

no name wilkie collins

No Name Wilkie Collins: Exploring the Life and Legacy of a Literary Master

Wilkie Collins, often celebrated as one of the pioneers of the detective novel, remains a towering figure in Victorian literature. Among his many works, the nickname "*No Name Wilkie Collins*" is sometimes used to refer to his enigmatic persona and the mysterious themes that permeate his stories. This article delves into the life, works, and enduring influence of Wilkie Collins, shedding light on why he continues to captivate readers and scholars alike.

Who Was No Name Wilkie Collins?

The moniker "*No Name Wilkie Collins*" is not an official title but rather a colloquial nickname that emphasizes the author's mysterious character and the intrigue that surrounds his literary creations. Collins was a prolific novelist, playwright, and short story writer born in 1824 in London. His works are characterized by complex plots, vivid characters, and a masterful use of suspense and psychology.

Despite his fame, Wilkie Collins was known for his relatively private personal life, which has led to the nickname highlighting his secretive or elusive persona. Much like his novels, which often involve hidden identities and secrets, Collins himself remains somewhat shrouded in mystery, earning the nickname among fans and critics.

The Life of Wilkie Collins: An Overview

Understanding the life of Wilkie Collins is essential to appreciating his literary contributions. His personal experiences, health struggles, and relationships deeply influenced his writing style and choice of themes.

Early Life and Education

- Born on January 8, 1824, in London to a well-educated family
- Studied law at Lincoln's Inn, which gave him insight into legal procedures and justice—themes prevalent in his works
- Developed an interest in literature and storytelling during his youth

Career Beginnings and Literary Rise

- Initially worked as a lawyer's clerk before turning to writing full-time
- Published his first novel, *The Woman in White*, in 1859, which gained

immediate popularity

- Followed with other notable works like *The Moonstone*, often considered the first detective novel in the English language

Personal Life and Relationships

- Collaborated closely with his friend Charles Dickens, who supported and encouraged his work
- Experienced health issues, including a lifelong struggle with mental health, which affected his productivity and personal life
- Married Caroline Graves in 1858; they had children together

Later Years and Legacy

- Continued to write and publish until his death in 1889
- His works influenced not only literature but also the emerging detective and mystery genres
- Remembered as one of the most innovative and influential Victorian novelists

The Signature Themes and Styles of Wilkie Collins

Wilkie Collins' novels are renowned for their intricate plots, vivid characters, and exploration of psychological and social themes. His writing style combines suspense, realism, and melodrama, making his stories compelling and timeless.

Key Themes in Collins' Works

- **Mystery and Suspense:** Collins masterfully constructs suspenseful narratives that keep readers guessing until the final page.
- **Identity and Hidden Secrets:** Many of his characters conceal truths, leading to revelations that drive the plot.
- **Social Justice and Morality:** His novels often critique social injustices and explore moral dilemmas.
- **Psychological Depth:** Collins delved into the minds of his characters,

portraying complex psychological states.

Innovative Literary Techniques

- Use of multiple narrators to provide different perspectives
- Incorporation of diary entries and letters to enhance realism
- Layered plotting with twists and turns that engage the reader

Major Works of Wilkie Collins

While Wilkie Collins wrote numerous stories, some stand out as milestones in literary history, especially in the detective and mystery genres.

The Woman in White (1859)

This novel is often regarded as Collins' masterpiece. It revolves around a young woman who is mysteriously institutionalized after witnessing a crime. The story employs multiple narrators and epistolary techniques, making it a pioneering work in the mystery genre.

The Moonstone (1868)

Considered by many critics as the first true detective novel, *The Moonstone* involves the theft of a valuable diamond and the subsequent investigation. Its complex plot and detailed characterizations set the standard for future detective stories.

Other Notable Works

- *Armada*: A story about two men with intertwined fates and a mysterious inheritance
- *The Law and the Lady*: Focuses on legal and social issues, including wrongful accusations
- *The Haunted Hotel*: Combines elements of Gothic horror and mystery

Wilkie Collins' Influence on Literature and

Popular Culture

The impact of Wilkie Collins extends beyond Victorian England, influencing modern detective fiction, psychological thrillers, and even films and television series.

Contributions to Detective and Mystery Genres

- Established narrative techniques like multiple narrators and layered storytelling
- Pioneered the detective novel with complex plots and realistic characters
- Inspired authors such as Arthur Conan Doyle and Agatha Christie

Legacy and Recognition

- His works continue to be studied in literature courses worldwide
- Adapted into numerous stage productions, films, and television series
- Celebrated annually through literary festivals and academic conferences

Why Read Wilkie Collins Today?

In an age dominated by fast-paced media and digital entertainment, Wilkie Collins' novels offer a refreshing return to detailed storytelling, psychological depth, and moral complexity. His mastery of suspense and innovative narrative techniques make his works timeless.

For Mystery and Crime Enthusiasts

- Experience the origins of detective fiction with *The Moonstone* and *The Woman in White*
- Enjoy intricate plots that challenge and engage the mind

For Literary Scholars and Students

- Study Collins' narrative structure and character development

- Explore Victorian society and social issues through his novels

For General Readers

- Immerse in compelling stories filled with mystery, romance, and moral dilemmas
- Appreciate the historical context and literary innovations of the Victorian era

Conclusion: The Enduring Allure of No Name Wilkie Collins

The nickname “*No Name Wilkie Collins*” encapsulates the mystique surrounding both the man and his work. As a pioneering novelist who combined suspense, social critique, and psychological insight, Collins carved a permanent place in literary history. His novels continue to enthrall readers today, offering timeless tales of mystery, morality, and human complexity.

Whether you are a seasoned literary scholar or a casual reader exploring Victorian literature, Wilkie Collins' works remain a treasure trove of storytelling excellence. Embrace the intrigue, unravel the secrets, and discover why Wilkie Collins, the “No Name,” continues to resonate across generations.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who was No Name Wilkie Collins and what is he known for?

No Name Wilkie Collins is not a widely recognized figure; it appears to be a mistaken or fictional reference. Wilkie Collins was a famous Victorian novelist, known for works like 'The Woman in White' and 'The Moonstone.'

Is 'No Name' a novel written by Wilkie Collins?

No, Wilkie Collins did not write a novel titled 'No Name.' His notable works include 'The Woman in White,' 'The Moonstone,' and 'Armada.'

Are there any references to 'No Name' in Wilkie Collins's works?

There are no known references to 'No Name' in Wilkie Collins's novels or writings. The phrase might be confused with other literary works or titles.

What is the significance of the phrase 'No Name' in literature?

'No Name' has been used as a title or theme in various literary works, often symbolizing anonymity, identity issues, or mystery, but it is not directly associated with Wilkie Collins.

Was Wilkie Collins ever associated with a character or story called 'No Name'?

No, there is no record of Wilkie Collins creating a character or story titled 'No Name.'

Why is Wilkie Collins considered a pioneer of detective fiction?

Wilkie Collins is regarded as a pioneer of detective fiction because of his innovative narrative techniques and mystery novels like 'The Moonstone,' which is often considered one of the first detective novels.

Are there modern adaptations or references to 'No Name Wilkie Collins'?

There are no known modern adaptations or references specifically combining 'No Name' with Wilkie Collins. It may be a misinterpretation or niche reference.

How can I learn more about Wilkie Collins's life and works?

You can explore biographies, literary analyses, and collections of his novels to learn more about Wilkie Collins's life and literary contributions. Many of his works are available online and in libraries.

Is 'No Name Wilkie Collins' a popular search term or trending topic?

No, 'No Name Wilkie Collins' is not a popular or trending search term; it may be a misinterpretation or typo related to Wilkie Collins or a specific literary work.

Additional Resources

No Name Wilkie Collins: A Pioneering Figure in Victorian Mystery and Sensational Fiction

Wilkie Collins, often regarded as one of the earliest masters of detective fiction and a pioneer of the sensation novel, remains a towering figure in the landscape of 19th-century literature. His contributions have profoundly influenced the development of mystery, crime, and social novels, bridging the gap between melodramatic storytelling and realistic social commentary. In this detailed review, we delve into the life, works, themes, stylistic

innovations, and enduring legacy of No Name Wilkie Collins, exploring why his name continues to resonate with readers and scholars today.

Biographical Overview of Wilkie Collins

Early Life and Background

- Born on January 8, 1824, in London, Wilkie Collins was the son of an artist and a talented family that nurtured his literary inclinations.
- His upbringing was marked by a privileged education, yet he was deeply influenced by the social disparities and injustices he observed around him.
- Collins was a precocious child, showing literary talent early on, influenced by classic authors like Dickens, Byron, and Walter Scott.

Career Trajectory and Literary Beginnings

- Initially trained as a lawyer, Collins's legal background provided a foundation for his intricate plots and focus on justice.
- His first major success, *The Woman in White* (1859), established him as a leading figure in the sensation genre.
- Throughout his career, Collins maintained close ties with Charles Dickens, collaborating with him and contributing to his magazine *Household Words*.

Personal Life and Challenges

- Collins's personal life was marked by tragedy, including his brief marriage and struggles with health issues.
- His brother, Charles Collins, was also a notable artist, indicating a family rich in creative talent.
- Despite financial difficulties at various points, Collins remained prolific, continuously refining his narrative style.

Major Works and Literary Significance

Key Novels and Their Themes

Wilkie Collins's novels are characterized by their complex plots, vivid characterizations, and social critique. Some of his most influential works include:

1. *The Woman in White* (1859)
 - Often regarded as the first true sensation novel.
 - Explores themes of identity, madness, and social class.
 - Features an intricate plot involving mistaken identities, secret marriages, and courtroom drama.
 - Breaks traditional Victorian conventions by combining Gothic elements with

realistic social issues.

2. The Moonstone (1868)

- Considered by many as the first modern detective novel.
- Revolves around the theft of a precious Indian diamond and the subsequent investigation.
- Introduces multiple narrators, each providing different perspectives, a narrative technique that enhances suspense and complexity.
- Focuses on themes of colonialism, justice, and the nature of truth.

3. Armadale (1866)

- A sprawling novel involving themes of inheritance, identity, and moral ambiguity.
- Centers on the mysterious connection between two men named D'Armalay and the moral dilemmas they face.

4. The Haunted Hotel (1878)

- Incorporates Gothic elements with a focus on psychological suspense.
- Explores themes of guilt, the supernatural, and redemption.

Other notable works include *Basil* (1852), *The Law and the Lady* (1875), and *Miss or Mrs?* (1873), each showcasing Collins's mastery in blending social critique with sensational storytelling.

Innovative Narrative Techniques

- Collins was a pioneer in adopting multiple narrators, creating a layered and nuanced narrative structure.
- His use of epistolary elements, diary entries, and documents added realism and immediacy to his stories.
- His plots often involve complex puzzles, red herrings, and moral ambiguities, engaging readers in active problem-solving.

Themes and Social Commentary in Collins's Work

Social Justice and Critique of Victorian Society

- Collins's novels frequently critique the rigid class distinctions and injustices of Victorian England.
- *The Woman in White* examines issues of mental health, gender roles, and legal corruption.
- *The Moonstone* subtly critiques colonialism and the exploitation inherent in imperialism.

Identity, Madness, and the Human Psyche

- Many of Collins's characters grapple with questions of identity, often involving mistaken or hidden identities.
- Themes of madness and psychological disturbance are central, reflecting Victorian anxieties about mental health.
- The blurred line between reality and the supernatural appears in his Gothic tales, emphasizing psychological depth.

Crime, Justice, and Morality

- Collins's detective novels explore the nature of justice and the moral dilemmas faced by characters.
- His works often question the efficacy of the legal system and the societal norms that influence justice.

Stylistic Innovations and Literary Techniques

Narrative Complexity and Multiple Perspectives

- Collins's use of multiple narrators, each with their own voice, allows for a multifaceted view of the plot.
- This technique enhances suspense and invites the reader to piece together the story from different angles.

Realism and Gothic Elements

- While he employs Gothic motifs like haunted houses and mysterious figures, Collins anchors them in Victorian social realities.
- His detailed descriptions and character development create a vivid sense of place and psychological depth.

Use of Epistolary and Document-Based Storytelling

- Incorporation of letters, diaries, and official documents lends authenticity and immediacy.
- This approach also allows for unreliable narrators and complex plot twists.

Impact and Legacy

Influence on Detective and Mystery Fiction

- The Moonstone is widely regarded as the precursor to modern detective novels, influencing writers like Arthur Conan Doyle and Agatha Christie.
- Collins's innovative narrative techniques and focus on realistic crime scenes set the stage for the detective genre's evolution.

Contribution to the Sensation Novel

- Collins helped define the sensation novel, characterized by sensational plots, emotional intensity, and social critique.
- His works paved the way for later writers like Mary Elizabeth Braddon and Fergus Hume.

Enduring Cultural Impact

- Adaptations of his novels into films, television series, and stage productions have kept his stories alive.
- Literary scholars continue to analyze his work for its narrative complexity, social insight, and innovative techniques.

Criticism and Contemporary Reception

Initial Reception

- Collins was both celebrated and criticized in his lifetime; admired for his storytelling but sometimes dismissed as sensational.
- His association with Dickens helped elevate his standing among Victorian writers.

Modern Perspectives

- Contemporary critics recognize Collins as a pioneering figure whose innovations laid groundwork for modern genre fiction.
- Some critique his plots as overly intricate or melodramatic, but most acknowledge his mastery of suspense and social commentary.

Conclusion: The Enduring Legacy of Wilkie Collins

Wilkie Collins's work exemplifies a mastery of storytelling that blends suspense, social critique, and psychological depth. His innovations in narrative structure, character development, and thematic exploration have left an indelible mark on the literary world. As a pioneer of detective fiction and sensation novels, Collins's influence extends beyond Victorian England, shaping the contours of modern mystery, crime, and psychological novels. The richness of his storytelling, combined with his keen insights into societal issues, ensures that No Name Wilkie Collins remains a vital and compelling figure in literary history—worthy of study, admiration, and continued exploration.

No Name Wilkie Collins

no name wilkie collins: No Name Wilkie Collins, 2022-05-30 Dr Phil didn't invent family drama. This Victorian novel might as well be given the Dr Phil caption of I found out my parents weren't married, and my cousin won't give me my inheritance. A suspenseful yet poignant tale of the prejudices against illegitimacy, No Name captures the anxieties at the time - but also love stories - surrounding marriage. Two sisters, Magdalen and Norah Vanstone live an idyllic life in the English countryside with their wealthy parents. A tragedy upends their lives, suddenly losing their status in society. This new life brings Magdalen to York, then London, beginning her riveting tale of acting, marriage proposals, revenge, and even poison. A thriller that would put Dr Phil out of business, No Name emphasises romance in the face of rigid Victorian society. London-born Wilke Collins

(1824-1889) became known in Victorian England for his novels and plays, sometimes writing together with Charles Dickens. His most famous works, *The Woman in White* (1859) and *The Moonstone* (1868), are examples of the first modern detective novels.

no name wilkie collins: *No Name. (19th-Century Novel)* by Wilkie Collins, 2016-11-28 *No Name* (1862) by Wilkie Collins is a 19th-century novel revolving upon the issue of illegitimacy. The story begins in 1846, at Combe-Raven in West Somersetshire, the country residence of the happy Vanstone family. When Andrew Vanstone is killed suddenly in an accident and his wife follows shortly thereafter, it is revealed that they were not married at the time of their daughters' births, making their daughters Nobody's Children in the eyes of English law and robbing them of their inheritance. Andrew Vanstone's elder brother Michael gleefully takes possession of his brother's fortune, leaving his nieces to make their own way in the world. Norah, the elder sister, accepts her misfortune gracefully, but the headstrong Magdalen is determined to have her revenge. Using her dramatic talent and assisted by wily swindler Captain Wragge, Magdalen plots to regain her rightful inheritance.

no name wilkie collins: *No Name (novel)* Wilkie Collins, 2018-11-11 *No Name* is a novel by Wilkie Collins, first published in 1862. Illegitimacy is a major theme of the novel. It was originally serialised in Charles Dickens' magazine *All the Year Round* before book publication. The story is told in eight major parts, called Scenes. Scene One begins in 1846, at Combe-Raven in West Somerset, the country residence of the wealthy Vanstone family: Andrew Vanstone, his wife, and their two daughters. Norah, age 26, is happy and quiet; Magdalen, 18, is beautiful but volatile and willful. They live in peace and contentment, looked after by their governess, Miss Garth. Through amateur theatricals, Magdalen discovers she is a talented actress and falls in love with Frank Clare, the idle but handsome son of a neighbour, who is also in the play. They want to be married, and their fathers agree. Although Frank fails at every career he reluctantly tries, and his father is not wealthy, Magdalen's fortune will easily support the young couple.

no name wilkie collins: *No Name by Wilkie Collins* Wilkie Collins, 2019-04-06 *No Name* (1862) by Wilkie Collins is a 19th-century novel revolving around the issue of illegitimacy. *No Name* is set in England during the 1840s. It follows the fortunes of two sisters, Magdalen Vanstone and her older sister Norah. Their comfortable upper-middle-class lives are shockingly disrupted when, after the sudden deaths of their parents, they discover that they are disinherited and left without either name or fortune. The headstrong Magdalen vows to recover their inheritance, by fair means or foul. Her increasing desperation makes her vulnerable to a wily confidence trickster, Captain Wragge, who promises to assist her in return for a cut of the profits. *No Name* was published in serial form like many of Wilkie Collins' other works. They were tremendously popular in their time, with long queues forming awaiting the publication of each episode. Though not as well known as his *The Woman in White* and *The Moonstone*, *No Name* is their equal in boasting a gripping plot and strong women characters (a rarity in the Victorian era). Collins' mentor Charles Dickens is on record as considering it to be far the superior of *The Woman in White*.

no name wilkie collins: *No Name* Wilkie Collins, 1874

no name wilkie collins: *No Name (1862). By: Wilkie Collins* Wilkie Collins, 2017-03-07 *No Name* is a novel by Wilkie Collins, first published in 1862. Illegitimacy is a major theme of the novel. It was originally serialised in Charles Dickens' magazine *All the Year Round* before book publication. PLOT: The story is told in eight major parts, called Scenes. Scene One begins in 1846, at Combe-Raven in West Somerset, the country residence of the wealthy Vanstone family: Andrew Vanstone, his wife, and their two daughters. Norah, age 26, is happy and quiet; Magdalen, 18, is beautiful but volatile and willful. They live in peace and contentment, looked after by their governess, Miss Garth. Through amateur theatricals, Magdalen discovers she is a talented actress and falls in love with Frank Clare, the idle but handsome son of a neighbour, who is also in the play. They want to be married, and their fathers agree. Although Frank fails at every career he reluctantly tries, and his father is not wealthy, Magdalen's fortune will easily support the young couple. But before they marry, Mr. Vanstone is killed in a train crash and Mrs. Vanstone dies in childbirth. The

girls discover from the lawyer, Mr. Pendril, that their parents have only been married for a few months, and their wedding invalidated the will which left everything to the daughters. Since the daughters are illegitimate, they have no name, no rights, and no property. Combe-Raven and the entire family fortune are inherited by Andrew's older brother, Michael Vanstone, who has been bitterly estranged from the family for many years. He refuses to provide any support for the orphaned young women. With the help only of their governess Miss Garth, they set out to make their own way in the world. Scene Two is set in York, where Magdalen enlists the help of Captain Wragge, a distant relative of her mother's and a professional swindler. He helps get Magdalen started on the stage in return for a share of the proceeds. His wife Matilda, whom he married for an expected inheritance, is physically huge and kindly but mentally slow; she has to be supervised like a child. Scene Three is in Vauxhall Walk, Lambeth. Magdalen, having earned some money, forsakes the stage and plots to get her inheritance back. Michael Vanstone has died; his only son Noel is sickly and looked after by his housekeeper, Virginie Lecount, a shrewd woman who hopes to inherit his money. Magdalen goes to Lambeth disguised as Miss Garth to see how the land lies, but Mrs. Lecount sees through her disguise and cuts a bit of cloth from the hem of her brown alpaca dress as evidence of Magdalen's deception. Scene Four is in Aldborough, Suffolk, where Magdalen tries to carry out her plot to regain her inheritance by marrying Noel Vanstone under an assumed name, with Captain and Mrs. Wragge posing as her uncle and aunt. Wragge and Lecount plot and attempt to outdo each other. In the end, Lecount is sent on a false errand to Zurich, and Magdalen and Noel are married. Captain Wragge arranges the marriage with the understanding that he will have no further contact with Magdalen after the wedding. Scene Five is in Baliol Cottage, Dumfries. Noel is alone, as his wife has left to visit her sister in London. Mrs. Lecount is back from Zurich and explains who his wife really is, with the help of the cut bit of cloth from the brown alpaca dress. Noel, at her direction, rewrites his will, disinheriting his wife and leaving a respectable legacy to Lecount and the remainder to Admiral Bartram, his cousin. Lecount also induces Noel to write a Secret Trust to Admiral Bartram, directing that the money be passed to young George Bartram, but only on the condition that he marry someone not a widow within six months. This Secret Trust precludes Magdalen from marrying George in order to regain the inheritance. The stress of this scheming is too much for Noel, and he dies from a weak heart.... William Wilkie Collins (8 January 1824 - 23 September 1889) was an English novelist, playwright, and short story writer.

no name wilkie collins: *No Name* Wilkie Collins, 1999-01-01 High quality reprint of *No Name* by Wilkie Collins.

no name wilkie collins: *No Name (Annotated)* Wilkie Collins, 2021-02-22 *No Name* (1862) Wilkie Collins is a 19th-century novel revolving around the issue of illegitimacy. The story begins in 1846, at Combe-Raven in West Somersetshire, the country residence of the happy Vanstone.

no name wilkie collins: Wilkie Collins - No Name Wilkie Collins, 2016-12-13 *No Name* (1862) by Wilkie Collins is a 19th-century novel revolving around the issue of illegitimacy. The story begins in 1846, at Combe-Raven in West Somersetshire, the country residence of the happy Vanstone family. When Andrew Vanstone is killed suddenly in an accident and his wife follows shortly thereafter, it is revealed that they were not married at the time of their daughters' births, making their daughters Nobody's Children in the eyes of English law and robbing them of their inheritance.

no name wilkie collins: No Name Wilkie Collins, 1862

no name wilkie collins: *No Name* Wilkie Collins, 2012-04-04 High quality reprint of *No Name*: Including the Little Novels: Mr. Cosway and the Landlady; Miss Mina and the Groom by Wilkie Collins.

no name wilkie collins: *No Name* Wilkie Collins, 1992-08-01 Bonded Leather binding

no name wilkie collins: No Name Wilkie Collins, 2015-11-06 THE hands on the hall-clock pointed to half-past six in the morning. The house was a country residence in West Somersetshire, called Combe-Raven. The day was the fourth of March, and the year was eighteen hundred and forty-six. No sounds but the steady ticking of the clock, and the lumpish snoring of a large dog

stretched on a mat outside the dining-room door, disturbed the mysterious morning stillness of hall and staircase. Who were the sleepers hidden in the upper regions? Let the house reveal its own secrets; and, one by one, as they descend the stairs from their beds, let the sleepers disclose themselves. As the clock pointed to a quarter to seven, the dog woke and shook himself. After waiting in vain for the footman, who was accustomed to let him out, the animal wandered restlessly from one closed door to another on the ground-floor; and, returning to his mat in great perplexity, appealed to the sleeping family with a long and melancholy howl. Before the last notes of the dog's remonstrance had died away, the oaken stairs in the higher regions of the house creaked under slowly-descending footsteps. In a minute more the first of the female servants made her appearance, with a dingy woollen shawl over her shoulders—for the March morning was bleak; and rheumatism and the cook were old acquaintances. Receiving the dog's first cordial advances with the worst possible grace, the cook slowly opened the hall door and let the animal out. It was a wild morning. Over a spacious lawn, and behind a black plantation of firs, the rising sun rent its way upward through piles of ragged gray cloud; heavy drops of rain fell few and far between; the March wind shuddered round the corners of the house, and the wet trees swayed wearily. Seven o'clock struck; and the signs of domestic life began to show themselves in more rapid succession. The housemaid came down—tall and slim, with the state of the spring temperature written redly on her nose. The lady's-maid followed—young, smart, plump, and sleepy. The kitchen-maid came next—afflicted with the face-ache, and making no secret of her sufferings. Last of all, the footman appeared, yawning disconsolately; the living picture of a man who felt that he had been defrauded of his fair night's rest. The conversation of the servants, when they assembled before the slowly lighting kitchen fire, referred to a recent family event, and turned at starting on this question: Had Thomas, the footman, seen anything of the concert at Clifton, at which his master and the two young ladies had been present on the previous night? Yes; Thomas had heard the concert; he had been paid for to go in at the back; it was a loud concert; it was a hot concert; it was described at the top of the bills as Grand; whether it was worth traveling sixteen miles to hear by railway, with the additional hardship of going back nineteen miles by road, at half-past one in the morning—was a question which he would leave his master and the young ladies to decide; his own opinion, in the meantime, being unhesitatingly, No. Further inquiries, on the part of all the female servants in succession, elicited no additional information of any sort. Thomas could hum none of the songs, and could describe none of the ladies' dresses. His audience, accordingly, gave him up in despair; and the kitchen small-talk flowed back into its ordinary channels, until the clock struck eight and startled the assembled servants into separating for their morning's work....

no name wilkie collins: No Name (1862) by Wilkie Collin, 2017-02-08 No Name (1862) by Wilkie Collins is a 19th-century novel revolving upon the issue of illegitimacy. The story begins in 1846, at Combe-Raven in West Somersetshire, the country residence of the happy Vanstone family. When Andrew Vanstone is killed suddenly in an accident and his wife follows shortly thereafter, it is revealed that they were not married at the time of their daughters' births, making their daughters Nobody's Children in the eyes of English law and robbing them of their inheritance. Andrew Vanstone's elder brother Michael gleefully takes possession of his brother's fortune, leaving his nieces to make their own way in the world. Norah, the elder sister, accepts her misfortune gracefully, but the headstrong Magdalen is determined to have her revenge. Using her dramatic talent and assisted by wily swindler Captain Wragge, Magdalen plots to regain her rightful inheritance.

no name wilkie collins: No Name Annotated Wilkie Collins, 2018-02-15 No Name is a novel by Wilkie Collins, first published in 1862. Illegitimacy is a major theme of the novel. It was originally serialised in Charles Dickens' magazine All the Year Round before book publication.

no name wilkie collins: No Name Wilkie Collins, 2018-05-02 No Name (1862) by Wilkie Collins is a 19th-century novel revolving around the issue of illegitimacy. The story begins in 1846, at Combe-Raven in West Somersetshire, the country residence of the happy Vanstone family. When Andrew Vanstone is killed suddenly in an accident and his wife follows shortly thereafter, it is

revealed that they were not married at the time of their daughters' births, making their daughters Nobody's Children in the eyes of English law and robbing them of their inheritance. We are delighted to publish this classic book as part of our extensive Classic Library collection. Many of the books in our collection have been out of print for decades, and therefore have not been accessible to the general public. The aim of our publishing program is to facilitate rapid access to this vast reservoir of literature, and our view is that this is a significant literary work, which deserves to be brought back into print after many decades. The contents of the vast majority of titles in the Classic Library have been scanned from the original works. To ensure a high quality product, each title has been meticulously hand curated by our staff. Our philosophy has been guided by a desire to provide the reader with a book that is as close as possible to ownership of the original work. We hope that you will enjoy this wonderful classic work, and that for you it becomes an enriching experience.

no name wilkie collins: No Name. Wilkie Collins, 2018-04-27 o Name (1862) by Wilkie Collins is a 19th-century novel revolving upon the issue of illegitimacy. The story begins in 1846, at Combe-Raven in West Somersetshire, the country residence of the happy Vanstone family. When Andrew Vanstone is killed suddenly in an accident and his wife follows shortly thereafter, it is revealed that they were not married at the time of their daughters' births, making their daughters Nobody's Children in the eyes of English law and robbing them of their inheritance. Andrew Vanstone's elder brother Michael gleefully takes possession of his brother's fortune, leaving his nieces to make their own way in the world. Norah, the elder sister, accepts her misfortune gracefully, but the headstrong Magdalen is determined to have her revenge. Using her dramatic talent and assisted by wily swindler Captain Wragge, Magdalen plots to regain her rightful inheritance.

no name wilkie collins: No Name Wilkie Wilkie Collins, 2017-07-24 How is this book unique? Font adjustments & biography included Unabridged (100% Original content) Illustrated About No Name by Wilkie Collins No Name is a novel by Wilkie Collins, first published in 1862. Illegitimacy is a major theme of the novel. It was originally serialised in Charles Dickens' magazine All the Year Round before book publication. The story is told in eight major parts, called Scenes. Scene One begins in 1846, at Combe-Raven in West Somerset, the country residence of the wealthy Vanstone family: Andrew Vanstone, his wife, and their two daughters. Norah, age 26, is happy and quiet; Magdalen, 18, is beautiful but volatile and willful. They live in peace and contentment, looked after by their governess, Miss Garth. Through amateur theatricals, Magdalen discovers she is a talented actress and falls in love with Frank Clare, the idle but handsome son of a neighbour, who is also in the play. They want to be married, and their fathers agree. Although Frank fails at every career he reluctantly tries, and his father is not wealthy, Magdalen's fortune will easily support the young couple. But before they marry, Mr. Vanstone is killed in a train crash and Mrs. Vanstone dies in childbirth. The girls discover from the lawyer, Mr. Pendril, that their parents have only been married for a few months, and their wedding invalidated the will which left everything to the daughters. Since the daughters are illegitimate, they have no name, no rights, and no property. Combe-Raven and the entire family fortune are inherited by Andrew's older brother, Michael Vanstone, who has been bitterly estranged from the family for many years. He refuses to provide any support for the orphaned young women. With the help only of their governess Miss Garth, they set out to make their own way in the world.

no name wilkie collins: No Name Wilkie Collins, 1862

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