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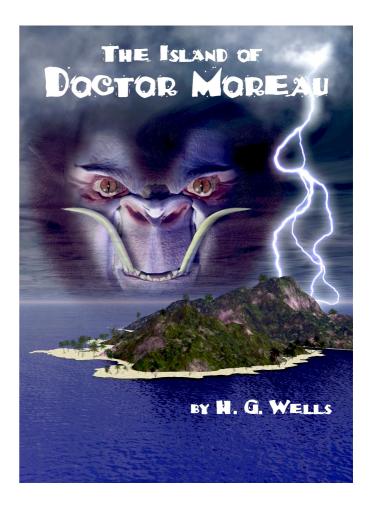
Narrated and produced by Shane Sody

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H.G. (Herbert George) Wells was born on 21 September 1866 at Bromley in England. He was the fourth and last son born to working class parents. When he was eight years old, he was bedridden with a broken leg. To pass the time, he started reading, and soon became devoted to the other worlds and lives to which books gave him access. It also stimulated his desire to write.

As a young man he had unhappy apprenticeships in various trades including draper and teacher. In 1883, he won a scholarship to what was then known as the Normal School of Science but failed to pass all his subjects and lost his scholarship. He turned to writing from 1888. His novels, called "scientific romances", invented a number of themes now classic in science fiction in such works as *The Time Machine, The War of the Worlds, The Invisible Man*, and *The Island of Dr Moreau* (which have all been made into films).



H.G. Wells died on 13 August 1946.

THE ISLAND OF DR MOREAU	Tracks
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Chapter 16 - How The Beast Folk Taste Blood	16a – d
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Total running time: 5 hours, 07 minutes

The Island of Doctor Moreau is part science-fiction and part horror. However, it is much more than that. The novel also raises questions about the ethical limits of scientific experiments, playing God, and the distinction between humans and animals.

When the novel was written, Britain's scientific community was engulfed by debates on animal experimentation. The *British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection* was formed just two years after the novel was published.

The Island of Dr Moreau has influenced many later stories and movies, mainly about mad scientists creating part-human, part-animal monsters. It has been made into a movie on three occasions:

- Island of Lost Souls (1933) starring Charles Laughton and Bela Lugosi. This movie was banned in Britain for 25 years, most likely because of its portrayal of animal cruelty.
- The Island of Dr. Moreau (1977) starring Burt Lancaster and Michael York.
- The Island of Dr. Moreau (1996) starring Marlon Brando and Val Kilmer.