

The Trials of Oscar Wilde

author: Gyles Brandreth

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Synopsis

author	Gyles Brandreth
readBy	Martin Jarvis
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Born in Dublin in 1854 Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde was educated at Oxford where he achieved a double first. His reputation as a dramatist, poet, and novelist was established in only seven years; from his first short story "The Happy Prince" to *The Importance of Being Earnest* in 1895. He died in Paris in 1900 ruined by a notorious libel case and two years in Reading gaol.

On 18th February 1895, the Marquess of Queensberry left a visiting card at the Albemarle Club on which he had written: "To Oscar Wilde posing as a sodomite." The accusation led to a series of three trials and the imprisonment of Wilde. This compelling dramatic recreation has been carefully compiled from the original trial transcripts.

Performed almost entirely by Martin Jarvis taking the parts of barristers, witnesses, judge, jury, and, of course, Oscar Wilde. It captures the flavour of the trials exactly.

Reader's comments

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