

# Downton Abbey Episode Guide



## SEASON ONE (1912–14)

### DISC ONE

**Episode 1-1** (1:06) First Aired: 26 September 2010

**April 1912.** Robert, Earl of Grantham, and his American-born wife Cora live with their three daughters and numerous servants in Downton Abbey. Though their way of life has existed for generations, news arrives that threatens the future of the title and estate. Lord Grantham's cousin James Crawley, who is heir presumptive to the earldom, and his son, Patrick, have both died in the sinking of the RMS Titanic. Since Robert and Cora have no sons, a distant cousin becomes heir. Since there is an entail on the estate and Lord Grantham, for reasons of tradition, is not disposed to try to break it, this also means that the new male heir to the title will inherit the land and all the money Lord Grantham gained by marrying Cora. The eldest daughter, Lady Mary, had been engaged to Patrick, but now the land and wealth can no longer remain in the immediate family. Violet, Lord Grantham's mother and the Dowager Countess, is determined to break the entail, even though Lord Grantham and his lawyer seriously doubt this is possible. Meanwhile, Lord Grantham hires his former batman, the lame John Bates, to be his valet, to the consternation of the butler, Mr... Carson, and the other servants. However, a housemaid, Anna, takes a liking to him. Thomas, an ambitious footman who wanted the job, repeatedly tries to undermine Bates, with the help of Cora's maid, the vindictive Miss O'Brien. Cora and Carson convince Lord Grantham that Bates is unsuitable for the job; Bates is extremely upset at this news. The family is pleased to learn that the young Duke of Crowborough plans to visit, seeing him as an excellent match for Mary, but the Duke seems less interested in Mary than in prying in the servants' rooms, and his manner cools completely when he learns that Lord Grantham does not intend to fight the entail. It is revealed that the Duke had a romantic relationship with Thomas. Thomas had actually informed him about the possibility that Mary would inherit, hoping to get a job as valet in return. As the Duke cannot offer him the job, Thomas tries to blackmail him, but he reveals that he has managed to retrieve his love letters from Thomas's room and quickly burns them before Thomas can stop him. Lord Grantham has a change of heart and asks Bates not to leave. The episode ends with a glimpse of the new heir, Matthew Crawley, as he learns of his good fortune.

**Episode 1-2** (0:49) First Aired: 3 October 2010

**September 1912.** Matthew Crawley, a young solicitor and the new heir to the Grantham earldom and estate, arrives at Downton Abbey with his mother, Isobel. He is reluctant to adapt to his new mode of life but his mother feels that they should avoid satisfying the family's assumptions about their class and behavior. Matthew ridicules the prospect of marrying one of the daughters, when Mary suddenly appears and he is immediately attracted to her. The Dowager is openly hostile towards Isobel, as is Mary towards Matthew. There is also some culture clash between the families due to their differing aristocratic and upper-middle-class backgrounds. Matthew astonishes the Dowager when he declares his intention to continue working as a solicitor. Isobel, too, is determined to hold her own against the Dowager and, as she trained as a nurse during the Anglo-Boer War, occupies herself with the local hospital. Meanwhile, Mr. Carson is extremely distressed by a letter, and Anna sees him stealing food. It turns out that Carson is a former music-hall performer and is being blackmailed by his show partner Charles Grigg, now a petty thief hiding from the law, to whom he's been providing food and lodging. However, only Mr. Bates, Anna, Lady Sybil and Lord Grantham are privy to this, so there is no fear of exposure. Lord Grantham is merely amused by Carson's background and pays off Grigg, threatening to turn him over to the police if he returns. The hostility between Mrs. Crawley and the Dowager escalates when Isobel pressures Dr Clarkson into performing pericardiocentesis on a hospital patient suffering from dropsy. The Dowager tries to prevent this, but the treatment is successful, and Robert decides to make Mrs.. Crawley chair of the hospital board, feeling that his mother has too much control. The Dowager herself begins to consider the possibility of Mary marrying Matthew, but Mary is firmly opposed to this plan.

**Episode 1-3** (0:49) First Aired: 10 October 2010

**Late November 1912.** Cora is pleased when Lady Mary informs her that Evelyn Napier, the wealthy son of a peer and a possible suitor, will be visiting. However, he arrives with a dashing Turkish diplomat, Mr. Kemal Pamuk, who is in London for the Albanian independence negotiations, and Mary is completely smitten with him. Mary is not the only one: Thomas gets a little too close to the Turk. Pamuk offers to spare Thomas punishment for his indiscretion, provided he will do something in return. Edith tries to interest Matthew by offering to show him the local churches. To her disappointment, he is far more interested in the buildings than herself. Bates purchases a device to correct his limp, but this proves to be extremely painful and injurious, until Mrs. Hughes discovers it and makes him get rid of it. Gwen's (a housemaid) secret is revealed: she has been training to be a secretary, by correspondence. She is dejected by the other servants' skepticism and disapproval of her choice, but Bates and Anna encourage her, as does Lady Sybil. During and after dinner, Lady Mary has eyes only for Mr. Pamuk, but when he surprises her by forcibly kissing her, she rejects him. Undeterred, he goes to her room that night, led by Thomas. He manages to pressure her into a sexual encounter but in the middle of the night he suddenly dies in her bed. To avert a scandal, Mary is forced to seek the help of Anna and her mother to move

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Pamuk's body back into his own bed. Unknown to them, Daisy, the scullery maid, sees them carrying the body. Cora is horrified by Mary's behavior but promises not to tell Robert, as it would break his heart. Mary is extremely upset by Pamuk's death. And in the aftermath, from Mary's behavior, Napier realizes he doesn't have a chance with her.

**Episode 1-4** (0:47) First Aired: 17 October 2010

**May 1913.** A travelling fair arrives in the neighboring village. Anna gets sick. Mrs. Hughes (the housekeeper) is reunited with a former suitor, who proposes to her again. Thomas asks Daisy to accompany him to the fair simply to annoy William, who is fond of her. Molesley suffers from an allergic reaction, prompting much debate between Violet and Isobel. Carson fears there is a thief at Downton. Lady Sybil continues her experimentation with feminism with the aid and inspiration of the new, politically minded Irish chauffeur, Branson.

## DISC TWO

**Episode 1-5** (0:49) First Aired: 24 October 2010

**Late July 1913.** Bates discovers that Thomas is stealing wine from the cellar. Worried that he will be reported, Thomas attempts to frame Bates for stealing one of Lord Grantham's antique snuffboxes, but his plans are thwarted. Anna makes her feelings known to Mr. Bates, but he says they can't be together. Meanwhile, rumors are beginning to circulate about Lady Mary and the "handsome Turk". Daisy is finding it increasingly difficult to keep quiet about what she has seen, and after some cajoling from Miss O'Brien, she tells her story to Lady Edith, who reveals the truth to the Turkish ambassador. At the annual flower show, Isobel questions Violet's history of winning every year, and instead supports Molesley's father's arrangements, much to Violet's dismay.

**Episode 1-6** (0:48) First Aired: 31 October 2010

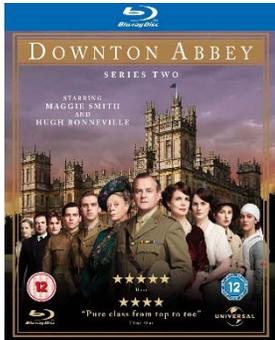
**May 1914.** Lady Sybil's interest in politics and women's rights is kindled by the upcoming by-election and is the cause of major disagreement between her and Lord Grantham. Meanwhile, presumably as a result of Lady Edith's letter, rumors about Lady Mary and the "handsome Turk" intensify, reaching the ears of Carson and the Dowager herself. Violet confronts Cora, who is forced to tell her the truth, leaving Violet almost as shocked by her behavior as Mary's. Edith finds an admirer in Sir Anthony Strallan, after he is impressed by her thoughtfulness and genuine interest in him. Miss O'Brien and Thomas continue to plot against Bates, trying to frame him for the theft of a wine bottle – which in fact Thomas stole as witnessed by Bates. Thomas persuades Daisy to testify against Bates, but her conscience leads her to retract her statement. However, Bates surprises Carson, Mrs. Hughes and Anna by revealing that he was once a drunkard and has been in prison for theft; Carson is unwilling to let him go, realizing that there is more to his story. Sybil makes Branson take her to Ripon under false pretenses to attend the by-election count. She is injured during a brawl when the count gets out of hand, but is rescued by Matthew as he is returning from work. Lord Grantham blames Branson but Sybil defends him. Later that night Mary and Matthew talk and reminisce, leading to them confessing their love for each other. Lord and Lady Grantham are delighted to learn that Matthew asked Mary to marry him, but to Cora's chagrin, Mary feels she cannot accept his proposal without telling him her scandalous secret. The Dowager apologizes for her earlier harsh treatment of Cora, and they decide that if the match between Mary and Matthew does not come off, they will marry her off to some "Italian who is not too picky" come November.

**Episode 1-7** (1:06) First Aired: 7 November 2010

**July – August 1914.** Tensions abound following the assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand. The family returns from London after Sybil's debutante ball, with the exception of Mary, who is staying with her aunt and has yet to give Matthew his answer. When, to everyone's great surprise, Cora discovers that she is pregnant after eighteen years, Mary's aunt, Lady Rosamund Painswick, advises her to reconsider marrying Matthew, since his situation would change completely if the baby turns out to be a boy. Mary learns from Evelyn Napier that it was Edith and not he who originated the rumors about her and Pamuk. While in London, Anna has discovered the details of Bates' crime: while he was a soldier he stole the regimental silver. However, Carson and the Earl realize that Bates is keeping something back. After Mrs. Patmore's condition worsens, Lord Grantham sends her to London to have cataract surgery. Anna goes with her and discovers from Bates' mother that he took the blame for his wife, as he believed that he had ruined her life, although his mother does not agree with him. Mrs. Patmore is temporarily replaced by Mrs. Crawley's cook, Mrs. Bird, whose cooking she fears will be preferred to her own. Mrs. Patmore accordingly asks Daisy to spoil the family's meals, but her actions are discovered. Mrs. Bird sympathizes with Daisy's loyalty, and upon Mrs. Patmore's recovery and return, Mrs. Bird manages to win her over. Matthew is angered by Mary's hesitancy following Cora's pregnancy, declaring that her decision should purely depend on whether she loves him or not. Anticipating the war, Thomas finds a non-combatant role in the Army Medical Corps with the help of Dr Clarkson. When Molesley finds Thomas trying to steal from Carson's wallet, the Earl tells Carson to wait until after the upcoming charity garden party to act on it. Thomas opportunely hands in his resignation to join the Corps. Mary confronts Edith about revealing her secret and implies that she will exact revenge. Learning that Sir Anthony Strallan promises to propose to Edith at the garden party, Mary manipulates him into thinking Edith finds him old and boring, so he leaves in haste without explanation. O'Brien is angry when she mistakenly believes that Cora is

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going to replace her, and takes advantage of an opportunity to punish the Countess by leaving soap below her bath. She regrets it immediately but isn't able to warn Cora in time, who slips and miscarries. There is further heartache when they find out the baby would have been a boy. O'Brien is extremely upset but Thomas is callous. He ridicules William for mourning his mother so deeply, leading to a fight between the two. A telephone is installed in the house, and Sybil manages to get Gwen an interview as secretary for the phone company. When Branson conveys the good news that Gwen has secured the post, his obvious friendliness with Sybil leads Mrs. Hughes to warn him against getting too close to her. Molesley's interest in Anna leads Bates to imply that he returns her affections. Mary is now prepared to marry Matthew and is heartbroken when he tells her he cannot be sure of her motives and intends to leave Downton. In the final scene, during the garden party Lord Grantham receives a telegram and announces to all that the United Kingdom is at war with Germany, marking the beginning of World War I.



## SEASON TWO DISC ONE

**Episode 2-1** (1:07) First Aired: 18 September 2011

**November 1916.** The episode begins with a scene in which Matthew is fighting in Somme on the front lines of the war as an officer. He speaks of returning to Downton during his leave, which is coming soon. However, he has news that he is newly engaged to Miss Lavinia Swire. When Lady Mary learns of Matthew's engagement, she tries to hide her dismay and tells the other ladies that a Sir Richard Carlisle, a newspaper mogul of somewhat ill repute, is coming to visit her. Although, when she is alone with Anna, she breaks down in tears at the news of Matthew's engagement. Meanwhile, the servants are preparing for a benefit concert to help fund the local hospital. However, with Bates in London attending his mother's funeral and Thomas fighting in

the war in the medical corps, the servants are hard pressed to keep Downton running. A new housemaid, Ethel, has arrived, but O'Brien immediately dislikes her and repeatedly pulls pranks on the new maid. Bates tells Anna that he may finally get divorced from Vera and asks Anna to marry him in her stead. However, these plans are short lived when Vera turns up in Downton and threatens to expose Anna's part in Lady Mary's indiscretion with the Turk Pamuk unless he leaves with her immediately. Mrs. Hughes overhears Bates and Vera's conversation and later informs Mr. Carson of Vera's plot. Mr... Carson then brings this information to Lord Grantham, who immediately regrets how he dismissed Bates. Meanwhile, Sybil, anxious to do her own part in the war effort, begins training as a nurse, and at her departure, Branson reveals his feelings for her. Matthew and Mary, who patched things up when he attended the fundraiser, struggle with their respective situations. Matthew and Mary clearly still care for each other, but with Matthew engaged and returning to war, the timing couldn't be worse. Mary sees him off at the train station, giving him her lucky mascot, which he carries while fighting. The episode ends with Matthew meeting Thomas in the trenches on the front lines. Matthew and Thomas share tea in the midst of the fighting, and when Thomas expresses the irony that the footman is sharing tea with the lord he once served, Matthew tells him that "War has a way of distinguishing between the things that matter and the things that don't." Thomas, who was already clearly sick of the war, takes these words to heart and purposely gets himself wounded so that he no longer has to fight.

**Episode 2-2** (0:53) First Aired: 25 September 2011

**April 1917.** With many of the male staff serving in the war, Carson finds himself under pressure to make sure that duties are carried out to his exacting standard. He ends up finding himself forced to accept female staff serving in the dining room. Lord Grantham needs to hire a new valet and ends up employing Lang, who has just returned from the war. William is happy after he receives an important letter. Mrs. Patmore finds out some devastating news about her soldier nephew. Thomas returns from the war (after intentionally getting himself wounded and therefore discharged from active duty) and begins work alongside Lady Sybil in the local hospital. After a patient is brought in suffering with gas blindness, Thomas finds himself becoming attached to the young Lieutenant. Molesley takes an interest in Anna. Matthew learns of his temporary transfer back to England for a recruitment drive in the north while fighting in the trenches. Carson advises Mary that if she still loves Matthew she needs to tell him before it is too late. Meanwhile, Lavinia (Matthew's new fiancée who is staying with Mrs.. Crawley) is reunited with an unwelcome face from her past.

**Episode 2-3** (0:53) First Aired: 2 October 2011

**July 1917.** The village hospital is not large enough to accommodate the large influx of wounded soldiers coming back from the front, so Downton is turned into a convalescent home for many of them. O'Brien is shocked that Isobel Crawley seems to be giving most of the orders while Cora is relegated to the background and suggests that Thomas might be able to aid her from his position at the hospital. Violet strongly believes that Mary and Matthew are still very much in love and so, with the help of Rosamund, tries her best to end Matthew's engagement to Lavinia. She is also still convinced that there is much more to Lavinia's relationship with Sir Richard than meets the eye. Meanwhile, Anna runs into Mr.. Bates in

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the village, and they feel they may have a future together, as Bates has a plan to deal with his ex-wife. Back at Downton, things are more highly charged, as William asks Daisy to marry him just before heading off to war and Mrs. Patmore reacts very badly to a chance remark.

## Disc Two

**Episode 2-4** (0:53) First Aired: 9 October 2011

**Early 1918.** Ethel's flirting with Major Bryant ends up with her being fired. Later in the episode, she returns and admits being pregnant. Preparations get under way for a concert at Downton. Tensions flare between Isobel and Cora, Edith receives worrying news about Matthew and William, and Branson declares his feelings for Sybil again. Lord Grantham learns that Bates works at a nearby pub and goes to visit him. Lord Grantham receives a letter from Carlisle, which causes him concern and forces an uncomfortable conversation with Mary. Mrs. Bird's soup kitchen receives a helping hand from Daisy and Mrs. Patmore.

**Episode 2-5** (0:53) First Aired: 9 October 2011

**Mid-1918.** Lord Grantham receives some shocking news from the front; both Matthew and William have been wounded in France. Unfortunately, William has sustained serious damage to his lungs and is unable to recover, prompting him to ask Daisy to marry him before he dies. Meanwhile, Matthew has suffered a serious spinal-cord injury and is paralyzed from the waist down. He is told that he will never walk again or father children. Lavinia insists that this changes nothing and that she is not concerned about having a sexual relationship and children but only wants to care for him. However, Matthew tells her to forget him and sends her away, while Mary attempts to nurse him back to health. A new maid, Jane, is hired by Carson and Mrs. Hughes, despite her being a war widow with children. Mrs. Hughes has also been secretly helping Ethel and her baby, as Ethel's lover Major Bryant has ignored her pleas. Despite not truly loving William, Daisy is pushed into marrying him by Mrs. Patmore, who wants William to die happy, and by William's wishes that Daisy be left with a widow's pension so that she can be looked after. They marry while William is bed-ridden, surrounded by the other staff, Edith and the Dowager Countess. William dies in his sleep, not long afterwards, with Daisy by his side. Bates is taken aback when Vera promises to expose old secrets about Mary and Pamuk's death, as he has paid her to divorce him and he thought she was satisfied. When Mary discovers this, she confesses everything to Richard Carlisle and asks him to help; this obliges her to accept his offer of marriage. He accepts and expresses his pleasure that she is now in his debt. She returns to Downton, and he succeeds in binding Vera to an exclusive contract with binding confidentiality obligations, thereby silencing her. He announces his engagement to Mary in the newspaper without informing her. Carlisle tricks Vera into signing a contract, preventing her from selling the story to anyone else, but on finding out, she warns that she will still bring ruin to Bates.

**Episode 2-6** (0:53) First Aired: 23 October 2011

**November 1918.** A Canadian officer, badly disfigured by burns, asks to be brought to Downton, claiming a relation to the family. Lord Grantham agrees, assuming he is some distant relation, sharing common ancestry but he stuns everyone by declaring that he is Patrick Crawley, the supposedly deceased heir. His story is that he survived the *Titanic* disaster but suffered from amnesia so he was unable to identify himself and lived as a Canadian until a wartime experience restored his memory. Most at Downton vehemently deny the possibility even though he remembers many details that only Patrick is likely to have known. However, Edith believes him, growing attached to him as he claims that he was always in love with her, rather than Mary. But, Lord Grantham's investigation casts doubt on the Canadian officer's claim, revealing that Patrick Crawley had a friend who immigrated to Canada. This leads to the burned soldier's sudden departure; he leaves behind a note for Edith that is deliberately ambiguous as to his identity. Meanwhile Matthew is getting used to his condition, constantly cared for by Mary; her continued interest displeases Sir Richard Carlisle. Carlisle and Cora conspire, to Lord Grantham's disgust, to bring back Lavinia, who resolves that she will never leave Matthew. Cora is worried about Isobel's aggressive management of Downton Abbey as a convalescent home until Violet slyly directs Isobel to the plight of refugees as a cause that has greater need of her nursing skills than the convalescent duties. Ethel hears the distressing news that Major Bryant has been killed. Carson debates whether to accept Sir Richard's tempting offer to leave Downton and be the Carlisle's' butler after Sir Richard's marriage to Lady Mary; at the same time, Sir Richard makes it clear to Mary that he is uncompromising. Lady Sybil receives an ultimatum from Branson regarding his marriage proposal to her. Bates is shocked to find the legality of his divorce threatened, as Vera reveals that he paid her to leave him, and he goes to London to make another attempt to settle matters with her. Upon his return, he receives the news that she is dead. Soon afterwards, the war ends with the Armistice.

## DISC THREE

**Episode 2-7** (0:53) First Aired: 30 October 2011

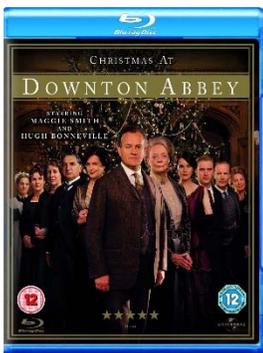
**1919.** As the residents try to return to normal life following the armistice, Matthew begins to be able to feel his legs. One day, seeing Lavinia drop a heavy tray, he suddenly gets up from his chair. Major Clarkson admits that he knew of this possibility from another physician but was skeptical about it and did not want to raise false hopes. Matthew announces

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that he and Lavinia intend to be married soon. Violet informs him that Mary is still in love with him, but Matthew feels obliged to marry Lavinia since she was prepared to sacrifice her life for him. Meanwhile, Richard Carlisle distresses Anna by asking her to spy on Mary, and his behavior leads Carson to reject his offer of employment. Bates realizes that Vera committed suicide in order to frame him for her murder. When Major Bryant's parents visit Downton to see where their son convalesced, Mrs. Hughes contrives a meeting between them and Ethel and her baby. However, Mr. Bryant angrily refuses to believe her claim. Thomas embarks on a new money-making scheme in the post-war black market. Lord Grantham is attracted to the new maid Jane and illicitly kisses her on one occasion. Contemplating life after the war, Sybil makes the drastic decision to elope with Branson. However, Mary discovers her plan and, along with Edith and Anna, seeks them out and persuades Sybil to return and plead her cause openly to their parents.

**Episode 2-8** (1:07) First Aired: 30 October 2011

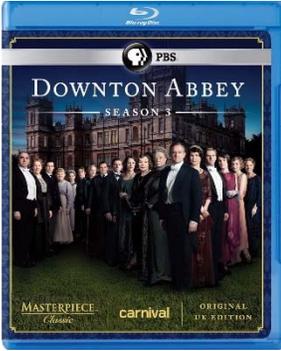
**April 1919.** As preparations are under way for Matthew and Lavinia's wedding, Lady Sybil's expressed wish to marry Branson shocks and horrifies her parents. Lord Grantham is strongly opposed to the idea, but his threats of social disgrace and disinheritance do not dissuade Sybil. Grantham then attempts to bribe Branson, but Branson's intentions are sincere, and he refuses. Lady Grantham, Carson, and Lavinia are taken ill by the Spanish flu. Thomas' black market venture was a spectacular failure, leaving him penniless and without a job, but Carson's illness gives him a chance to become useful in the house. Matthew finds himself alone with Mary and tells her what Violet said to him. Both acknowledge that they cannot marry, as it would be terribly cruel to Lavinia. However, they kiss just as Lavinia is coming down the stairs. When her illness delays the wedding, Lavinia tells Matthew that she heard and saw everything. She feels they should end their engagement but Matthew refuses. Fearing that Lavinia's illness might bring together Matthew and Mary, Richard Carlisle comes to Downton Abbey. Daisy is distressed by William's father's request that she visit him. Ethel is surprised when Major Bryant's parents want to see her, but his father wants to take her child away permanently. Eventually, she decides to keep the child. Lord Grantham finds himself unable to control his desire for Jane, who willingly responds. However, their night-time encounter is interrupted and remains unconsummated, and Jane decides to leave. With the possibility of legal trouble regarding Vera's death, Anna insists that she and Bates should marry so that she may be able to support him through his difficulties as his wife. They marry in secret, with Lady Mary's support, and she arranges for them to spend their wedding night in a guest room. Cora becomes seriously ill, and Clarkson fears the worst. O'Brien tirelessly cares for her and tries to ask for her forgiveness. However it is Lavinia who succumbs to the flu and dies, saying that it is best for Matthew. Racked with guilt, Matthew tells Mary that any relationship between them is now impossible. Somewhat chastened by the recent events, Lord Grantham reluctantly gives his blessing to Sybil and Branson. The episode ends with Bates' arrest for the murder of his late wife.



**CHRISTMAS SPECIAL 2011** (1:32) First Aired: 25 December 2011

**December 1919 and January 1920.** The household is bustling with all the Christmas preparations. Mr. Bates is convicted of the murder of his ex-wife Vera despite testimony from the Earl of Grantham. Towards the end of the episode his death sentence is commuted to life imprisonment. Also the relationship between Matthew and Lady Mary takes another twist. She jilts her fiancé, Sir Richard Carlisle, despite his threatening to reveal her dark secret regarding Kemal Pamuk through his media connections and newspapers. After much worry and fear that he will see her as damaged, Lady Mary decides to tell Matthew that she had a one night stand with Pamuk. Although shocked by this information to begin with, he soon decides he does not care that she is not a virgin and in the final scene he proposes to her but only after she insists he get down on one knee. She accepts. It is revealed that Lady Sybil and Tom Branson are now married and that Sybil is pregnant.

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## SEASON THREE

### DISC ONE

**Episode 3-1** (1:06) First Aired: 16 September 2012

**March 1920.** Cora's mother, Martha Levinson, sweeps into Downton for Matthew and Mary's wedding, astonishing the Dowager Countess with her critical and "revolutionary" American way of seeing things. Lord Grantham learns that his massive investment of Cora's fortune in the Grand Trunk Railway has failed, leaving the estate near bankruptcy. Salvation is possible, as Matthew is entitled to inherit a large amount of money from Lavinia's father, but his high values will not let him keep the money, feeling it a betrayal of Lavinia and her father. Meanwhile, O'Brien's nephew Alfred joins the staff downstairs and struggles to satisfy Carson's high standards, made worse by Thomas' jealous behavior. Sybil and her husband, Tom Branson, return to Downton to a muted response, particularly as Branson remains highly vocal about his

political beliefs. Matthew repairs things when he chooses Branson to be his best man, and despite hesitance the night before, Matthew and Mary are married.

**Episode 3-2** (0:47) First Aired: 23 September 2012

**April 1920.** With the future of Downton hanging in the balance, Mary and the Dowager Countess conspire to show Downton at its grandest to persuade Mrs. Levinson to give Downton more money and save them from financial ruin. Their attempts are impeded by the oven breaking down, giving Mrs. Levinson a chance to take over running the party herself in radical fashion. She reveals, when finally asked for help, that though she will "entertain them in New York" she cannot provide them with money, as her own late husband tied it up in the estate, much as Violet's did. She tells them they have to adapt to the changing world, and states her intent to return to America. Meanwhile downstairs, O'Brien and Thomas wage war against one another due to Alfred's recent promotion to valet to Matthew, whilst Mrs. Levinson's maid takes a shine to Alfred. Mrs. Hughes faces a cancer scare that she shares only with Mrs. Patmore and Doctor Clarkson, and Isobel Crawley finds that Ethel has become a prostitute. Edith actively pursues Anthony Strallan as a potential husband and he proposes, despite the reservations of the other family members that he is too old.

**Episode 3-3** (0:47) First Aired: 30 September 2012

**May 1920.** Matthew receives a letter that Lavinia's late father left for him. He writes that he knew how Matthew broke Lavinia's heart and still wants him to have his money. Matthew finally agrees to accept it, saving Downton. Lord Grantham refuses to accept the money as a gift, instead insisting that he and Matthew become joint masters of Downton. Edith's wedding day finally arrives, but as she is walking down the aisle Strallan changes his mind and calls off the wedding; giving in to the reservations of her family members. Mrs. Hughes finally receives the news that she does not have cancer, which visibly relieves both Mr. Carson and Mrs. Patmore. Thomas tries to get revenge on O'Brien by spreading a rumor to the family that she will be leaving Downton. Bates's cellmate tries to get him into trouble by planting drugs in his bunk, but Bates is warned in time by another inmate.

### Disc Two

**Episode 3-4** (0:47) First Aired: 7 October 2012

**June 1920.** When an aristocrat's home in Ireland is burned to the ground, Branson is found to have been at the burning and is wanted by the police. He escapes to Downton Abbey without Sybil, and the Crawleys are outraged. Sybil eventually returns to Downton safely, and Lord Grantham is able to convince the Home Secretary to allow Branson to remain in England, though he will be arrested if he returns to Ireland. Anna has not received any letters from Bates and is no longer allowed to visit; similarly Bates wonders why Anna's letters and visits have stopped. When Bates falls back into the prison guards' favor, he and Anna receive their missing letters. Ethel decides to let her son live with his grandparents so he can have a better life. Carson recruits a new footman, Jimmy Kent, who attracts the attention of the female staff and Thomas. Ivy Stuart, the new kitchen maid, draws Alfred's attention away from Daisy. Edith writes to the newspaper supporting more widespread women's suffrage.

**Episode 3-5** (0:47) First Aired: 14 October 2012

**July 1920.** Edith is asked to write a regular newspaper column. She is excited about the opportunity, but most of the family is not supportive. Isobel helps Ethel by offering her a job as a servant; however, Mrs. Bird refuses to work with Ethel and consequently leaves. The new maid Ivy draws Alfred's interest and receives Daisy's resentment. Matthew believes that Robert has been mismanaging the estate and finds an ally in George Murray, the family solicitor. Mary is angry when she discovers that Matthew has been discussing this without her father, Lord Grantham, present. Sybil goes into labor and Lord Grantham hires a famous obstetrician, Sir Philip Tapsel, upsetting Dr Clarkson and Cora. The two doctors disagree over Sybil's care, Dr Clarkson insisting that Sybil is suffering from eclampsia and should be taken to hospital but Sir Philip arguing that Sybil is fit and healthy. Despite the disagreement Sybil delivers a girl and all seems

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well; however, during the night she becomes very ill and dies. The next day Cora seems to blame her husband for the death, because of his refusal to accept Dr Clarkson's argument that Sybil was ill.

**Episode 3-6** (0:47) First Aired: 21 October 2012

**July 1920.** Branson decides to name his daughter Sybil and wants to baptize her as a Catholic, both of which Lord Grantham is firmly opposed to. However, Mary and the rest of the family defend Branson's decision. To repair Cora and Robert's marriage, Violet pressures Dr Clarkson into going back on his assertion that Sybil would have had a slim chance of living if she had undergone a Caesarean section. He tells Cora and Lord Grantham that Sybil would have surely died either way, and Cora forgives Robert. Anna finds evidence that might prove Bates innocent, but another prisoner threatens his chances of freedom. After Bates threatens the inmate, George Murray is able to get Bates a release date. Daisy is upset that Alfred is paying a lot of attention to Ivy. Ethel prepares a luncheon for the Crawley women and gets Mrs. Patmore to help. When Lord Grantham finds out about the luncheon, he is outraged that Isobel would let a former prostitute serve lunch to his family. However, Cora and the women ignore his protests.

## DISC THREE

**Episode 3-7** (0:47) First Aired: 28 October 2012

**August 1920.** Bates is freed from prison, to the resentment of Thomas. Upon O'Brien's advice, Thomas makes a midnight visit to Jimmy's room and falls into O'Brien's trap. Branson plans to baptize baby Sybil a Catholic. While Lord Grantham discourages Edith's desire to become a journalist, Violet supports her granddaughter. Edith comes to London to meet with a magazine editor, and accepts his offer for a weekly column. Branson's drunkard brother comes to Downton. Matthew continues to confront Lord Grantham about the estate's mismanagement, leading to the resignation of the family's long time agent Jarvis. Tom is appointed as the new family agent upon Violet's suggestion. Miss Sybil Branson is baptized at a Catholic Church in Ripon with the whole Crawley family in attendance.

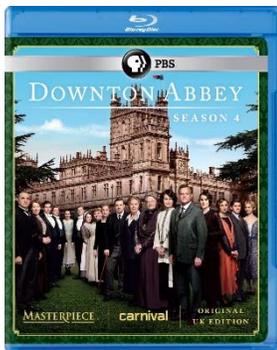
**Episode 3-8** (1:06) First Aired: 4 November 2012

**September 1920.** Downton Abbey's annual cricket match with the village takes place, bringing out Lord Grantham's competitive side. Violet's great niece, Lady Rose MacClare—the daughter of Violet's niece, Susan, Marchioness of Flintshire and her husband, Hugh, Marquess of Flintshire—visits. A trip to London reveals that there is more to Rose than meets the eye: she's a wild girl who likes to drink and party. Carson controls Thomas's future, and Thomas finds an unlikely ally in Bates. Mary and Matthew are keeping secrets from one another.

**Episode 3-9)** (1:32) First Aired: 25 December 2012

**September 1921.** The Crawley family heads north, to Duneagle Castle in Scotland - the ancestral home of The MacClare family - to visit Lady Rose and her warring parents, Susan and Hugh ("Shrimpy"). Bates, Anna, Molesley, and O'Brien also make the trip. Gregson, the man who hired Lady Edith on at the newspaper, tells her that he is going to be in Scotland as well. After Edith informs her family of this Mary and Matthew disagree about Gregson's motives. Gregson later declares his feelings for Edith and hopes to find an ally in Matthew. Shrimpy tells Lord Grantham that he will have to sell his estate because he did not modernize it like Downton and now the money is all gone. Tom remains at Downton with baby Sybil. The staff looks forward to the approaching country fair, and Carson struggles to keep them concentrating on work. A new housemaid, Edna, joins the staff and is quickly fired after Mrs. Hughes discovers her getting too close to Tom. Mrs. Patmore becomes involved in a romance, but it does not last as she realizes he is only interested in her cooking. At the country fair, the Downton staff win the tug of war. Jimmy is nearly robbed after winning money from betting, but is saved by Thomas, who is beaten in his place. They later agree just to be friends. Lady Mary goes into labor early, rushing home to the local hospital to deliver her baby, a son. Matthew soon joins her to meet his heir, but as he drives back to Downton, he is killed in a car accident.

# Downton Abbey Episode Guide



## SEASON FOUR

### DISC ONE

**Episode 4-1** (1:09) First Aired: 22 September 2013

**February 1922.** Six months on, Lady Mary mourns Matthew, and feels little attraction to baby George. Lord Grantham and Branson dispute the management of the estate and struggle to pay death duties. Miss O'Brien suddenly leaves to serve Lady Flintshire, on her way to India. Needing a maid in a hurry, Cora hires former maid Edna, who has trained as a ladies' maid, on the strength of the reference which Tom persuaded Mrs. Hughes to give her; Carson and Mrs. Hughes see trouble ahead, and warn Tom to keep his distance. Mr. Molesley has lost his job following Matthew's death; the Dowager Countess tries to help him by letting him serve at a luncheon for a friend who needs a butler, but her own butler, fearing he is to be replaced,

sabotages his efforts, making him appear clumsy and inexperienced. The servants are excited by Valentine's Day, and Mrs. Patmore struggles to deal with an electric whisk. Tom asks Carson to talk to Mary to bring her out of her shell, to help him implement the changes Matthew started; he does, but she regards it as impertinence. She later apologizes, and has a good cry, and the episode ends with her joining the tenants' luncheon, no longer dressed in black, ready to tackle the problems of the estate.

**Episode 4-2** (0:49) First Aired: 29 September 2013

**March 1922.** A letter is found from Matthew, appointing Mary his sole heir; the Earl is not pleased at this, nor that Mary wants to work with him and Tom on the estate management - he wants to run things on his own. Violet secretly supports Mary, and urges her to learn the business from Tom. Learning that Molesley has fallen on hard times, is working as a laborer, and has debts, Bates gets money from the Dowager Countess, and pretends he's paying back Moseley for an earlier loan. Lady Rose and Anna go to a tea dance in York which turns out to be for the servant class; she dances with an under-gardener, but when another man tries to cut in, a fight ensues, and they have to run for it. The Earl announces that his solicitor has confirmed that Matthew's letter is as good as a Will, and everyone wants him to include Mary in his plans.

**Episode 4-3** (0:49) First Aired: 6 October 2013

**April 1922.** A house party is held, including a performance by Dame Nellie Melba (Kiri Te Kanawa). Carson feels that 'an Australian singer' - however eminent - should not dine with the family, and proposes to restrict her to her room; Cora is outraged, and insists she join them for dinner. Lady Mary renews her acquaintance with the suave Lord Gillingham, who flirts mildly with her. His valet Mr. Green gets too familiar with Anna, and whilst Dame Nellie is singing, he violently assaults and rapes her. Another guest, Lord Sampson, wins heavily at poker; Mr. Gregson, Edith's publisher friend, believes him to be a card sharp, and uses his own skill in that field to get their money back. Tom feels out of place amongst all the toffs; Edna, still pursuing him, takes advantage, and goes to his room. Anna makes Mrs. Hughes promise to not tell anybody, including Bates, about the rape because she is afraid Bates will kill Green and be hanged for it.

### Disc Two

**Episode 4-4** (0:49) First Aired: 13 October 2013

**April 1922.** Tom regrets his dalliance with Edna, who claims she could be pregnant, and wants to force him to marry her. He asks for help from Mrs. Hughes, who discovers Edna used contraception, and warns her to be silent. Her plot foiled, Edna leaves. Lady Rose accompanies Mary and Tom to London where they stay with Lady Rosamund, who has sneakily invited Lord Gillingham to join them. They go to a jazz club, where Rose dances with a black singer, to the discomfort of the others. Anna feels she is no longer worthy of Bates, and avoids him, to his puzzlement. She moves back to the house from their cottage. Edith's friend Mr. Gregson is about to depart for Germany; if he becomes a citizen, he may be able to divorce his insane wife. Lady Rosamund discovers that Edith has been out at night with Gregson, and warns her of the danger to her reputation. Lord Gillingham follows Mary back from London, and asks her to marry him: she refuses, saying she is not yet over Matthew.

**Episode 4-5** (0:49) First Aired: 20 October 2013

**May 1922.** Alfred takes a test to train as a chef at The Ritz, under Escoffier, but is not accepted. Carson considers re-hiring the morose Mr. Molesley if Alfred leaves, but he's not happy about the demotion back to footman; unfortunately he dithers for too long over whether to accept, and loses the chance. Thomas sees Cora's new ladies maid Baxter as a replacement for Miss O'Brien, and wants her to make friends with everyone, and spy on them for him. When a tenant farmer dies owing lots of rent, Mary and Tom want to end the lease and run the farm themselves, but the son appeals directly to The Earl, who lends him money and agrees he can continue to farm. Cora has to persuade a nervous Mrs. Patmore to exchange their ice-box for a refrigerator. Edith visits a London doctor to see if she is pregnant. Tom still feels he doesn't belong, and considers moving to the USA. Bates continues to pressure Anna, and tells Mrs. Hughes he'll resign if she doesn't tell him the truth; she does, but denies it was Mr. Green, saying it was a stranger who broke in. Bates

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talks to Anna, and says he loves her more than ever; they reconcile. When Mrs. Hughes tells him she's happy it's all over, Bates makes it clear that it is not - he still suspects it was Green. The Dowager Countess employs a new gardener as a favor to the kindly Mrs. Crawley, but when she catches him snooping around the house she becomes convinced that he has stolen from her.

**Episode 4-6** (0:49) First Aired: 27 October 2013

**June 1922.** Alfred gets a place on the Ritz cooking course when a winner drops out, and leaves Downton. Carson is not keen for Molesley to replace him, even when he begs for his job back; Mrs. Hughes softens his heart, and Molesley is re-hired. Edith is worried that there is still no news of Gregson, and is told by her doctor that she is pregnant. Bates and Anna go out for a meal at a posh hotel, where a snooty maître d tries to bar them; luckily Cora is there too, and ensures that they are admitted. Isobel finds the item the Dowager Countess thought her gardener had stolen down the side of a chair; she is ready to berate her some more, but is deflated when the Dowager reveals that she has already apologized to the young man, and re-hired him. Rose arranges for the band from the jazz club to play for Robert's birthday; Carson is scandalized to see Jack, the black singer, but later calms down. The Earl and the family are also surprised to varying degrees, but deal with it with their customary good manners. After the party, Mary sees Rose and Jack kissing in the servants' quarters. Government inspectors arrive to check the estate: Mr Napier is another old friend of Mary's; his companion Mr. Blake is an acerbic socialist, who clashes with her - terribly politely, of course.

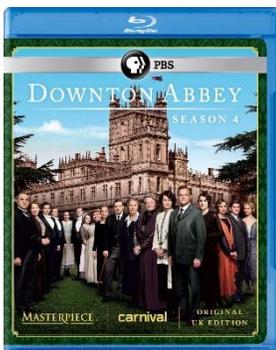
## DISC THREE

**Episode 4-7** (0:49) First Aired: 3 November 2013

**July 1922** Robert leaves for America to bail out Cora's playboy brother. Mary, told by Mrs. Hughes what happened to Anna, persuades him to take Thomas as his valet, leaving Bates to support his wife. The Dowager Countess falls ill with bronchitis, and is nursed by a selfless Isobel, who cheerfully ignores her patient's snippy comments. Mary and Mr Blake visit the newly-arrived pigs; finding them dehydrated, they carry buckets of water together, getting muddy and exhausted, and rather enjoy it. Edith and Rose go to London: Rose continues to romance Jack; Edith decides to have an abortion, but backs out at the last minute. Lord Gillingham and his valet Green arrive, and Mrs. Hughes warns Green that she knows about him. During the servants' dinner, Green is rash enough to reveal that he went to the servants' hall during Dame Nellie's recital, which earns him an angry and thoughtful stare from Bates.

**Episode 4-8** (1:09) First Aired: 10 November 2013

**August 1922** Edith plans to give her baby to a tenant farmer, but Lady Rosamund suggests they go abroad, to Switzerland, and give up the baby there instead. The Dowager Countess grills them, learns the truth, and offers to support Edith with money. Tom sees Rose and Jack in a teashop, and tells Mary, who first warns Rose off, then goes to London to see Jack; he has already decided to break off the relationship, to spare Rose future trouble. Alfred offers to marry Ivy, but she refuses him. Daisy is confused about how she feels, but gives Alfred up, and he leaves for the last time. Miss Baxter befriends the lugubrious Molesley, seeking information for Thomas, but they get to rather like each other. Lord Gillingham, who has broken off his engagement, visits briefly, still pursuing and flirting with Mary; she, learning from Anna of Green's crime, tells him to dismiss the valet, and he agrees. The church bazaar is held, organized by Cora; during it, the Earl arrives back unexpectedly, as does Lord Gillingham, to tell Mary that Green was killed in a road accident in Piccadilly. Anna is disturbed by knowing that her husband had a day off, supposedly in York, and won't say what he did there.



## SEASON FIVE

### DISC ONE

**Episode 5-1** (1:07) First Aired: 4 Jan. 2015

The general Election of 1924 brings a Labour government into power, to the consternation of Robert and Carson, though many of the staff are pleased to have a prime minister from the working class. A village delegation, building a war memorial to local dead, requests Carson, not Robert, to head its committee and the class-bound butler feels awkward, ensuring the earl is made a patron. Tim Drewe tells Lady Edith he knows that Marigold, the daughter he and his wife have adopted, is her child whilst Lady Mary receives another proposal from Tony Gillingham. Violet organizes a lunch party to match Isobel with Lord Merton though Isobel resists and at Robert and Cora's anniversary dinner supports Sarah Bunting and Tom's view that the war was futile. Robert immediately takes a dislike to Sarah. Barrow continues to pressurize Baxter to disclose damning information on John Bates but, encouraged by the adoring Molesley, she tells Cora her secret, that she was imprisoned for theft from an employer, so the plan backfires on Barrow. However, he becomes a hero for rescuing the unhappy Edith, who has accidentally started a fire in her bedroom. Subsequent evacuation leads to the discovery of young footman Jimmy nude in bed with his former employer, saucy guest Lady Anstruther.

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## **Episode 5-2** (1:05) First Aired: 11 Jan. 2015

Jimmy is dismissed and Barrow reveals Baxter's crime to Molesley, who defends her whilst believing that she may have had an accomplice. Tim, against his wife's wishes, suggests that Edith take Marigold on visits to the abbey whilst Sarah, as well as giving Daisy lessons to improve her position, suggests to Tom that his future lies away from Downton. The reactionary Robert still regards her as the enemy though he does succumb to Rose's request to install a wireless. Simon Bricker, an art historian, visits with Charles Blake and flirts with Cora. Mary tells Charles she prefers Tony Gillingham and, armed with contraceptives awkwardly purchased for her by Anna, sets out for a tryst with Tony in a Liverpool hotel. Meanwhile a policeman comes to Downton Abbey to re-investigate the death of Green.

## **Episode 5-3** (1:05) First Aired: 18 Jan. 2015

Mary wakes up in bed with Tony Gillingham after their tryst and returns to Downton, where she learns that a building firm want to buy land for a housing estate, to which Robert objects. Violet discovers from her butler Spratt about Mary and Tony but covers for her before summoning her for an explanation. Mary explains to her that she plans to marry Tony but later tells Tom the truth, that she has no intention. In return he confesses that he is considering a move to America. Following the policeman's visit, Anna is perturbed that her ordeal will be revealed, particularly as the animosity between John and Green comes to light. John gives his alibi that he spent the day in question in York, and Mrs Hughes and Mary agree to collude with this. As Barrow goes to visit his dying father, Baxter tells Cora that she was beguiled into the jewel theft by a cruel footman called Peter Coyle, whom she loved but who fled leaving her to take the blame. Tim's wife wants to bar Edith from seeing Marigold, whilst Rose hosts a benefit for a group of Russian political exiles and Violet is taken aback by one of their number..

## **DISC TWO**

## **Episode 5-4** (1:05) First Aired: 25 Jan. 2015

Violet and Isobel visit the soup kitchen Rose is running for the Russian refugees and Isobel is surprised when Violet confesses that Prince Kuragin once asked her to run away with him. Isobel herself is flattered by Lord Merton's sincere marriage proposal but asks for time to consider whilst Mary travels to London to reject Tony's offer. He is persistent but by chance she meets and dines with Charles Blake. Edith hears that Michael may be alive but in prison in Germany for opposing Fascists, though is upset when the Drewes refuse to let her see Marigold. Bricker's reappearance angers Robert, as does Sarah Bunting's continual challenge to his authority, causing him to ban her from the house. Baxter discovers that Barrow is attempting to 'cure' his homosexuality whilst the police continue to rake up Green's death, especially as, whilst in London with Mary, Anna visited the spot where he was killed.

## **Episode 5-5** (1:05) First Aired: 1 Feb. 2015

Tom breaks off his friendship with Sarah but, on learning that she is moving to another job in Preston and encouraged by Daisy, wishes her well and thanks her for reminding him who he is. Rose meets Atticus Aldridge, a young lawyer of Russian-Jewish descent, who invites her to call on him when she is in London whilst the police interview Anna regarding Green's death, to the interest of Barrow, whose unhealthy complexion is getting noticed. Baxter relates her crime to Molesley and the pair grow closer. Violet's daughter Rosamund visits and the dowager tumbles to the fact that Marigold is Edith's daughter. The two older women want to get her away to France but Edith hopes to take her to London instead. Bricker tries to force himself on Cora but is interrupted by Robert. Whilst Cora resists Robert is still unsure as to whether she is attracted to the art expert.

## **Episode 5-6** (1:05) First Aired: 8 Feb. 2015

Violet has a new maid, Denker, who makes it clear to her what she regards as the limitations of her duties. She accompanies Violet to see Prince Kuragin with news of his wife's whereabouts but the dowager is shocked when Kuragin reveals that he still loves her. An anonymous letter to the police has them questioning Baxter as to whether John ever went to London though she is unable to help. Aware that it was sent by Barrow she is forgiving enough to take him to see Dr Clarkson, who tells him that he cannot 'cure' his sexuality. Robert and Cora reconcile as Robert accepts Mary and Tom's view that they should build decent houses on Downton land whilst John convinces Anna that he did not kill Green. An unused train ticket, evidence to support him, is however in the pocket of a coat donated to charity. Edith learns that Michael Gregson has been murdered by Fascist thugs and that she now owns his publishing company. Most of the family attend a point to point race, where Blake parades new girlfriend Mabel in front of Mary and Rose introduces Atticus's aristocratic parents to the Crawleys. Edith uses the opportunity to take Marigold and flee with her to London.

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## **Episode 5-7** (1:05) First Aired: 15 Feb. 2015

Violet and Rosamund tell an angry Cora Edith's secret, which she promises to keep from Robert. Atticus brings his parents to stay, his mother being charming but his father less than happy that he wants to marry the non-Jewish Rose. Atticus suggests ringing Edith at the publishers but instead Cora goes to London and brings Edith and her daughter home, passing Marigold off as a deceased friend's child. Tom decides to take his daughter to live in America with his cousin whilst John and Anna contemplate running a hotel. They are not wholly satisfied with Baxter's reluctance to give him an alibi, unaware of her past, but both Molesley and Barrow champion her. Blake, about to be posted abroad, helps Mary get rid of Tony's attentions whilst Isobel agrees to marry Lord Merton. However his vile son Larry, seeing Isobel as beneath his class, insults her and the Crawleys and is thrown out of the abbey. Atticus also proposes to Rose.

## **DISC THREE**

## **Episode 5-8** (1:07) First Aired: 22 Feb. 2015

Violet is shaken when Kuragin confesses that he loves her and wishes to remain with her rather than locate his missing wife. The family then goes to London for Rose's wedding where her sour mother Susan makes it clear that she and estranged husband Shrimpy are only putting up a show of togetherness for the wedding and she is as disapproving of the match as Lord Sinderby. On his stag night Atticus is tricked into appearing shirtless with a prostitute and the photo sent to Rose. Sinderby is suspected but Shrimpy knows it is Susan though he tells nobody, Rose however guesses. The ceremony goes ahead after which Anna and John are summoned to Scotland Yard and told that Green was well-known as a sexual predator though they feign innocence. Anna takes part in an identity parade and is released but later arrested, as she was seen at the spot where Green died. The others return to Downton for the unveiling of the war memorial, Robert working out for himself Marigold's parentage.

## **Episode 5-9 A Moorland Holiday** (1:33) First Aired: 1 Mar. 2015

The Crawleys and Tom spend a weekend with the Sinderbys, where a secret from the obnoxious lord's past is revealed and Barrow crosses swords with snobbish butler Stowell. Mary meets the dashing Henry Talbot whilst Edith is introduced to his friend Bertie Pelham. Back at Downton for the Christmas holidays both Tom and Isobel have announcements to make whilst Violet reunites Kuragin with his imperious wife, who is less than grateful. Meanwhile John makes a sacrifice to get Anna bail with Baxter and Molesley determined to prove that both partners are innocent of killing Green and Carson and Mrs Hughes make plans for the future.