

Download Edith Sitwell Reading Her Poems

Browse through Dame Edith Louisa Sitwell's poems and quotes. 19 poems of Dame Edith Louisa Sitwell. Still I Rise, The Road Not Taken, If You Forget Me, Dreams, Annabel Lee. Edith Sitwell was born in Scarborough, Yorkshire, the only daughter of the eccentric Sir George Sit.

Edith Sitwell (1887-1964) was born into an aristocratic family and, along with her brothers, Osbert and Sacheverell, had a significant impact on the artistic life of the 20s. She encountered the work of the French symbolists, Rimbaud in particular, early in her writing life and became a champion of the modernist movement, editing six editions of the controversial magazine *Wheels*.

In 1922, Sitwell published *Facade*, her most controversial poem to date, which, accompanied by the music of William Walton, was given a stormy public reading in London. During World War II (1939-1945), Sitwell wrote poems about the blitz and other war issues, such as *Still Falls the Rain*, which describes a London air raid.

Title also listed as "Edith Sitwell Reads" on the back and "Edith Sitwell Reading From Her Poetry" on the label. Track A7 also listed as "Tattered Serenade: Beggar To Shadow, II" on the label. Track B1 also listed as "The Bee Oracles, 1. The Bee Keeper" on the label. Track B4 also listed as "The Gardener's And Astronomer's" on the label.

In 1948 Sitwell toured the United States with her brothers, reciting her poetry and, notoriously, giving a reading of Lady Macbeth's sleepwalking scene. Her poetry recitals were always occasions; she made recordings of her poems, including two recordings of *Façade*, the first with Constant Lambert as co-narrator, and the second with Peter Pears.

I recently read a poem by Edith Sitwell on Poetry Daily and was surprised & charmed by her facile use of language & music. I love the word glycerine in a poem! I had to add her to my to-read list. Portrait of a Barmaid
Metallic waves of people jar
Through crackling green toward the bar
Where on the tables chattering-white

During the London Blitz in 1940, Edith Sitwell wrote *Still Falls the Rain*, perhaps her most famous poem, a Good Friday poem that ponders human suffering and the salvation of the soul, a harbinger of Dame Edith's conversion to Catholicism.

Here's a virtual movie of the celebrated English poet and eccentric Edith Sitwell reading her poem "Still Falls the Rain" which was written during the very dark days of the Nazi blitz on Britain.

Edith Sitwell: *A Fire of the Mind, An Anthology*, compiled by Elizabeth Salter and Allannah Harper, Joseph, 1976. *The Early Unpublished Poems of Edith Sitwell*, edited by Gerald W. Morton and Karen P. Helgeson, Lang (New York, NY), 1994. Editor of *Wheels*, an annual anthology of modern verse, 1916-21.

Edith Louisa Sitwell was born in Scarborough, North Riding of Yorkshire, the oldest child and only daughter of Sir George Sitwell, 4th Baronet, of Renishaw Hall; he was an expert on genealogy and landscaping. Her mother was Lady Ida Emily Augusta (née Denison), a daughter of the Earl of Londesborough and a granddaughter of Henry Somerset, 7th Duke of Beaufort.

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