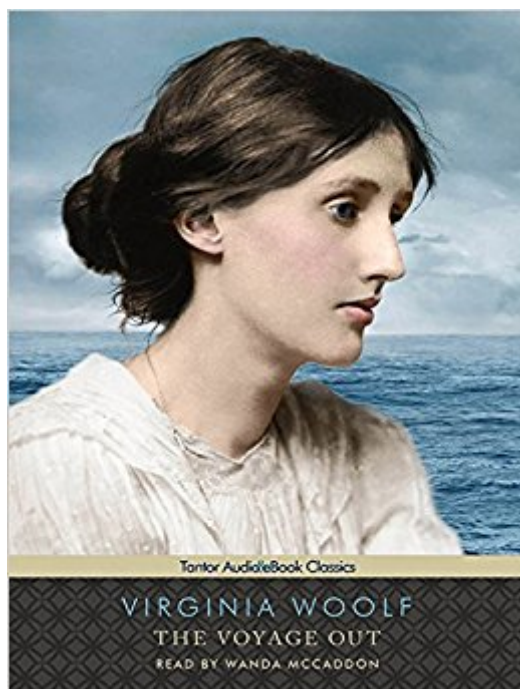


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The Voyage Out (Tantor Audio & Book Classics)



Synopsis

Rachel Vinrace, Virginia Woolf's first heroine, is a motherless young woman who, at twenty-four, embarks on a sea voyage with a party of other English folk to South America. Guileless, and with only a smattering of education, Rachel is taken under the wing of her aunt Helen, who wishes to teach Rachel "how to live." Arriving in Santa Marina, a village on the South American coast, Rachel and Helen are introduced to a group of English expatriates. Among them is the young, sensitive Terence Hewet, an aspiring writer, with whom Rachel falls in love. But theirs is ultimately a tale of doomed love, set against a chorus of other stories and other points of view, as the narrative shifts focus between its central and peripheral characters. Less formally experimental than her later novels, *The Voyage Out* nonetheless clearly lays bare the poetic style and innovative technique—with its multiple figures of consciousness, its detailed portraits of characters' inner lives, and its constant shifting between the quotidian and the profound—that are the signature of Woolf's fiction.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Together these ten volumes make an attractive and reasonably priced (the volumes vary between L3.99 and L4.99) working edition of Virginia Woolf's best-known writing. One can only hope that their success will prompt World's Classics to add her other essays to the series in due course."

--Elisabeth Jay, Westminster College, Oxford, *Review of English Studies*, Vol. XLV, No. 178, May '94 22/02/1995 --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"Textually, these editions of Mrs Dalloway and The Voyage Out are the most immaculate available." David Bradshaw, Worcester College --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

This is the third novel I've read by Virginia Woolf and whilst I found it to be the most "readable" of the novels that I've read to date I couldn't in all honesty say that it was an easy read. I kept waiting for something to happen, some momentous event to push the story along. It wasn't until I gained some patience and just went with the flow that I began to see the light and appreciate the vein in which it is written. One thing that has become apparent is that I shall have to source a copy of Mrs Dalloway now. Was also surprised to find that it was the "debut" novel for the author.

I thought it was OK read ... I thought some of the characters were interesting & there was some twists that I liked.

That is a difficult reading that takes absolute concentration that I lost shortly after the beginning.

dad loved it

Don't really have time for a long, in-depth review, but I'll hit my major point. Never before have I read such poignant, eloquent prose. Every word carries meaning; there's no excess, pointless passages. As to the actual tale, I enjoyed it excessively. Romantic in its own way, but even better it presents the insecurities and trials of actual people. Nothing is smoothed over or romanticized. That gives it a flavor of originality. As to which version to get....in this case it doesn't really matter, since there's no translations, but I was very impressed with the Barnes and Nobles version. The notes and introduction were excellent in their explanations. Since I haven't gotten the Penguin Classics edition or the Oxford edition I can't say which is superior, but the B&N was satisfactory. Anyways, very pleased with my buy, and I hope to read more of Woolf's work.....I think Night and Day is the next one on my list!

I appreciate the writing style, but I found the book itself boring. I was 3/4 of the way through it before anything of note happened. The characters do little to distinguish themselves from each other, to the point that I sometimes had to go back to see which one was being written about. Since this was Woolf's first novel, I presume she got better, but I'm not about to read another of her works to find

out.

I enjoyed this book immensely. It has a freshness not found in Woolf's other novels, and also a lot of entertaining eccentric dialogue - a pity she didn't cultivate her gift for social comedy! It's also a very searching book, opening issues of gender, marriage, nationality which she explores more deeply in her major works. If there's a down side to it, it seems as if her characters never really leave England - and it's never explained why Rachel is on this voyage.

Read this for college. Now find myself relating way too often. I hate coming of age.

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