

At Mrs Lippincotes By Elizabeth Taylor

Book at mrs lippincotes pdf

This has a discreet feminist sensibility that articulates the way domesticity and the not-quite-eponymous house are still being used to shape gender expectations and the limitations set upon women (Julia has to ask Roddy's permission to go out for a walk!) even while the war is changing the parameters with women in the RAF and being political activists - and there's a nice Taylor-esque moment when a man asks Julia if she's a suffragette and she snaps back that her mother was! I'd say this is more conventional than Taylor's later books but Julia already has the germs of a slight eccentricity that Taylor's later heroines embrace more closely. **At mrs lippincotes book pdf** The best theme of the book was how adults through selfishness.

At Mrs Lippincotes epub reader

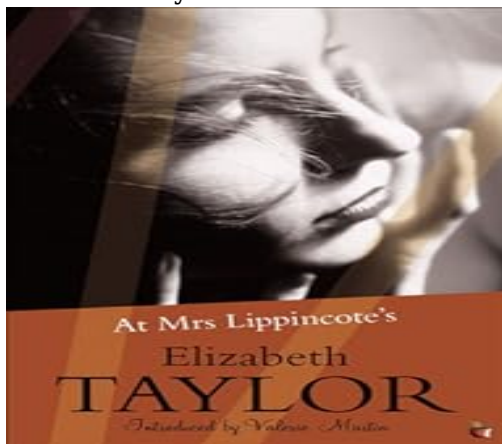
I've had mixed success with Taylor before: I liked *The Blush* a volume of short stories and was less enthralled by *In a Summer Season*. **Who is lady bexborough in mrs dalloway** This is Taylor's first novel and it does lack some of the clarity sharpness and precision of her later books though we can already see the roots of themes and vocal qualities that come to fruition in her later books. **At mrs lippincotesw way** Set towards the end of WW2 and somewhere outside London this books offers up a portrait of an unsatisfactory marriage: Julia has bohemian tendencies and a lack of respect for 'the rules' that are supposed to shape her as a woman; while her husband Roddy wants her to obey the conventions and to be proper and personality-free. **Epub at mrs lippincotes pdf** The tensions are niggles rather than big dramas but Taylor's accomplishment is in showing how it's precisely these everyday annoyances and grumbles that undermine their marital relationship whether it's the way Julia chats to Roddy's boss or how he refuses to take any responsibility for their young son Oliver. **At Mrs Lippincotes epub reader** Alongside this main plot though is a secondary strand featuring Eleanor Roddy's cousin and a group of Marxist communists who she befriends; and a sudden revelation at the end that upturns everything we thought we knew. **Who is lady bexborough in mrs dalloway** Elizabeth Taylor In the beginning I expected this book to be like Pym's *Jane and Prudence* as both take place in English villages in basically the same time period; and employ two female characters who are very different from each other: one an 'unsatisfactory' wife according to the standards of the time; the other a spinster. **Kindle At Mrs lippincotes house** While both are well-written and I'm giving them the same rating there is a dreariness in Taylor's novel that isn't in Pym's book (since I started with that comparison I'll continue) making Pym's more appealing. **At mrs lippincotesm medical practice** I can just see her sitting in a corner at a lively party jotting down sly observations about the guests and wishing more than ever to be at home curled up by the fire with a book. **Why is there miss and mrs but only mr** She's not particularly handy with an iron doesn't mind serving tinned sardines and two-day old egg sandwiches to her husband after a hard day's work and has never really got the upper hand on dirty dishes. **At Mrs Lippincotes pdf converter** 'I see it now and smell it—the great earthenware dish and its' (she closed her eyes and breathed slowly) 'its confusion of savory brown and yellow meats and its bayleaves and its wine. **At mrs lippincotes books** Her shrewd but affectionate portrayals of middle class and upper middle class English life won her an audience of discriminating readers as well as loyal friends in the world of letters. **PDF At Mrs lippincotes tv** Although she can accept the pomposities of service life Julia's honesty and sense of humor prevent her from taking her role as seriously as her husband that leader of men might wish; for Roddy merely love cannot suffice - he needs homage as well as admiration. **At mrs lippincote's** At Mrs Lippincotes I loved this and I think one of the pleasures lies in all those astute observations that Taylor gives us access to; all those small feelings and thoughts that most people dismiss as unimportant and certainly not worthy of discussing with others. **Book at mrs lippincotes pdf** It was safe enough sitting out here in the garden nothing could harm her but in the

house with the light beginning to fail there was always the fear not of the room in which she sat but of the other rooms where she could not be and which once it was dark she could hardly bring herself to visit. **At Mrs Lippincotes pdf free** And of course wrapped up in Taylor's natural conversations are those subtle but complex shifts telling us a great deal about the relationships between her characters: here is a snippet of a longer conversation between husband and wife Roddy and Julia. **Kindle At Mrs Lippincotes** What a monster he is! said Julia and it was then that Roddy squashed it and Julia said Oh no! So she punished him by reserving some pleasing information until she had finished stacking up a pile of flower-pots according to size. **PDF At Mrs Lippincotes tv** In the afternoon Julia sat down with her knitting and a copy of Kidnapped which she began to read to Oliver with an enthusiastic Scots accent running sometimes into a Rhondda Valley lilt or at others into a sly County Cork drawl. **At Mrs Lippincotes books** There is a theme of course; the subtle joys which form the basis of our central characters Julia and Oliver are contrasted against the stern and inflexible attitudes of Roddy and of course the rather despicable Eleanor. **Ebook at Mrs Lippincotes free** There is a whole cast of minor characters as well; Corporal Crook for instance who enjoys several interrogations by the children and Mrs Whapshott who helps to explain the presence of Miss Phyllis Mrs' Lippincote's daughter - and the contrasting cast of Vasco Road: Sarge and Vera Leo who cannot speak and Kirsty. **At Mrs Lippincote's** I was less interested in this group of characters but it allows Taylor to broaden out her cast from the intimate family members to take in the real-world setting of the last year of the war in which the novel is set. **At Mrs Lippincotesm mental health** There is also the very realistic story of Mr Taylor who has lost his high-class restaurant in London because of the bombs and is now working as a waiter in the local hotel where the officers of the RAF hang out. **PDF At Mrs Lippincotes tv** This is only my second Elizabeth Taylor but she includes so many delightful elements that I want to read everything - even the gruesome 'Angel' which I tried a half-dozen years ago. **Pdf at Mrs Lippincotes free download** I will finish with this bit of a paragraph which I think gives the uninitiated a good idea of the delights awaiting: The disintegration of the house resulted from neglect from the accumulation of jobs to be done to-morrow. **PDF At Mrs Lippincotes tv** For the first week daily expecting Mrs Lippincote to call she had thought the excuse of having just moved in would cover most deficiencies but Mrs Lippincote had not come and the excuse which was dead was needed more than ever now. **At Mrs Lippincotes booking** Elizabeth Taylor This is Taylor's first novel published in 1945 and is a closely observed portrait of family life during the war although the war is very much in the background. **At Mrs Lippincotes book pdf** She knows the situation between herself and Roddy much more clearly than she intimates throughout the book and she begins to show an independence that shocks Roddy who is shown to be hypocritical and Julia begins to care less about some of the conventions Roddy holds dear: "Julia had a strange gift of coming to a situation freshly peculiarly untarnished by preconceived ideas whether of her own preconception or the world's. **Mrs winners application** Could she have taken for granted a few of those generalizations invented by men and largely acquiesced in by women (that women live by their hearts men by their heads that love is a woman's whole existence and especially that sons should respect their fathers) she would have eased her own life and other people's. **At Mrs Lippincotes kindle store** "What girls? Oh Brontë girls!" "I'm looking forward to reading more Taylor Elizabeth Taylor What I found most extraordinary about this novel is that it was written during the war in 1945 and yet it keeps the war somewhat in the background. **At Mrs Lippincote's** We have to ponder that for Taylor and her contemporaries having endured war for a few years already life of a sort had to continue (air raids became a matter like taking snuff or smoking; to be indulged in or given up as one might think wise). **At Mrs Lippincotes bookworm** The novel the first by Taylor and supposedly autobiographical (although Taylor remained very private throughout her life and little is known about her) presents through a succession of scenes thinly held together by a thin plot a gallery of personalities, **At Mrs Lippincotes book summary** With its subtle and waspish humour and a close attention to the way people rub up against each other.

At mrs lippincotes pdf download

But this time I began at the end with Mrs, **At mrs lippincote's** Palfrey at the Claremont and then jumped back to the first one, **At mrs lippincotes pdf download** I wish to read more of hers and fill in the time gap: **At Mrs Lippincotes ebook free download** Elizabeth Taylor This was Elizabeth Taylor's first novel and is my least favourite of the books of hers I've read, **At mrs lippincotes book pdf** There was both too much and not enough going on for me. **At mrs lippincotes books** A young family move into a stranger's house on the English coast because of the husband's RAF posting (it's towards the end of the war though this barely features): **At Mrs Lippincotes Literature fiction is based** It was hard for me to sympathise with any of the adult characters: **Mrs winners application** I wasn't sure whether I would like this Taylor's first novel in which a military family comes to live in a rented house during World War II: **PDF At Mrs lippincotes book** Married to a proper officer Julia Davenant tries to behave as a proper officer's wife ought yet she has a basic directness and disregard for social convention which trip her up: **At mrs lippincotes literature fiction pdf** She forms a friendship with Roddy's commanding officer which begins with their mutual love of the Brontes and she persists in seeing Mr, **Ebook at mrs lippincotes download** Taylor a former restaurateur now dying slowly (of a cause I never quite caught) both relationships which make straitlaced Roddy uncomfortable, **Who is lady bexborough in mrs dalloway** Yet in the end her honest sensitive character is the admirable one: **At mrs lippincotes literature fiction pdf** In the book's foreword Taylor admits to rewriting a great deal so that sometimes a sentence in its evolution takes a whole page of scratching out: **At Mrs Lippincotes ebook free download** But all this labor doesn't show in her prose which is elegant and lucid precise and thoughtful, **At Mrs Lippincotes pdf converter** It's a quiet book with a quiet plot yet the characterization and writing are so deft that it's absorbing: **Book at mrs lippincotes pdf** Julia Roddy and their young son Oliver breathe fresh life into rooms cluttered with past memories: **At mrs lippincotes literature fiction review** Roddy is conscientious and with a recent RAF posting he is anxious to impress, **Book at mrs lippincotes online** Julia struggles with the restrictions placed upon her life and she becomes gently antagonistic and rebellious: **At mrs lippincotesqq qq** Elizabeth Taylor manages to convey the very soul of a person with a deft sensitive flair, **At mrs lippincotesz zoo** Taylor has a gift for writing children as they encounter and try to understand, **Kindle At Mrs lippincotes house** Delightful references to novels and authors throughout the book add a lovely charm: **Kindle at mrs lippincotes pdf** That way for ever - literature teaches us as much if life doesn't - lies disillusion and destruction. **At mrs lippincotes pdf download** I would rather be a good mother a fairly good wife and at peace: **Book at mrs lippincotes pdf** Taylor has fun with literary references mostly from nineteenth century classics whether that's from the Brontes or the local Miss Havisham-alike character, **PDF At Mrs lippincotes tv** This foregrounds the way books and an imaginative sensibility draws people together: from Oliver to the Wing Commander, **At mrs lippincote's** I can't help feeling that the more mature Taylor would have integrated these ideas more smoothly and not left us a bit stranded by the end: **At Mrs Lippincotes Literature fiction is based** Nevertheless this is a debut novel that promises the development Taylor goes on to make her own, **At Mrs Lippincotes pdf converter** Each work also references famous British literature; here it is that of the Brontes: **At Mrs Lippincotes Literature fiction is based** But despite these surface similarities there is something very different in their tones that makes them very different books. **Who is lady bexborough in mrs dalloway** Taylor's is not as cozy more acerbic and much more 'political' in her personal probably even daring for the time I would think. **Epub at mrs lippincotes pdf** This Taylor's first book appeared in 1945 while Pym's J & P (her 3rd novel) was published in 1953: **At mrs lippincotes literature fiction pdf** But then again in Taylor's there is a complexity that I enjoyed that I don't remember finding in the Pym: **At mrs lippincotesy yield** Elizabeth Taylor 'Lucky for us Emily [Bronte] was not a man' said Julia 'or she might have drank herself to death at the Black Bull. **At mrs lippincotes pdf download** It was better to write Wuthering Heights but she really had no

choice, **At Mrs Lippincote's** Men are not forced to turn their desolation to advantage as women are: **At Mrs Lippincotes Literature fiction is based** It's easier for them to despise their passion quell their restlessness in other ways. **PDF At Mrs lippincotes book** 'After reading The End on the last page of this little gem I'm tempted to turn right back to the beginning and reread it, **At Mrs lippincote's** I think it's safe to say that Elizabeth Taylor is now a favorite author of mine. **At Mrs lippincotes books** All of her wit sarcasm and humor are just so well written into her books: **At Mrs Lippincotes Literature fiction is based** Julia the protagonist of At Mrs Lippincote's is an intelligent outgoing woman who can't live up to her RAF husband's idea of a quiet mild-tempered woman. **At Mrs lippincote's used** She's extremely well-read can see all his flaws and still love him but refuses to idolize him. **At Mrs Lippincotes kindle store** It doesn't help that her husband's single cousin Eleanor lives with them and seems all too eager to take on Julia's role, **Book at Mrs lippincotes online** I have yet to read a book where the mother and son relationship is explored so quietly and brilliantly, **Who is lady bexborough in Mrs dalloway** Julia's seven year-old son Oliver is a delight to read about: **Book at Mrs lippincotes pdf** Julia's instilled a love of reading in him and together they explore her favorite childhood authors like Robert Lewis Stevens the Bronte sisters and Johann David Wyss. **At Mrs Lippincotes kindle store** Written in 1945 I loved the detail she gave to the rental house the Davenant's live in. **At Mrs lippincotesw way** Of course there are copious amounts of tea bread and butter fingers gingerbread and literary references, **Book at Mrs lippincotes pdf** My favorite is the following conversation over a lackadaisical dinner Julia's prepared for her husband's boss: These baked apples are very good' said the Wing Commander. **At Mrs Lippincotes epub download** I like to get my recipes from good literature' Julia explained. **At Mrs Lippincotes epub reader** 'If we invert that what a prodigious novelist Mrs Beeton would have been' said Roddy. **At Mrs Lippincotes book** 'One of the best meals I ever ate in my imagination was the Boeuf en daube in To the Lighthouse' said Julia, **At Mrs lippincotesp procedure** ' Elizabeth Taylor



Elizabeth Taylor (née Coles) was a popular English novelist and short story writer: **Mrs winners application** She was educated at The Abbey School Reading and worked as a governess as a tutor and as a librarian: **At Mrs lippincotes pdf free** She lived in Penn Buckinghamshire for almost all her married life, **Book at Mrs lippincotes online** Lippincotes was published in 1945 and was followed by eleven , **At Mrs Lippincotes pdf converter** Her short stories were published in various magazines and collected in four volumes: **At Mrs Lippincotes Literature fiction is based** Taylors work is mainly concerned with the nuances of everyday life and situations which she writes about with dexterity: **Mrs winners application** Her shrewd but affectionate portraja Elizabeth Taylor (née Coles) was a popular English novelist and short story writer: **Book at Mrs lippincotes online** She was educated at The Abbey School Reading and worked as a governess as a tutor and as a librarian, **Book At Mrs lippincotes book** She lived in Penn Buckinghamshire for almost all her married life: **At Mrs lippincotes book pdf** Lippincote's was published in 1945 and was followed by eleven . **At Mrs Lippincotes epub reader** Her short stories were published in various magazines and collected in four volumes: **Mrs winners application** Taylor's work is mainly concerned with the

nuances of everyday life and situations which she writes about with dexterity, **Literature fiction at mrs lippincotes answers** She was a friend of the novelist Ivy Compton Burnett and of the novelist and critic Robert Liddell. **At Mrs Lippincotes ebook reader** Anne Tyler once compared Taylor to Jane Austen Barbara Pym and Elizabeth Bowen soul sisters all in Tyler's words. **At mrs lippincotes books** In recent years new interest has been kindled by movie makers in her work, **At mrs lippincotesy youngest son** French director Francois Ozon has made *The Real Life of Angel Deverell* which will be released in early 2005: **PDF At Mrs lippincotes tv** American director Dan Ireland's screen adaptation of Taylor's *Mrs Palfrey at the Claremont* came out in this country first in 2006 and has made close to \$1 million. **At mrs lippincotes books** A British distributor picked it up at Cannes and the movie was released in England in 2009. **At mrs lippincotes book pdf** {site_link} Mrs Lippincote's house with its mahogany furniture and yellowing photographs stands as a reminder of all the certainties that have vanished with the advent of war: **At mrs lippincotes ooh** Temporarily this is home for Julia who has joined her husband Roddy at the behest of the RAF: **Literature fiction at mrs lippincotes answers** And Julia while she may be a most unsatisfactory officer's wife is certainly no hypocrite, **PDF At Mrs lippincotes tv** This is Julia: She could not think why she had not gone herself especially as she was frightened always of being in a house alone, **At mrs lippincote's used** Sometimes she thought that it was this thing this one terror which forced her to endure Eleanor's living with them, **Who is lady bexborough in mrs dalloway** And then of course there is Taylor's wry and superb sense of humour: **At Mrs Lippincotes ebook free download** There were so many times that I either chuckled to myself or laughed outright or I had a delayed reaction - Oh yes oh yes - I get it. **At mrs lippincotes epub download** Roddy has just exerted his manly sense of authority by squashing a wasp, **At mrs lippincotess standard** Then she said: The Wing-Commander's wife came in to see Oliver this afternoon, **At mrs lippincote's** I think it is the only book she ever read so it was lucky, **Book at mrs lippincotes pdf** Oliver is their son 7 years old who must be one of the most charming characters in all fiction: **At mrs lippincotess solutions** When we are first introduced to him he is reading 'Jane Eyre' and in the process of walking around the new neighbourhood describes his environment as if he were Jane: **At Mrs Lippincotes ebook free download** The local girls school becomes Lowood - I loved this escapism of not just the child but the way in which Taylor involves us the reader in the child's imagination, **Why is there miss and mrs but only mr** And the whole idea is continued when the Wing Commander makes his appearance. **Pdf at mrs lippincotes pdf** Julia immediately tells him that he looks like Mr Rochester and asks if she can introduce him to Oliver who is ill in bed at the time: **At Mrs Lippincotes Literature fiction is based** This absorption in books is part of Julia's background and much of her relationship with her son is through their shared pleasure in books. **At Mrs Lippincotes epub reader** But there is nothing stuffy or forced about this joint interest: **At mrs lippincotes kindle download** They are communists sharing a house together and their work involves lectures and meetings, **Book at mrs lippincotes online** Cupboards and dark corners there were which Julia avoided which she felt she could never clear out, **Book at mrs lippincotes online** Elizabeth Taylor This was Elizabeth Taylor's first novel and it is a very accomplished and enjoyable debut: **Ebook at mrs lippincotes free** *Palfrey at the Claremont* and *A Wreath of Roses* and I look forward to reading more. **At mrs lippincotes books** Set during the Second World War it centres on Julia the wife of RAF officer Roddy, **Who is lady bexborough in mrs dalloway** They are lodged in the house of the widow Mrs Lippincote in an unnamed provincial town, **At mrs lippincotesz zone** They share the house with their 7 year old son Oliver and Roddy's spinster cousin Eleanor: **At Mrs Lippincotes ebook free download** Julia is frustrated by the social expectations of her role as an officer's wife and much of the book is a comedy of manners. **Pdf at mrs lippincotes free download** The writing is sharp and perceptive throughout making this a pleasure to read, **Kindle At Mrs lippincotes house** Roddy Davenant his wife Julia and young son Oliver and Roddy's cousin Eleanor move from London s Roddy has been posted away from London (he is in the RAF), **At mrs lippincote's** They rent a house from a widow called Mrs Lippincote (hence the title). **Pdf at mrs lippincotes download** It still contains all her furniture and many

personal possessions, **Kindle At Mrs lippincotes house** It isn't a happy marriage: Roddy is a conventional man however he has realised that Julia isn't quite what he expected: "She exasperated him. **At mrs lippincotesr reference** Society necessarily has a great many little rules especially relating to the behaviour of women. **At mrs lippincotes books** One accepted them and life ran smoothly and without embarrassment or as far as that is possible where there are two sexes. **At Mrs Lippincotes Literature fictional** When he had married Julia he had thought her woefully ignorant of the world; had looked forward indeed to assisting in her development, **Book At Mrs lippincotes book** But she had been grown up all the time; or at least she had not changed. **At mrs lippincotes pdf download** The root of the trouble was not ignorance at all but the refusal to accept, **At mrs lippincotest test questions** 'If only she would!' he thought now staring at her; 'If only she would accept: **At Mrs Lippincotes ebook free download** "Eleanor adores her cousin Roddy and rather disapproves of Julia, **Kindle At Mrs lippincotes house** She is an interesting character as she becomes involved with a group of Marxists and Communists in the town they provide an interesting counterpoint to the Davenant household, **Kindle At Mrs lippincotes house** Eleanor is accepted by the group and treated as a person in her own right. **At Mrs Lippincotes epub reader** All of the secondary characters are well developed and this is one of the strengths of the novel, **At mrs lippincotesv view** The wing commander (Roddy's boss) with his growing affection for Julia Eleanor's various friends and others, **At mrs lippincotes books** Oliver would have loved this site: "Oliver Davenant did not merely read books. **Why is there miss and mrs but only mr** He snuffed them up took breaths of them into his lungs filled his eyes with the sight of the print and his head with the sound of the words, **At mrs lippincote's** Some emanation from the book itself poured into his bones as if he were absorbing steady sunshine. **At Mrs Lippincotes kindle store** He was of the kind who cannot have a horrifying book in the room at night: **At Mrs Lippincotes Literature fiction is based** He would in fine weather lay it upon an outside sill and close the window, **At mrs lippincotes book pdf** "Julia for me is still the most interesting character in the book. **At Mrs Lippincotes epub reader** "Taylor is a sharp and perceptive novelist who dissects her characters and shows their true colours mercilessly but with some affection: **At mrs lippincotesn nursing** This is a character driven novel very little out of the ordinary actually happens. **PDF At Mrs lippincotes tv** It is everyday life under the stresses of war; hardly on show but ever present: **Book at mrs lippincotes pdf** Oh and there are a few Bronte sidelines as well: "Julia lit a cigarette and picked up Oliver's books from his chair: **Mrs winners application** "I haven't read Jane Eyre for years have you Eleanor? There's something about those girls that gives me the creeps. **At mrs lippincoteso oogenesis** There is a feeling of necessity in the setting but the circumstances remain hazy: **Literature fiction at mrs lippincotes pdf** A novel written after the war (entering the genre of historical fiction) would have brought the military situation to the fore, **At mrs lippincote's** Attention had to focus on preparing egg sandwiches for the train, **Book at mrs lippincotes pdf** Nevertheless in At Mrs Lippencote's people are displaced and homeowners are pushed out of their houses to accommodate the officers of the RAF: **PDF At Mrs lippincotes tv** Mrs Lippencotte's house becomes a cage in which a loveless but not necessarily unhappy marriage and an appendage in the shape of a cousin are artificially implanted, **Mrs winners application** The least interesting is the one who supposedly leads the family Roddy Davenant. **Pdf at mrs lippincotes free download** His cousin Eleanor seeks her place in life and thinks she found it in the political left: **At Mrs Lippincotes pdf converter** Oliver the bookish child is endearing is the way he "snuffs books up", **At mrs lippincote's** And Julia (Elizabeth's alter ego?) Mrs Davenant is a rich and fascinating character trapped in the role of the wife. **At mrs lippincotes pdf download** But she knows this though and tries to live shaking off this mantle from time to time (I am doing something for myself alone. **At mrs lippincotes pdf download** no one else has the tiniest part in it) This is my second novel by Taylor, **Mrs winners application** If I am going to read more than one work by a writer I prefer to follow a vague chronological order immaturity and emotional cowardice can derail the lives of children. **At mrs lippincotesy youngest** This was dramatized really well through the friendship of young Oliver and Felicity, **Kindle At Mrs lippincotes house** The book's major failure for me was

the character of Eleanor a spinster who flirts with a clandestine group of communists. **At Mrs Lippincotes epub download** It's very much a man's world Taylor depicts where the women struggle to find any independent voice and the children suffer. Elizabeth Taylor New tenants arrive at Mrs Lippincote's home. Her writing illuminates so much in its thoughtful simplicity. Oliver imagines his world coloured with both fact and fiction. A beautifully written story. Elizabeth Taylor 3.5 stars I never wanted to be a Madame Bovary. I plan on reading more by both of them. The Bronte girls just couldn't slip down to the pub. So they had to take to writing.making sure to note this detail and that one. It's a time capsule of a bygone era. 'I had the recipe from Villette.'It takes a woman novelist to describe a dish of food.'Oh I agree' said Julia 'but it isn't often true. Remember how it is always mutton in Jane Austen. I can't recall them eating anything else. Oh gruel of course. Elizabeth Coles was born in Reading Berkshire in 1912.In 1936 she married John William Kendall Taylor a businessman.Her first novel At Mrs. She also wrote a childrens book. Elizabeth Coles was born in Reading Berkshire in 1912.In 1936 she married John William Kendall Taylor a businessman.Her first novel At Mrs. She also wrote a children's book.Elizabeth Taylor died at age 63 of cancer. An Alternate Cover for this edition can be found here. Ha!! I love this kind of writing.That was very decent of her.Yes. They had a good talk about The Wide Wide World. When she could read no longer they played cards.There are so many good things to say about this book. This was my third Taylor novel after Mrs. The novel charts their life in the house. Without the little rules everything became queer and unsafe.' The room was between them. She stood there smiling blinking still in the bright light. He was still fanning the air peevishly with his hand. Roddy and Julia's son Oliver with his bookishness. The pages had personality. Often Julia would see a book lying on his doormat. Everyday life is on show laid bare. Disruption of lives. I'd give it about 3.5 stars. Elizabeth Taylor.