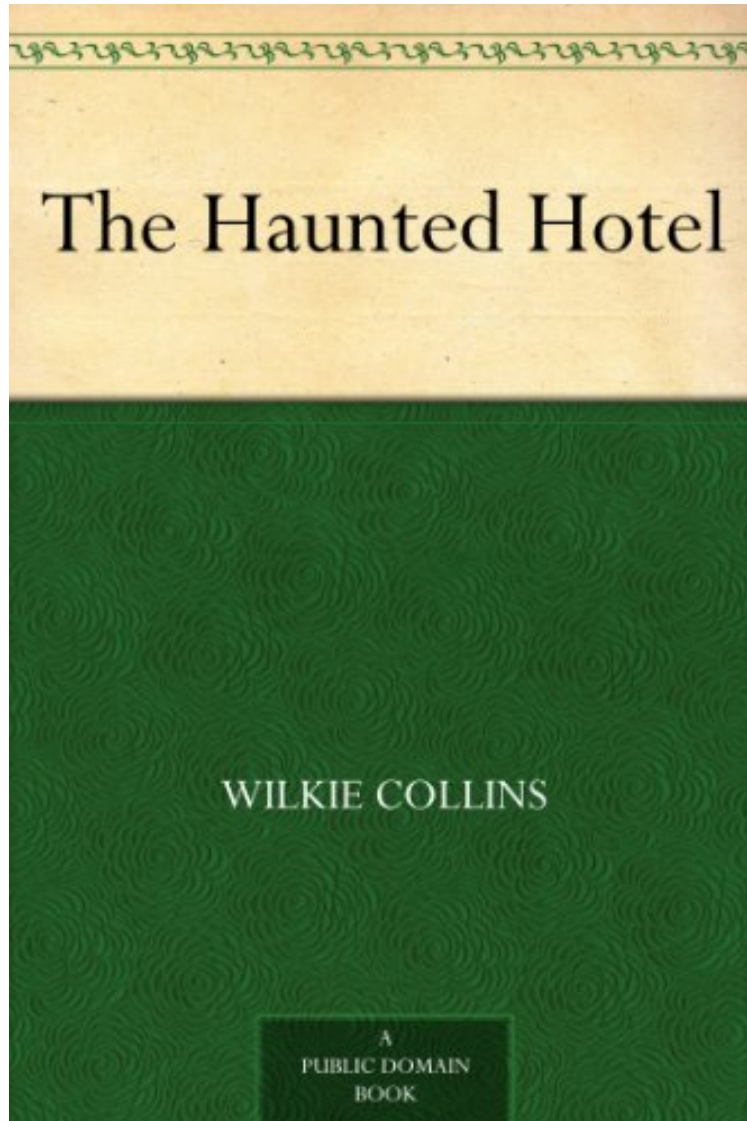


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The Haunted Hotel (English Edition)

Von Wilkie Collins

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Von Wilkie Collins : The Haunted Hotel (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Haunted Hotel (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A solid Collins novel Von Kuferin Lacking the intricate twists of Armadale, the Moonstone or The Woman in White, The Haunted Hotel is still a Collins novel worth reading. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A supernatural, melodramatic mystery Von Ein Kunde Wilkie Collins, who wrote such landmark (and lengthy) mysteries as "The Moonstone" and "The Woman in White," has a very short effort, too. "The Haunted Hotel" is that effort. As

mysteries go, this one is rather understated, though one must make allowances for the fact that it was written in 1878, long before Christie, Carr, and others gave the genre a more definite shape. (One must also make allowances for the sexism contained in the book lest one hurl the book at the nearest wall, window, or other suitable repository.) The story begins when a man and woman become engaged. Sadly, though, he was already engaged. His first fiancée very graciously bows out, and the man marries his second fiancée. They head to Venice, where their stay in a castle is marked by mystery. A maid quits. A porter then disappears without a trace. Finally, the man dies. All of these events lead toward a series of coincidences that draws the many characters together for a final revelation. The story, though, is more a melodrama than a mystery. Indeed, the mystery is subverted for much of the story as the characters' lives overlap, collide, and generally run into each other. It is easy, amid this seeming chaos, to lose sight of the second fiancée, a fascinating character who is so dominated by her sense of fate and supernatural vengeance that she causes events for which she later blames Fate. Unfortunately, she is the most interesting character and is absent from too much of the story. She alone seems to break free of the rather confining roles imposed on the others by the times and the culture. In a longer book, her absences might be a source of great consternation, but the reader who pushes through the first 80 or so pages will be well rewarded in the last 50, where she reclaims center stage and where the mystery also comes to the fore. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Near unique blend of detective story and ghost story Von Ein Kunde The book's real strength lies in the character of the villainess/ victim Countess. As in *Armadale*, Collins creates a female character capable of enormous evil, and at the same time so riddled with guilt, and so seemingly trapped by her destiny, that we feel a horrified sympathy for her from the off. None of the rest of the book's characters really come up to the same level, but the plotting as always is excellent, and the variation on the 'substitution' device in 'Woman' marks another first in crime fiction, which has been ripped off ad infinitum. The ending is truly chilling; if the hero(s) and heroine had had a bit more blood in them, this would rank with the very best.

Kurzbeschreibung This book was converted from its physical edition to the digital format by a community of volunteers. You may find it for free on the web. Purchase of the Kindle edition includes wireless delivery. **Kurzbeschreibung** This book was converted from its physical edition to the digital format by a community of volunteers. You may find it for free on the web. Purchase of the Kindle edition includes wireless delivery. **Synopsis** Is there no explanation of the mystery of *The Haunted Hotel*? Is *The Haunted Hotel* the tale of a haunting -- or the tale of a crime? The ghost of Lord Montberry haunts the Palace Hotel in Venice --- or does it? Montberry's beautiful-yet-terrifying wife, the Countess Narona, and her erstwhile brother are the center of the terror that fills the Palace Hotel. Are their malefactions at the root of the haunting -- or is there something darker, something much more unknowable at work?