



# The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology

By Audrey Jaffe

Download now

Read Online →

## The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe

Critical discussions of the Victorian realist novel tend to focus on its vivid representations of everyday life. *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real* proposes that the genre is founded in desire, moving the novels not towards a shared reality but rather toward distinct fantasies: dreams of the real.

Rather than simply redefine Victorian realism or propose a new canon for it, *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real* argues that the real is inevitably, for the Victorian realist novel, an object of desire: what the novel seeks to capture and represent. A novel's construction of the real is therefore inseparable from its fantasy of the real--a formulation Audrey Jaffe refers to as "realist fantasy." One way in which this simultaneity manifests itself is that the conventions novels frequently use to represent characters' dreams, daydreams, and fantasies overlap with those each novel uses to create its realist effects. In new readings of Victorian novels (including Eliot's *Adam Bede*, Dickens's *Oliver Twist*, Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge* and *The Return of the Native*, Trollope's *Orley Farm*, and Wilkie Collins's *Armadale*), *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real* demonstrates that one of the signal effects of this overlapping is Victorian realism's construction of the real as an object of readerly desire.

Jaffe shows that realism and fantasy in the Victorian realist novel are not opposed, but rather occupy the same space and are shaped by the same conventions. Revisiting and reconsidering key elements of realist novel theory (including metonymy; the insignificant detail; character interiority; the representation of everyday life and the idea of disillusionment), *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real* also uncovers and anatomizes representational strategies unique to each text.

↓ [Download The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Convention ...pdf](#)

📄 [Read Online The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventi ...pdf](#)



# The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology

By Audrey Jaffe

## The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe

Critical discussions of the Victorian realist novel tend to focus on its vivid representations of everyday life. *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real* proposes that the genre is founded in desire, moving the novels not towards a shared reality but rather toward distinct fantasies: dreams of the real.

Rather than simply redefine Victorian realism or propose a new canon for it, *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real* argues that the real is inevitably, for the Victorian realist novel, an object of desire: what the novel seeks to capture and represent. A novel's construction of the real is therefore inseparable from its fantasy of the real--a formulation Audrey Jaffe refers to as "realist fantasy." One way in which this simultaneity manifests itself is that the conventions novels frequently use to represent characters' dreams, daydreams, and fantasies overlap with those each novel uses to create its realist effects. In new readings of Victorian novels (including Eliot's *Adam Bede*, Dickens's *Oliver Twist*, Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge* and *The Return of the Native*, Trollope's *Orley Farm*, and Wilkie Collins's *Armadale*), *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real* demonstrates that one of the signal effects of this overlapping is Victorian realism's construction of the real as an object of readerly desire.

Jaffe shows that realism and fantasy in the Victorian realist novel are not opposed, but rather occupy the same space and are shaped by the same conventions. Revisiting and reconsidering key elements of realist novel theory (including metonymy; the insignificant detail; character interiority; the representation of everyday life and the idea of disillusionment), *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real* also uncovers and anatomizes representational strategies unique to each text.

## The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #709613 in Books
- Published on: 2016-04-05
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 5.90" h x .90" w x 8.40" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 200 pages

 [Download The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Convention ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventi ...pdf](#)



**Download and Read Free Online The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology  
By Audrey Jaffe**

---

**Editorial Review**

Review

The author's "meticulously constructed argument compels readers to reflect on just how much their sense of the "realistic" has been constituted by realism's own wishful thinking. This singular intervention invites us to look up from the business of seeking out the "real" and directs us back to the literary source of that desire. It attunes us to how realism imagines itself as a genre and to how realist novels can help us understand "the real" itself as "a genre or mode, a system of representational rules" (p. 17). Most importantly, it illuminates an elusive question urgently worth pursuing: why is realism the form of fantasy that so many readers cannot stop dreaming about?" --Elaine Auyoung, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*

"Anyone interested in realism in the Victorian novel should read Jaffe's book. As she addresses the idea of realism in the Victorian novel, Jaffe (Univ. of Toronto) makes the case that these novels portray desire of the real, rather than the real itself. Focusing on such classics as George Eliot's *Adam Bede*, Thomas Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, and Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist*, Jaffe offers often-brilliant readings that are sophisticated in their attention to detail and in their awareness of critics' earlier claims about realism...Jaffe reminds one that Victorian fiction works with the tension between fantasy and the real, and she points out that critics who try to sever the two miss that productive tension." --S. Bernardo, *CHOICE*

"In this witty and audacious book, Audrey Jaffe tells us what we always wanted to know about Victorian realism but were too Victorian to ask for ourselves: realism is a desire for realism rather than its realization. Like our own dreams, realist novels build an unstable fantasy of solidity through their use of elaborate narrative defenses, fulfilling our wish for realism but only so as to make reality more manageable. Jaffe's book will change the way we understand literary realism, making us desire it all over again." --Mario Ortiz-Robles, author of *The Novel as Event*

"Rather than debunking the Victorian novel's claim on the real, Audrey Jaffe listens to it, with an intelligence at once skeptical and sympathetic. The result is a searching revelation of how thoroughly lined with fantasy is the desire for reality, and how powerfully anchored in the real are the most luridly sensational fictions. Along the way, Jaffe deftly demonstrates how the Victorians' reality hunger continues to animate our own critical fantasies." --David Kurnick, author of *Empty Houses: Theatrical Failure and the Novel*

"Jaffe argues that realism and fantasy overlap in the Victorian novel. Her account, showing how the period's desire to capture the real unsettles formal classifications, throws a revealing light on authors from Dickens to Virginia Woolf." --Patricia Ingham, author of *The Brontës*

About the Author

**Audrey Jaffe** is Professor of English at the University of Toronto.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Jessica Lantigua:**

Book will be written, printed, or highlighted for everything. You can understand everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. To be sure that book is important thing to bring us around the world. Alongside that you can your reading ability was fluently. A reserve The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology will make you to become smarter. You can feel far more confidence if you can know about anything. But some of you think that open or reading any book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they might be thought like that? Have you searching for best book or appropriate book with you?

#### **Ann Wren:**

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read the book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day long to reading a publication. The book The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book offers high quality.

#### **Robert Berman:**

This The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology is brand-new way for you who has attention to look for some information because it relief your hunger of information. Getting deeper you onto it getting knowledge more you know or else you who still having little bit of digest in reading this The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology can be the light food for you because the information inside this kind of book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books create itself in the form and that is reachable by anyone, yep I mean in the e-book form. People who think that in publication form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this reserve is the answer. So there is absolutely no in reading a reserve especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for a person. So , don't miss that! Just read this e-book sort for your better life in addition to knowledge.

#### **Patricia Meyer:**

Book is one of source of information. We can add our know-how from it. Not only for students and also

native or citizen will need book to know the up-date information of year to help year. As we know those guides have many advantages. Beside most of us add our knowledge, also can bring us to around the world. With the book *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology* we can take more advantage. Don't one to be creative people? To be creative person must choose to read a book. Just simply choose the best book that acceptable with your aim. Don't be doubt to change your life at this book *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology*. You can more attractive than now.

**Download and Read Online *The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology* By Audrey Jaffe #U3K0VW1BDH7**

## **Read The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe for online ebook**

The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe books to read online.

### **Online The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe ebook PDF download**

#### **The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe Doc**

**The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe Mobipocket**

**The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe EPub**

**U3K0VW1BDH7: The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real: Conventions and Ideology By Audrey Jaffe**