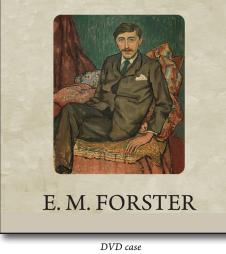
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## Aspects OF THE NOVEL





## Aspects of the Novel

E. M. Forster (1809 - 1852)

Read by:	Ciufi Galeazzi	Language:	English
Length:	5 hours and 2 minutes	Style:	Solo
Genre:	Non-Fiction, Literary Criticism		

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"Aspects of the Novel" by E. M. Forster is a seminal work of literary criticism that delves into the intricacies of the novel as a literary form. Originally delivered as a series of lectures at Trinity College, Cambridge, the book was published in 1927. Forster explores various elements of the novel, offering insightful observations on plot, character, narrative, and pattern. Forster introduces the concept of "flat" and "round" characters, emphasizing the importance of creating characters with depth and complexity. He also introduces the idea of "story" versus "plot," arguing that a plot is more than a mere sequence of events—it must have a narrative structure that engages the reader. The author advocates for the significance of time and chronology in storytelling, highlighting how a novel's structure affects the reader's experience.

One of the notable contributions of "Aspects of the Novel" is Forster's distinction between "story" and "fantasy," asserting that a good novel should bridge the gap between the two. Through a series of literary examples, Forster illustrates his points, providing both a theoretical framework and practical insights into the art of novel writing. The book remains influential in the study of literature and continues to be a valuable resource for writers, students, and anyone interested in the craft of the novel.

Edward Morgan (E. M.) Forster (January 1, 1879 – June 7, 1970) was an English author known best for his ironic novels examining class and hypocrisy in early 20th-century British society. He was born in London the only child of a middle class Anglo-Irish and Welsh family. His father died when he was a toddler. He inherited a substantial sum at age 8 that gave him enough to survive and become a writer. He attended King's College, Cambridge and belonged to the Apostles discussion group, whose membership included many who would belong to the Bloomsbury Group. After university he traveled widely in Europe, Egypt, and India. He volunteered with the Red Cross in Egypt during the First World War. In the 1920's he served as private secretary to the Maharajah of Dewas, and wrote *A Passage to India* (1924) upon his return to England, winning the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for fiction. In the 1930's and 1940's he became a successful broadcaster with the BBC.

Forster was a lifelong bachelor and an unapologetic homosexual, open to friends such as Benjamin Britten and Christopher Isherwood, but closeted in his public life. His novel *Maurice*, a gay love story written before the First World War, caused a stir when it was published shortly after his death.