

MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM THE SNOW QUEEN

Read by Claire Danes

Michael Cunningham's luminous, compassionate new novel begins with a vision. It's November 2004. Barrett Meeks is walking through Central Park when he is suddenly inspired to look up at the sky, where he sees a pale, translucent light that seems to regard him in a distinctly godlike way. Although Barrett doesn't believe in visions—or in God, for that matter—he can't deny what he's seen. At the same time, Tyler, Barrett's older brother, is trying to write a wedding song for Beth, his wife-to-be, who is seriously ill. Barrett, turns unexpectedly to religion while Tyler grows convinced that only drugs can release his creative powers. And, as Beth tries to face her own mortality, she is aided by her friend Liz, a cynical but perversely maternal older woman. In subtle, lucid prose, Cunningham demonstrates a profound empathy for his conflicted characters and a singular understanding of what lies at the core of the human soul. *The Snow Queen*, beautiful and heartbreaking, comic and tragic, proves once again that Michael Cunningham is one of the great novelists of this generation.

Michael Cunningham is the author of six novels, including *A Home at the End of the World*, *Flesh and Blood*, *The Hours* (winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award and the Pulitzer Prize), *Specimen Days*, and *By Nightfall*, as well as *Land's End: A Walk in Provincetown*. He lives in New York.

Claire Danes is a multiple Emmy and Golden Globe Award winning actress. Her many celebrated performances include *Homeland's* Carrie Mathison and starring roles in the films *Romeo+Juliet*, *Shopgirl*, and *Temple Grandin*. She shares a SAG nomination with the cast of *The Hours* and narrated Margaret Atwood's *A Handmaid's Tale*, which won an Audie award for fiction.



Running Time: Approx. 7 Hours • Unabridged

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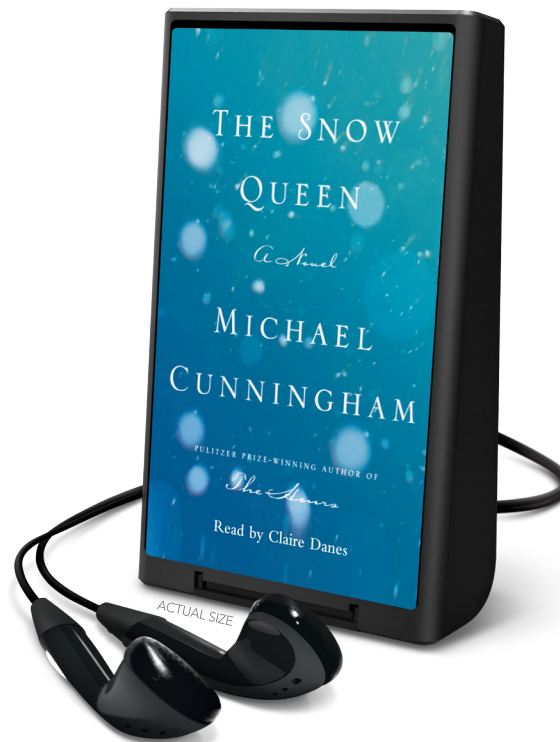
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