its premiere and has been adapted for the cinema on three occasions.

**Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde** (October 16, 1854 – November 30, 1900) was an Irish writer and poet. After writing in different forms throughout the 1880s, he became one of London's most popular playwrights in the early 1890s. Today he is remembered for his epigrams and plays, and the circumstances of his imprisonment which was followed by his early death.