



**NAXOS**  
AudioBooks

NON-  
FICTION



Jan Morris

# **PAX BRITANNICA**

## The Climax of an Empire

Read by **Roy McMillan**

**PAX BRITANNICA • 2**

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## CD 1

1	Introduction read by Jan Morris	3:51
2	Pax Britannica – The Climax of an Empire	7:07
3	Within two minutes we are told...	4:31
4	The Diamond Jubilee crystallized the new conception of Empire...	6:56
5	Most Englishmen asked what it was all about...	5:31
6	To other nations the imperial methods often seemed...	6:58
7	The British had invented submarine cables...	6:03
8	The movement of people out of the British islands...	6:29
9	As for the flora and fauna...	6:50
10	Beneath a low kopje on the Makabusi River...	6:12
11	The Company had been, it is true, under a cloud...	4:00
12	But far lower even than the vagrants in the social scale...	2:35
13	The infatuated British public did not greatly concern itself...	4:35
14	Trade was a steadier imperial impulse...	7:07

**Total time on CD 1: 78:52**

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## CD 2

1	Such was the profit-mechanism of Empire...	6:15
2	Many years before Dr Livingstone had laid another trail...	4:22
3	The evangelical mood was now past its prime...	4:14
4	And there was one more stimulus to splendour...	6:02
5	Another cause of racialism was fundamentalist religion...	5:06
6	The British distrusted the product of this system...	7:26
7	We have been speaking of the general...	6:23
8	Like many another island fortress...	6:17
9	Socially St Lucia tended to dwell upon a past...	5:19
10	'No Caesar or Charlemagne,' Disraeli once said...	5:29
11	Below Parliament, and subject to its Secretaries of State...	4:29
12	It was an imperial maxim that the administrators of Empire...	5:24
13	All over the Empire these administrators...	6:51
14	Some of the greatest British jurists had presided...	5:29

**Total time on CD 2: 79:14**

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### CD 3

1	Consider the island of Ascension...	6:14
2	The imperial complexity was all too apparent...	2:52
4	When Kipling first went east from India...	7:56
5	By now the merchants of Empire, no less than the governors...	5:18
5	Among the white settlers everywhere...	5:15
6	The age of the great explorers was almost over...	4:00
7	There were only three British soldiers whose personalities...	6:43
8	Two politicians of very different stamp set the pace...	6:51
9	Northward from the Punjabi village of Kalka...	6:21
10	The British Government in India was a despotism...	5:27
11	The Viceroy knew that his was a unique imperial trust.	6:11
12	The New Imperialism was born out of a medley of moods...	6:43
13	They liked their creature comforts...	5:06

**Total time on CD 3: 75:07**

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## CD 4

1	Throughout the length and breadth of the Empire...	5:36
2	They had developed to a new pitch of finesse...	6:06
4	Much of the driving force of imperialism...	6:18
5	But there was to this great communal exploit...	5:31
5	It was by their buildings that earlier Empires were most...	7:37
6	One day in 1836 Colonel William Light...	6:10
7	The British had a genius for parks.	5:02
8	Most of the statues in the British Empire...	5:58
9	The difficulty about imperialism as a literary motif...	4:52
10	Yet the third of our writers, a short-sighted journalist...	4:51
11	In literature as in art, the British settlers overseas...	3:05
12	Among the waters of the Indus Basin...	6:34
13	But this was the railway age – its tail-end in Britain...	6:49
14	They were making a start with tropical medicine.	4:14

**Total time on CD 4: 78:50**

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## CD 5

1	In 1897 the most-frequented route into the goldfields...	5:44
2	Canada was still a colony of the British Empire...	4:34
4	The first Europeans in Canada were the French...	7:30
5	The Pax Britannica was not a boastful fraud.	6:04
5	But also at the Queen's command stood another army...	6:00
6	The great shrine of the epic...	5:55
7	To every right-thinking Englishman the Army was only...	5:01
8	In matériel, too, the Royal Navy was deficient in some...	3:53
9	Let us ourselves, guide in hand, wander around London...	7:28
10	The New Imperialism was too new, and too sudden...	5:46
11	A shifting population of colonials moved through London.	4:15
12	But cause and effect were often muddled...	5:23
13	By Telford's road or Stephenson's railway line...	4:57
14	The British in Ireland did not think of themselves...	6:14

**Total time on CD 5: 78:52**

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## CD 6

1	Of all the cities the British had created across the waters...	4:58
2	Where there was not actual opposition...	4:40
4	If precedents were anything to go by...	4:56
5	Some of its foreign critics were merely jealous.	4:28
5	The fashionable New Imperialist theory...	2:52
6	Was it a Christian Empire?	3:36
7	Buried away among it all was a conviction...	3:57
8	The British missed no opportunity to demonstrate the wealth...	5:35
9	In these years African chiefs of savage splendour...	4:25
10	But if in some corners of the British Empire...	4:04
11	Queen Victoria went home happy on her Jubilee Day.	5:10

**Total time on CD 6: 48:48**

**Total time on CDs 1-6: 7:19:43**

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## Recording the Classics: from Ancient to Modern

Naxos AudioBooks established its reputation as the leading label for classics on audiobooks with a series of award-winning recordings, both abridged and unabridged. The novels of Charles Dickens read by Anton Lesser, Sean Barrett and David Timson present full Technicolor characterisation; Jane Austen is elegantly and memorably served by Juliet Stevenson and Emilia Fox; Jim Norton's readings of the novels of James Joyce, especially *Ulysses*, are milestones in audiobook history.

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The list of non-fiction classics includes shortened versions of Gibbon's magisterial *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Vasari's *Lives of the Artists* and Jan Morris's *Venice*. Among the texts written for Naxos AudioBooks are *The History of English Poetry*, *Confucius – In a Nutshell*, *The French Revolution – In a Nutshell*, the *Opera Explained* series, and biographies of composers.





**Jan Morris** was born in 1926 of a Welsh father and an English mother, and educated at Lancing and Christ Church, Oxford. After military service during World War Two (which first took her to Venice) she spent ten years as a foreign correspondent for *The Times* and *The Guardian*, before becoming a full-time writer in the 1960s. Since then she has written some 40 books of history, travel, biography and fiction. She lives at the top left corner of Wales.



**Roy McMillan** is a director, writer, actor and abridger. For Naxos Audiobooks he has read *The Body Snatcher and Other Stories*, *Bulldog Drummond*, *The French Revolution – In a Nutshell*, *Cathedrals – In a Nutshell* and the introductions to works by Nietzsche and the Ancient Greeks. He has directed readings of Hardy, Hopkins, Kipling, Milton and Blake; Austen, Murakami, Conrad and Bulgakov, among many others; and has written podcasts and sleevenotes, as well as biographies of Milton and Poe. He has also directed plays for BBC Radio 3 and 4.

## Credits

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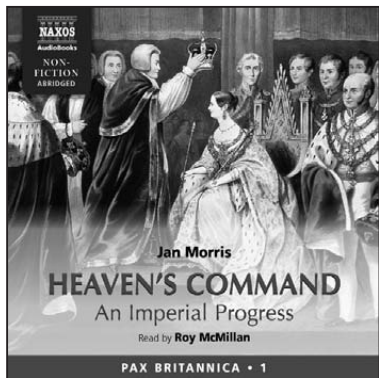
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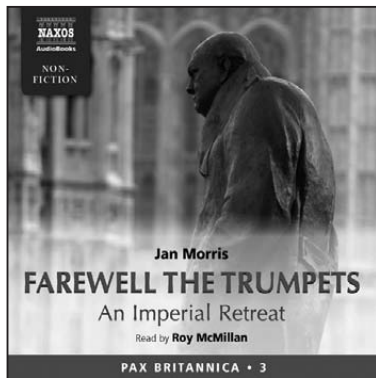
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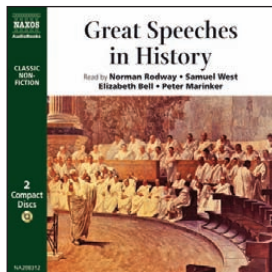
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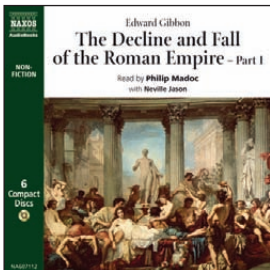
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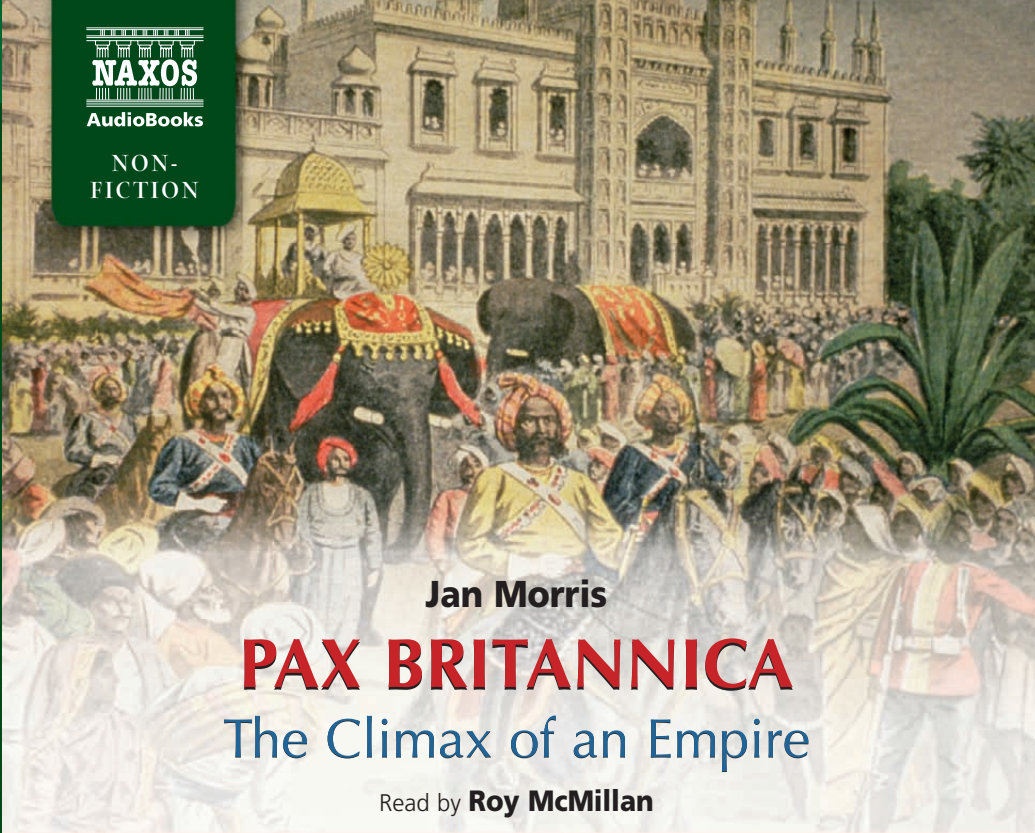
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### The Climax of an Empire

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The *Pax Britannica* trilogy is Jan Morris's masterly telling of the British Empire from the accession of Queen Victoria to the death of Winston Churchill. It is a towering achievement: informative, accessible, entertaining and written with all her usual bravura.

*Pax Britannica*, the second volume, is a snapshot of the Empire at the Diamond Jubilee of 1897. It looks at what made up the Empire – from adventurers and politicians to communications and infrastructure, as well as anomalies and eccentricities. This humane overview also examines the muddle of jumbled ideologies behind it, and how they affected its 370 million people.



**Jan Morris** is a leading historian and travel writer. She has spent ten years working as a foreign correspondent and has written some 40 books of history, travel, biography and fiction, including *Venice*.



**Roy McMillan** is a director, writer, actor and abridger. For Naxos AudioBooks he has directed many readings, written podcasts and sleevenotes, and read titles such as *The Body Snatcher and Other Stories*, *Bulldog Drummond* and *The French Revolution – In a Nutshell*.

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Total time  
CDs 1–6  
7:19:43

ABRIDGED

6 CDs

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