

Bleak House

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✓ Verified Book of Bleak House

Summary:

Widely regarded as Dickens's masterpiece, *Bleak House* centers on the generations-long lawsuit Jarndyce and Jarndyce, through which "whole families have inherited legendary hatreds." Focusing on Esther Summerson, a ward of John Jarndyce, the novel traces Esther's romantic coming-of-age and, in classic Dickensian style, the gradual revelation of long-buried secrets, all set against the foggy backdrop of the Court of Chancery. Mixing romance, mystery, comedy, and satire, *Bleak House* limns the suffering caused by the intricate inefficiency of the law.

The text of this Modern Library Paperback Classic was set from the first single-volume edition, published by Bradbury & Evans in 1853, and reproduces thirty-nine of H. K. Brown's original illustrations for the book.

[Bleak House](#)

[Bleak House](#)

[Bleak House Cast](#)

[Bleak House Bbc](#)

[Bleak House Summary](#)

[Bleak House Characters](#)

[Bleak House Movie](#)

[Bleak House Episodes](#)

[Bleak House Season 2](#)

[Bleak House Text](#)

[Bleak House Trailer](#)