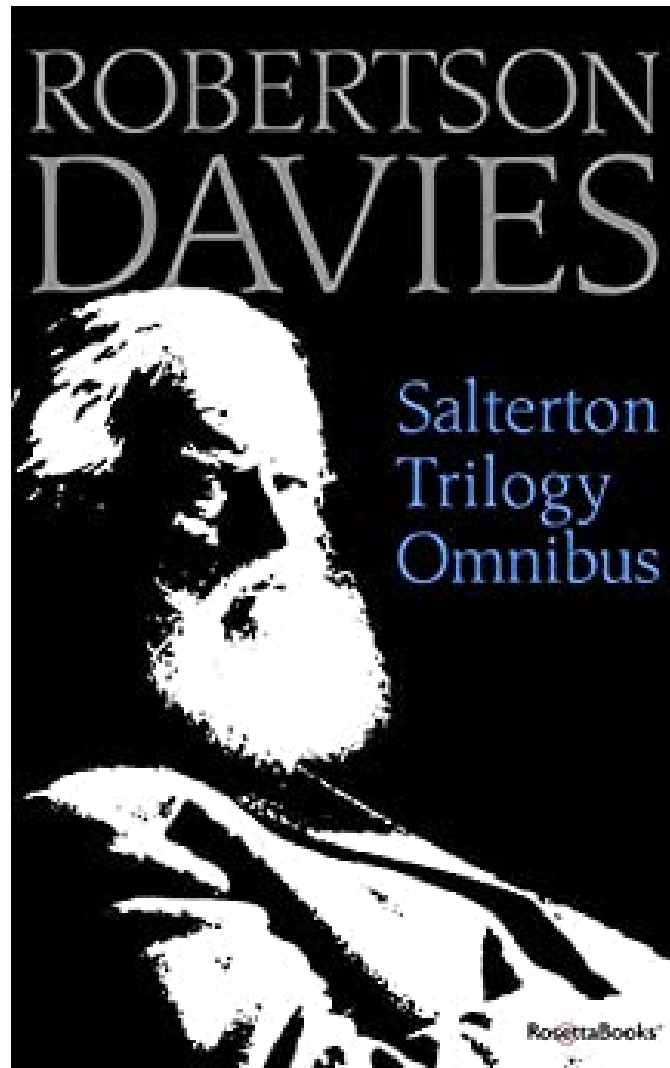


# Salterton Trilogy Omnibus

*by*

**Robertson Davies**



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## Synopsis

Available in one volume, all three books of the award-winning Salterton Trilogy: *Tempest-Tost*, *Leaven of Malice*, and *A Mixture of Frailties*. Visit the quaint town of Salterton, Ontario, and the enigmatic lives of those who inhabit it . . .

*Tempest-Tost*. An amateur production of *The Tempest* provides a colorful backdrop for a hilarious look at unrequited love. Mathematics teacher Hector Mackilwraith, stirred and troubled by Shakespeare's play, falls in love with the beautiful heiress Griselda Webster. When Griselda shows she has plans of her own, Hector despairs on the play's opening night.

*Leaven of Malice*. Winner of the Leacock Medal, awarded for the best in Canadian literary humor. A malicious false engagement notice between locals Solly Bridgetower and Pearl Vambrace leads to permanent changes, for good or ill, in the lives of many citizens of Salterton.

*A Mixture of Frailties*. Louisa Bridgetower, the imposing Salterton matron, has died. The substantial income from her estate is to be used to send an unmarried young woman to Europe to pursue an education in the arts. Monica Gall, an almost entirely unschooled singer soon finds herself in England, as she gradually blossoms from a Canadian rube to a cosmopolitan soprano with a unique—and tragicomic—career.

Praise for the Salterton Trilogy  
“Full of zest, wit and urbanity.”—*The New York Times*  
“High comedy with a spice of satire to give it savor.”—*Montreal Gazette*  
“An exercise in puckish persiflage.”—*Toronto Star*  
“Hilarious, satirical, witty and clever.”—*Edmonton Journal*



## What people say about this book

S. Brunsvold, "... years ago and I still remember it and still recommend it to others. I read this trilogy many years ago and I still remember it and still recommend it to others. Robertson Davies is not on the shelf much, but look for it and buy it. This is a set of novels and they really do not need to read in sequence."

TW, "Great Author. Great author. I loved these stories. Got it used at a bargain price."

R. Quackenbush, "Five Stars. Davies is a marvel!"

Ava, "I love Davies' books. I love Davies' books, but I find that readers either 'get' him or they don't. He writes with wit and a wicked sense of fun, and he weaves his enthusiasms into his trilogies in highly entertaining ways. These enthusiasms include music, song, the theatre (he once worked with Tyrone Guthrie), saints, magic, astrology, Jungian psychology, art, the art of the magician, religion, academia, death, medicine ... No, he isn't Henry James, and you don't read his books for a surgical dissection of the human psyche, but you can't beat him for sheer joie de vivre."

edb, "AN INCONSISTENT ROMP. I enjoyed the Salterton Trilogy immensely. The sheer brilliance of Robertson's language is stunning, carrying the reader effortlessly along. His characters are sharply delineated with a few deftly chosen words. Robertson really knows how to create splendid caricatures that spring alive and kicking to mind. I wondered as I read however whether I should think of the author/narrator as a genial teller of shaggy dog stories in which inconsistencies of plot and character don't matter given the rollicking pace, or whether Robertson just hadn't got down to the nit-picking job of editing. The writing style can also be rather unsettling -- sometimes you feel you're reading a story that could have been told by Dickens, even with some of his characters; or certain characters' turns of speech smack very much of Bertie Wooster whimsy; and occasionally, you're confronted with hard-boiled 1950s (the time of the setting in fact) American comedy. In the end, none of this really matters as the reader is swept along by the sheer good humour and laugh-out-loud one-liners that stream through the trilogy."

susan robinson, "I love all of his writings. Davies is a masterful writer, whose depth of knowledge about art, mythology, history and everything in between, know no bounds. I love all of his writings, he is the master of novel writing."

S. B. Sharp, "Five Stars. Excellent, fast transaction. Product was as described. Very satisfied customer, thank you."



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