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A Laodicean (The World's Classics)

Thomas Hardy

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Thomas Hardy : A Laodicean (The World's Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Laodicean (The World's Classics):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. It's my favorite. A 'Laodician' is someone who is 'lukewarm'By Mark C. HarveyI've been on a binge reading Thomas Hardy. Just finished this lesser-known of his novels. It's my favorite. A

'Laodician' is someone who is 'lukewarm, neither hot nor cold,' a quote from The Biblical Book of Revelation. But there is very little religious about the novel. It's about a wealthy woman who can't make up her mind between status and love. This is a typical Hardy-esque dilemma. Check out *The Return of the Native*- another of my favorites- and *Desperate Remedies*. Those who don't get past *Tess Durbyville* and *Far From the Madding Crowd* miss much. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Hardy with modern relevance By A Mac To today's reader the novel will seem to start slowly. But trust Hardy to set up plot twists and ethical dilemmas that will haunt you long afterwards! He wrote this as a 'modern' story. It's not one of his very best, but it's well worth reading for anyone interested in the impacts of technology on human behavior-- the risks of relying on technology for 'truth'. His 19th century forms of technology were naturally more primitive than ours, but the issues he raises resonate strongly today. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Interesting story line By Cary Consiel A rather dark plot line, typical of Hardy, throughout the last two thirds of the book; but the overall story line is refreshingly different and enjoyable. The enigmatic Paula makes it impossible to guess the ending, especially with all the sinister influences surrounding her. A thoroughly enjoyable page turner.

One of Hardy's most unusual novels, *A Laodicean* features a heroine torn between the dilapidated aristocratic romance of the past and the energetic technocracy of the modern world. Paula Power's two suitors--a patrician Army officer, and an architect, representative of the "new nobility of talent and enterprise"--comically illustrate the great social changes that were taking place as Hardy wrote the novel. The World's Classics edition of *A Laodicean* is unique in its use of the original text of 1881.

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