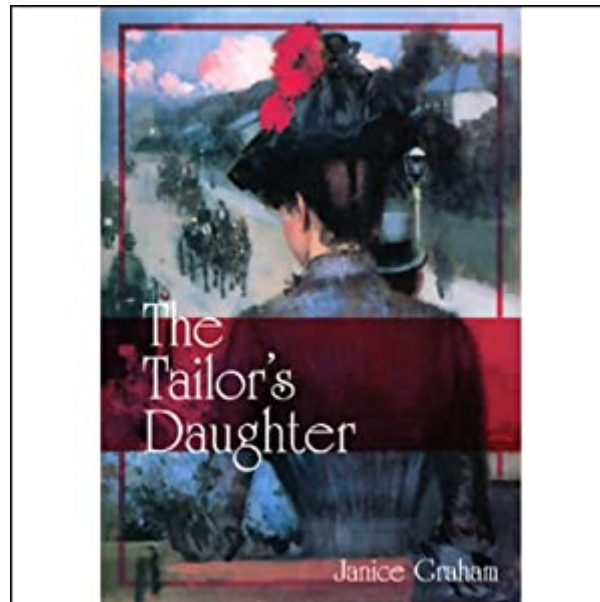


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# The Tailor's Daughter



## Synopsis

From the author of the New York Times bestseller *Firebird* comes this richly detailed historical novel of an unconventional tailor's daughter who is swept up in a suspenseful drama of passion and intrigue. When a fever leaves her deaf at the age of sixteen, shattering her hopes of marriage, Veda Grenfell turns her exceptional talent to her father's prestigious Savile Row tailoring firm. She matures into a woman of eye-catching beauty, but it is her indomitable spirit that earns her the admiration of Harry Breadalbane, heir to an earldom. When passion turns to betrayal, Veda abandons her beloved Savile Row and sets off on a treacherous journey into a world of deception, murder and madness. --This text refers to the MP3 CD edition.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 15 hours and 1 minute

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Blackstone Audio, Inc.

Audible.com Release Date: October 31, 2006

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B000K7KJN6

Best Sellers Rank: #79 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Hinduism > Sacred Writings > Vedas  
#1722 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Europe #2944 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Romance > Historical

## Customer Reviews

The author has created a stunning picture of an unusual woman, with a difficult and little-understood affliction to suffer from in the middle 19th century, and a window into the life of a Victorian tradesman's family. All this is most unusual fare, and the author does it in beautifully written first person, which I normally do not like in the least. Veda's story is enthralling. I could not put the book down. Have you ever wondered about the lives of the tailors who dressed those exquisite dandies who lived their lives of leisure, playing cards, riding horses, gambling and wenching? Most stories deal with those talented tailors as shadowy figures who were treated unfairly, often pleading to be paid, and as figures of disdain to the upper classes. The author has painted an entirely different type of life for these talented men, who ran their showrooms as businesses and took great pride in

dressing their clients well. Veda had to learn how to live a worthwhile life during a time when communication for the deaf through sign language was not widely practiced. Many people she met equated deafness with stupidity and ignorance. Veda manages to carve out a daring life path and the author takes you right along with her. You will always remember the journey and find it very enlightening. This is a really good book.

Terrific!! This book is very elegant and very realistic. It really tells the life of deaf woman and the troubles she faces from other people's ridicules, being excluded from conversations, the tiring practice of lip reading, and the feelings of hopelessness that accompany the affliction. I am a hearing impaired woman myself and I was shocked that someone out there understands. The heroine is a terrific woman that overcomes everything life throws at her, and life throws A LOT her way. The first quarter of the book is about her childhood and gives the reader tremendous insight into what makes Veda the woman she is. As a deaf woman in the victorian era, she did not have a major selection of potential suitors, but romance finds her. I loved the scandalousness and spunk she showed by donning male attire. She also proved to be a outspoken, brave person. I did not really care for the ending or the choices this incredibly forgiving woman made, but the book and the story and the writing were all very lovely. Truly a story that will give women hope, deaf or blind or not handicapped at all. My only complaint is that I would have liked to learn more about the times and customs of this era. The book was not very detailed regarding everyday mundane life in the times.

Janice Graham has accomplished a remarkable thing in *The Tailor's Daughter*. We never forget that Veda, the narrator and title character, cannot hear but we learn all we need to know about those around her in this fine story. The details describing England during the mid-19th century create vibrant pictures of the era. I can see the studio where the artist paints her portrait; her father's dressing quarters were memorably described when he opened his closet doors as if they were the 'gates of heaven.' The streets of London and the rural homes in northern England seem real in these pages. The artistry of tailoring was documented with such fine detail around fabric, accessories, stitching and style. Nothing about the trade went un-noticed, even the accounting and collection of the bills. What a fine delight to learn the passion the tailor has for his work and the confidence bestowed upon him by his more class worthy clients. As Americans we don't think of class in the same way as 19th century England. Ms. Graham captured this theme consistently throughout the story but without prejudice toward the aristocracy. Veda faces daunting challenges

and disadvantages because of her deafness but she's anything but a pathetic character. She enjoys rich relationships with friends, albeit, friends who are paid to attend to her education or serve as her assistants. She suffers many losses, including her hearing, during her teen years. Because her chances for a successful marriage diminish with her hearing, she becomes the heir to her father's tailor business. She finds inventive ways to handle her unusual duties which would serve many a young woman today. Love finds its way into Veda's life with complicating factors of class differences creating conflict, heartbreak, and redemption. The story compels one to learn the outcome. At the end, I only wished that the husband/lover had been more deserving of Veda's love. She was actually better than him. The Tailor's Daughter was beautifully written and a delight to read.

I loved this book. The story is very fascinating and keeps you interested. It also gives you a good history of the times and what women were and were not allowed to do. I think you would enjoy this story as much as I did.

Fabulous book. I couldn't put it down. It takes place in London in the mid 1800s

I enjoyed this book. Always enjoy reading books about women, especially in earlier times. We are so lucky to live in the times that we do. A good pass the time book.

I bought this book based on the reviews here at . It was a good read but somewhat difficult to believe with all the tragedies that the poor heroine suffers. Her Mom and brother die, she becomes deaf, she is nearly assaulted by her father's employee, loves someone above her station and marries him and then gets it annulled, has a child who is then stolen from her, etc! In the end I was depressed that nothing could go right for this poor girl. The last quarter of the novel suddenly morphs into a gothic tale with a tragic fire scene that sets us up for a HEA ending. I agree with the other reviewers that the ending was a little off and did not mesh well with the rest of the story. However by that time I was just desperate for the heroine to get a lucky break! Overall a good read, but the endless stream of tragedies was a little manipulative.

I thought the treatment of deafness in that era very interesting. Also the idea of a woman tailor for men.

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