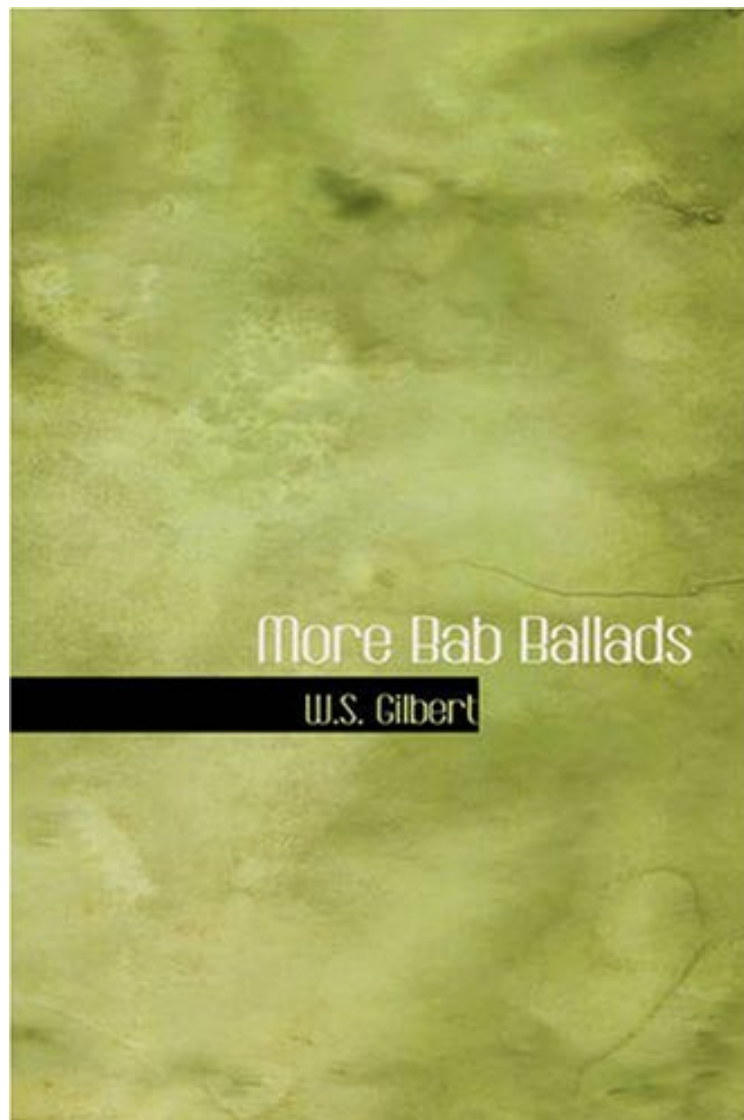


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More Bab Ballads

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W.S. Gilbert : More Bab Ballads before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised More Bab Ballads:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A fifth star for James Ellis' edition!By PHILIPPE VANDENBOSSCHE asks me: "How would you describe the plot of this book?" Well... it's a collection of light verse! Let's be merry, and say it has "some twists" :) In a more serious way -which isn't the best way to talk about about light verse, I'm afraid- I could say that I've finally found the English counterpart of the late -recently late- Dutch light verse

genius Drs. P, which is bad news for those who don't understand Dutch. But nobody's perfect, and Gilbert's Bab Ballads aren't either, by the way. But I prefer them over Lewis Carroll's, a bit too absurd for a non-Briton like yours truly. Most important: this -I'm talkin about James Ellis'- edition is by far the best possible on this planet: skip the others if you're *really* interested in the pre-Savoy Opera Gilbert. It's the quality of the edition that is responsible for my fifth star, by the way. Buy, receive, sit back, enjoy! 8 of 10 people found the following review helpful. As they would have been read by Gilbert himself. By F. Behrens. Actually, they practically are read by Gilbert himself, since actor Jim Broadbent will for a long time be associated with that role. His readings are marvelous, especially because he manages to use a different voice for each new character--and there are many, many of them. It is fascinating to catch so many of the concepts Gilbert was to recycle in the later Savoy works. "The Bumboat Woman's Story" is rich in pre-hints of "HMS Pinafore" and was indeed the inspiration for the ballet "Pineapple Poll," which uses only Sullivan's music for the operettas (with a snatch of his Da Ballo Overture thrown in). Doubtless the funniest of the lot is "Etiquette" on the last side of the second tape in which two men thrown up on a desert island cannot converse because they had not been properly introduced aboard the ill-fated vessel. Not all the poems are comical-- some are darkly pessimistic--but there is many a laugh that will be educated by Broadbent's delivery. "Bab," by the way, was Gilbert's baby nickname; and his use of it tells us a lot about his personality. Dove Audio, however, has packaged these two cassettes with no table of contents at all; and so there is no way to tell ahead of time exactly what Bab Ballads are recorded, which is really an intolerable situation for an item like this. Also the use of "unabridged" at the top of this .com page is misleading. While each poem is in fact complete, there are represented here only a very small portion of Gilbert's BB output. What we do have is excellently done, but the 3 hours on these tapes do not hold an "unabridged" collection by any means. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The source. By Beregon. Of many of the ideas used in the Savoy Operas, the Ballads are a delight in their own right. A must for any Gilbert lover.

From the Bumboat's Woman's Story: Ah! I've been young in my time, and I've played the deuce with men! I'm speaking of ten years past I was barely sixty then:

About the Author Sir William Schwenck Gilbert, KBE, was an English dramatist, librettist, poet and illustrator, best known for his fourteen comic operas produced in collaboration with the composer Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan, of which the most famous include H.M.S. Pinafore, The Pirates of Penzance, and The Mikado.