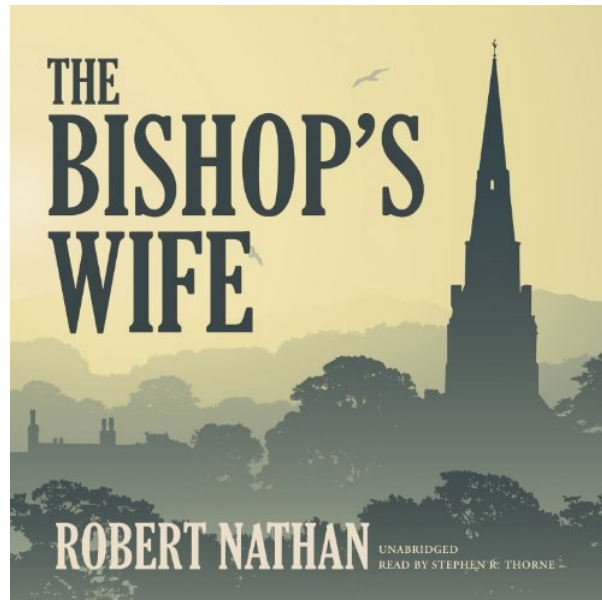
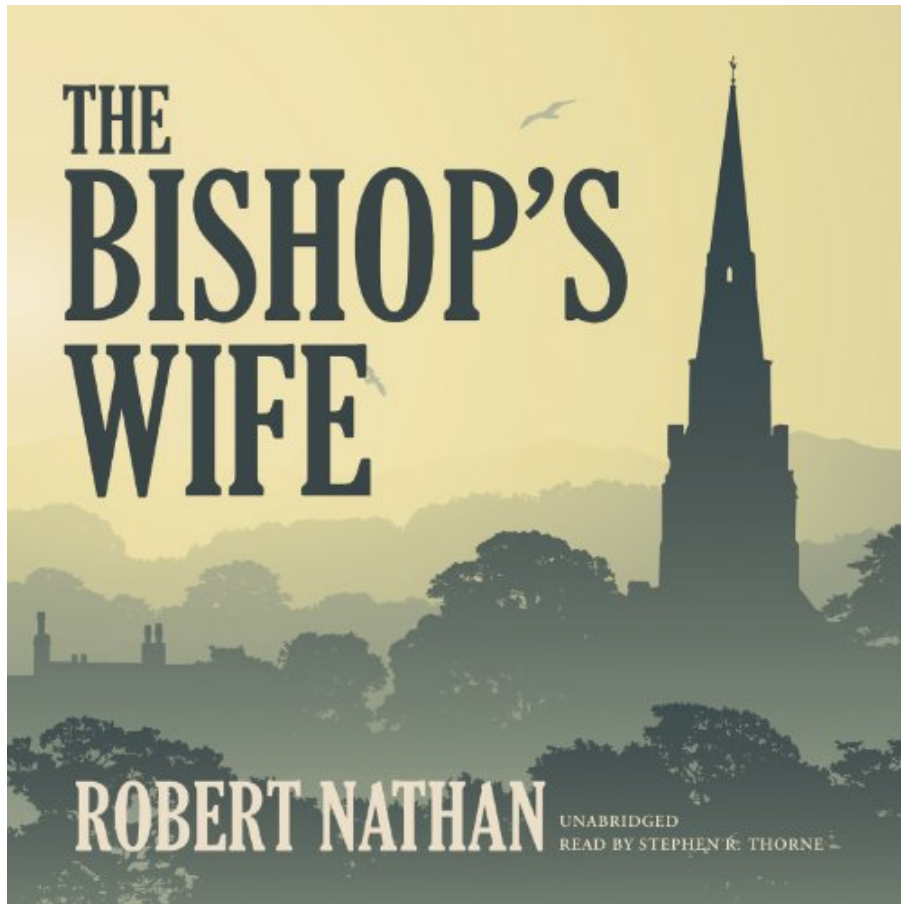


THE BISHOP'S WIFE BY ROBERT NATHAN



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Review

"Mr. Nathan's method of approach is the way of the goldfinch with the thistle-down, or of the unconcerned robin guilelessly cocking his head before the peck. Moreover, the words that he uses are as cobwebs that catch the dew of his thought -- delicately patterned filaments exactly adequate to the burden glistening upon them. In short, to say that **The Bishop's Wife** has beauty, charm, wit, and wisdom is not to over-praise the book." --Saturday Review of Literature

About the Author

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[Read by Stephen R. Thorne]

This classic novel is the inspiration behind the beloved Christmas film of the same name starring Cary Grant and Loretta Young.

Bishop Henry Brougham desperately wants to build a great cathedral for his overcrowded parish. The problem is he doesn't know how he will find a capable archdeacon to help fund the project. But that's not his only problem. Though his beautiful wife Julia fulfills her marital duties, there is no passion between them. When the bishop prays for help, it comes in the form of Michael, a handsome, golden-haired angel who takes the position of archdeacon. Michael exudes love, which draws new and unexpected emotions from Julia. However, Michael's limitless capacity for love is stifled by his mortal duties of manipulating money from wealthy religious patrons. -- With the holidays approaching, the bishop senses the mutual attraction between Julia and Michael. Will the purity of a divine love lure Julia away, or will her sense of marital duty prevail?

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- 3 pages

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Most helpful customer reviews

16 of 17 people found the following review helpful.

Temptation thwarted

By Bomojaz

This is another winning novel from the pen of Robert Nathan. An angel by the name of Michael comes to fill a vacancy on the staff of a local bishop, a man who sees himself as pious but is more interested in the finances of the church and wishes to add another cathedral to the two he already controls. Whether Michael is heaven-sent is debatable for he develops a lusty interest in the bishop's wife. Her life with her husband is rather hum-drum and empty of love (not to mention passion), which Michael detects right away. He offers her a proposition: stay with your husband or come with me and experience carnal bliss. It's a test, of course, but it's probably not too hard to guess what she chooses. Nathan is careful not to portray Michael in a sleazy, deviant manner but rather pictures him to be, well, angelic. He writes in a simple prose style, often duplicating the style one might read in a fairy tale. It's probably not to everyone's taste, but I've found all the books of his I've read so far to be intriguing and thought-provoking.

7 of 9 people found the following review helpful.

Please, Movies and Books are seperate media types and

By Grippy

thus should not be compared. The movie is always changed from the book to appeal to visual.

The book makes you use your brain and thus you can create it the way you want.

This is a fine read and it will raise questions that you can discuss with your book chums.

The only thing to discuss about the movie: Was the skating scene waaaayyyy to long?

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

The Story Behind The Story

By Sue Jackson

I have watched the original "The Bishop's Wife" movie starring Cary Grant, David Niven, and Loretta Young well over 500 times. There is very little about this movie that I did not know - except the novel upon which it was based. The two are worlds apart! And, now having read the novel, I think of them as two different stories. Honestly, I don't know which I prefer. But, I can say this truthfully: I am so grateful to be acquainted with Robert Nathan. F. Scott Fitzgerald heralded him as the greatest American writer for good reason. Do yourself an enormous favor and read this wonderful book - and more by the same author.

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