



# **Barry Lyndon (The Luck of Barry Lyndon) - Literature Classics, Complete Edition (Annotated)**

*William Makepeace Thackeray*

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### ADDITIONAL CONTENT :

- + Active Table of Contents
- + The Author Biography
- + Annotations
- Plot Summary

### OVERVIEW:

Barry Lyndon (The Luck of Barry Lyndon) is a picaresque novel by William Makepeace Thackeray, first published in serial form in 1844, about a member of the Irish gentry trying to become a member of the English aristocracy. Thackeray, who based the novel on the life and exploits of the Anglo-Irish rake and fortune-hunter Andrew Robinson Stoney, later reissued it under the title *The Memoirs of Barry Lyndon, Esq.*.

### SUMMARY:

Redmond Barry of Bally Barry, born to a genteel but ruined Irish family, fancies himself a gentleman. At the prompting of his mother, he learns what he can of courtly manners and sword-play, but fails at more scholarly subjects like Latin. He is a hot-tempered, passionate lad, and falls madly in love with his cousin, Nora. Sadly, as she is a spinster a few years older than Redmond, she is seeking a prospect with more ready cash to pay family debts.

### REVIEWS:

#### 5 Stars Review :

JIM - Goodreads

Not as panoramic or polished a masterpiece as "Vanity Fair", but I loved it as much. The picaresque is my genre of choice and this is one of the prime historical examples of an unrepentant blackguard. Thackeray employs sophisticated irony in portraying the braggart narrator with little idea of how he comes across to the reader.

There is a rather rambling and confusing section in the middle, that is heavily based on a true story, as the whole book is - but once past that, it picks up steam again. Highly enjoyable fun.

The tone takes a slightly darker turn towards the end.

Jeff - Goodreads

the sordid tale of a wasted life guided of a moral compass which knows only two directions (which often transmogrify into a single direction): greed and vanity--a brilliant novel of manners by the master of the novel of manners

Aaron Edelson - Goodreads

gambling, is the most gentle-manly of social engagements.

Josh Eustis - Goodreads

Of course, the film is fantastic: it is the ultimate example of how to execute a period piece. But the novel - amazing. This story is about an Irish guy who is basically a complete degenerate and is an expert in all forms of misconduct. Top that off with a grossly idealized self-regard, and you've got a winner. It's so funny, though, and so well-written, that it is absolutely a must-read. I also greatly prefer the novel's shrewd and stalwart Lord Bullingdon in comparison to the film's snivelling pantywaist.



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#### **Linda Soto:**

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#### **Staci Luton:**

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