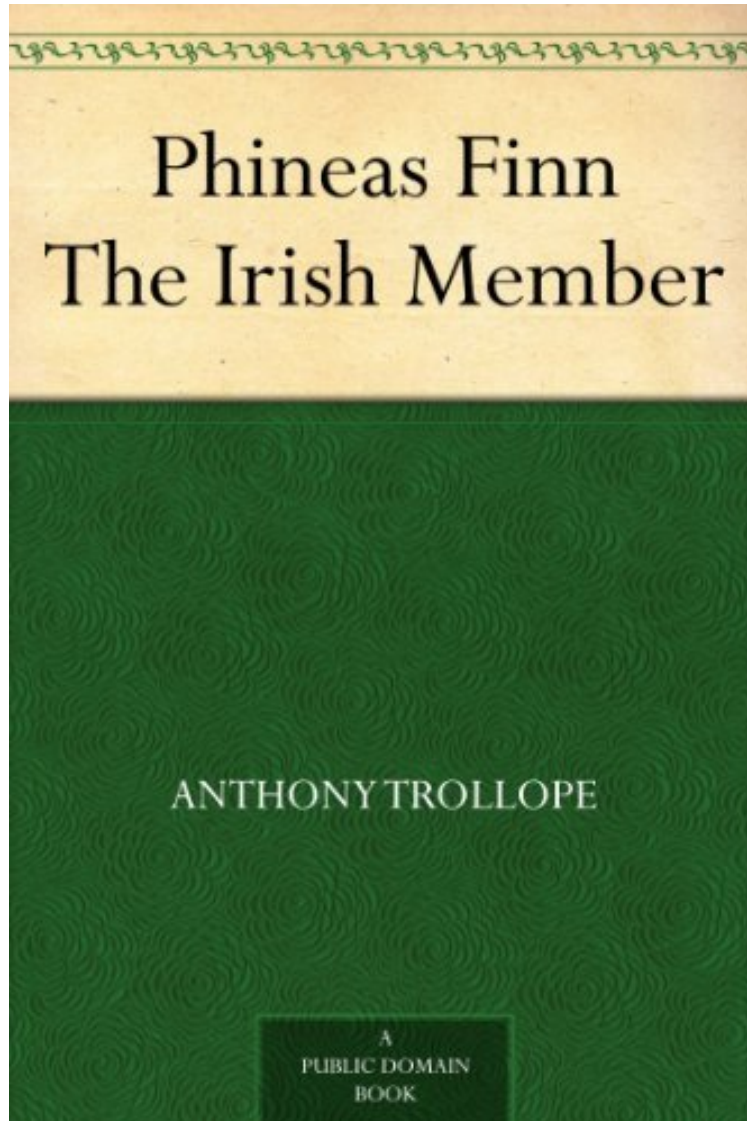


(Mobile ebook) Phineas Finn The Irish Member (English Edition)

Phineas Finn The Irish Member (English Edition)

Von Anthony Trollope

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Von Anthony Trollope : Phineas Finn The Irish Member (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Phineas Finn The Irish Member (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 5 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. For those who are patient readers Von A lonely soul (eacorbe@rs6000.cmp.ilstu.edu) I find it hard to explain my fondness for Trollope to my friends - one of them, an ex-English major, makes gagging sounds when I talk about my love for long, Victorian novels. I guess you have to have patience, and like long, drawn-out books that can take months to read (I do.) I didn't love Phineas Finn in the same way that I loved Barchester Towers - a book I wished never ended - but

it's still enjoyable. One hallmark of Trollope's style is to make long digressions into the lives of characters - some of them not central to the book- but that is what makes him interesting to me. Phineas Finn is nominally about the rise to power and the fall from power in Parliament of a young Irishman. It also concerns his search for "love" (or at least a woman who will marry him), and it goes into the travails of several of the female characters. The one part that American readers may have difficulty with is the details of Parliament and how it works - I was very confused by it. But, all in all, I enjoyed the book. For me, reading Trollope is like looking into a very detailed snowglobe - there's a whole little world going on there that you can just sit back and watch. Trollope sometimes speaks directly to the "dear Reader", which may put some off, but which I find charming. He also has a very subtle humor that shows up in his comments about certain of the characters.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. THE quintessential Trollope novel Von Ein Kunde Whenever people tell me which is the funniest Trollope novel to start with I always suggest BARCHESTER TOWERS; whenever they ask for the most typical of his novels, I suggest this one. Trollope rarely planned his novels through to the end when he started writing them, so his stories flow by almost haphazardly; you cannot expect them to adhere to the tighter construction of Dickens or Eliot. But for all of its vagaries this novel is extraordinarily captivating, and you will find yourself particularly drawn to the women in Phineas's life and their peculiar limitations. The most memorable of them, the gifted Lady Laura Standish who makes a disastrous marriage to a wealthy MP in the hopes of involving herself in meaningful political activity, is wholly unforgettable. The masterful little chapter detailing her dawning horror at having married an uptight prude, "Sunday Morning in Grosvenor Square," may be the finest thing Trollope ever wrote.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Beef and Ale Von Tristram Shandy "Convictions! There's nothing on earth that I'm so much afraid of in a young member of Parliament as convictions. There are ever so many rocks against which men get broken. One man can't keep his temper. Another can't hold his tongue. A third can't say a word unless he has been priming himself half a session. A fourth is always thinking of himself, and wanting more than he can get. A fifth is idle, and won't be there when he's wanted. A sixth is always in the way. A seventh lies so that you never can trust him. I've had to do with them all, but a fellow with convictions is the worst of all." (Chapter LXVII) This reaction shown by the experienced MP Barrington Erle when he learns about Phineas Finn's resolution to follow his own convictions rather than the party line in a vote on Irish tenant right and thereby to renounce his post as a Government secretary and to overthrow his own career seems to be quite evident an analysis of the laws of present-day political life. Therefore this analysis must have passed into common knowledge, because with regard to today's politicians Barrington Erle would have little to worry about, since it would be quite an achievement to point out a politician who holds any convictions at all these days, whereas, of course, examples 2, 4 and 7 in his enumeration undoubtedly abound.

In his second so-called Palliser novel, "Phineas Finn" (1867/68), Anthony Trollope gives insight into the mysterious ways Parliament works. His hero, Phineas Finn, a decent enough, dapper young man and son of an Irish country physician, makes his entrance into Parliament by being elected the representative of a pocket borough. Soon he finds himself unable to pursue his legal career next to his parliamentary duties so that, against the advice of his father and his paternal friend Mr. Low, he gives up the law altogether, thus depriving himself of any source of revenue except the allowance granted him by his doting father. His easy-going and gentlemanly manner soon make him a favourite of some of the best families in London, and he also befriends the radical Mr. Monk, who has been talked into accepting a Government office and thus finds himself unable to freely express his opinions in debates. The novel follows Finn's development as a parliamentary orator, his trouble with a letter of comfort he has rashly signed for a friend, his battle with a newspaper editor, and finally his rise into office and his moral conflict, which makes it impossible for him to toe the party line regardless of his personal convictions. Apart from that, we are invited to witness the hero's emotional journey - a gauntlet of marriage proposals, as one could say - between four women: There is the mild and penniless Mary Flood Jones from Ireland, the highly intelligent Lady Laura Standish, the sprightly heiress Violet Effingham, who is constantly battling with her aunt for her independence, and the experienced and calculating young widow Madame Goesler. With the help of these so different women, Trollope manages to portray the narrow scope of action that was allowed a Victorian woman of the upper classes. Whereas Mary seems to be the colourless and submissive kind of pet that would find her way into any Dickens novel, the three other women are real characters, and especially Lady Laura, who rushes into an unhappy marriage with the wealthy, but stern Mr. Kennedy for the sake of her reckless brother, is quite a tragic and three-dimensional character. Nathaniel Hawthorne once wrote of Trollope that his work is "written on the strength of beef and through the inspiration of ale, and [is] just as real as if some giant had hewn a great lump out of the earth and put it under a glass case, with all its inhabitants going about their daily business, and not suspecting that they were being made a show of." I think that the spirit of what makes Trollope Trollope could hardly have been expressed any more aptly. You will not find any of the romanticism and sensationalism that was typical of many other Victorian writers - in "Phineas Finn", for instance, there is also a duel, but what would have been given a chapter of its own in Dickens or Sheridan Le Fanu is quickly passed over by Trollope and is only referred to in the conversation of the characters after the event -, and so many modern readers will find it boring. However, you will get a lot of real life in Trollope, seemingly unspectacular, but masterfully conceived and written. If, for example, you compare two unhappy marriages in literature, the Kennedys in "Phineas Finn" and the Lammles in "Our Mutual Friend" by Dickens, you will find that

the latter is, of course, more dramatic and imaginative, but the former couple could actually be living next door to you. So if you really want to get an impression of Victorian life, you can hardly ignore Trollope. By the way, the Palliser novels are - the dates are those of their publication as books, not as serials: "Can You Forgive Her?" (1864) "Phineas Finn" (1869) "The Eustace Diamonds" (1873) "Phineas Redux" (1874) "The Prime Minister" (1876) "The Duke's Children" (1879) Although some of the characters recur, the novels can be read independently of one another.

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