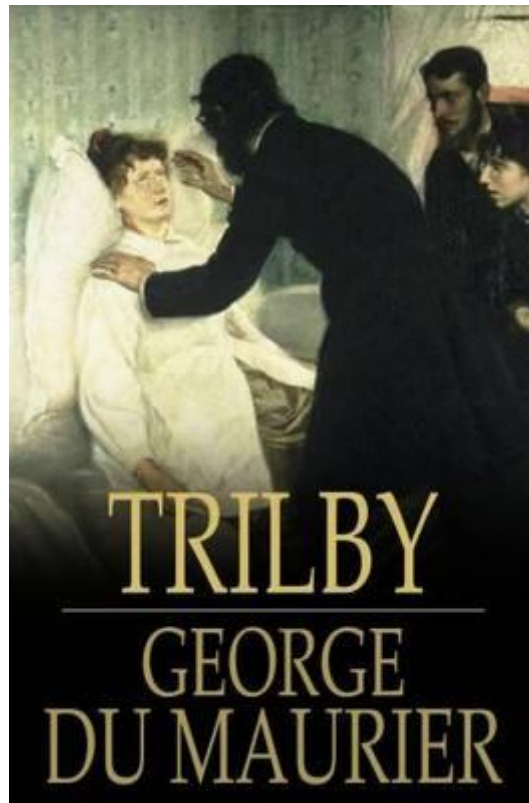


Trilby - George Du Maurier



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Trilby (1894) is a gothic horror novel by George du Maurier and one of the most popular novels of its time, perhaps the second best selling novel of the Fin de siècle period after Bram Stoker's Dracula. Trilby is set in the 1850s in an idyllic bohemian Paris. Though it features the hijinks of three lovable English artists - especially the delicate genius Little Billee - its most memorable character is Svengali, a Jewish rogue, a masterful musician, and an irresistible hypnotist. Trilby O'Ferrall, the novel's heroine, is a magnificent half-Irish girl working in Paris as an artists' model and laundress; all the men in the novel are in love with her. The relation between Trilby and Svengali forms only a small portion of the novel, which is mainly an evocation of a milieu, but it is a crucial one. Trilby is literally tone-deaf: "Svengali would test her ear, as he called it, and strike the C in the middle and then the F just above, and ask which was the highest; and she would declare they were both exactly the same." Even so, Svengali hypnotizes her and transforms her into a great diva, la Svengali. Under his spell, Trilby becomes a talented singer, performing always in an amnesiac trance. At a performance in London, Svengali is stricken with a heart attack and is unable to induce the trance. Trilby is unable to sing in tune and is subjected to "laughter, hoots, hisses, cat-calls,

cock-crows." Not having been hypnotised, she is completely baffled and cannot remember anything about Svengali or her singing career. Author: du Maurier, George Publisher: The Floating Press Illustration: N Language: ENG Title: Trilby Pages: 00000 (Encrypted PDF) On Sale: 2009-07-01 SKU-13/ISBN: 9781775416142 Category: Fiction : Classics

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