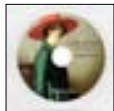


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Orlando

Virginia Woolf (1882 - 1941)

Read by: Cori Samuel Language: English
 Length: 8 hours 47 minutes Style: Solo
 Genre: Fiction

Product Formats and Options				
Format	Package	Catalog	EAN/UPC	MSLP
MP3 CD	CD jacket	CJ-1357	0602581788355	\$11.99
MP3 CD	DVD case	DB-1357	0602581788348	\$10.99
MP3 CD	Security sleeve	CD-1357	NA	\$4.99
MP3 download	Zip file	DL-1357	NA	\$4.99

“Orlando” by Virginia Woolf is a groundbreaking and genre-defying novel that traverses four centuries in the life of its eponymous protagonist, Orlando. Initially introduced as a young nobleman in Elizabethan England, Orlando embarks on a surreal and fantastical journey that involves a mysterious transformation from male to female without aging. This gender-fluid narrative becomes a central theme, challenging societal norms and exploring the fluidity of identity as it follows Orlando through various historical periods, encountering iconic figures, experiencing cultural shifts, and grappling with the constraints of gender expectations. The novel is both a historical pastiche and a metafictional exploration of literature and its conventions. Woolf uses her distinctive stream-of-consciousness style to weave a rich tapestry of language, creating a lush and vivid portrayal of Orlando’s internal world.

As Orlando navigates the centuries, the novel subtly critiques the roles assigned to individuals based on their gender, offering a nuanced commentary on the limitations imposed by societal norms. The protagonist’s journey becomes a metaphor for self-discovery and liberation, and the novel is celebrated for its playful yet profound examination of identity.

“Orlando” is a masterful blend of historical fiction, fantasy, and satire, defying categorization and showcasing Woolf’s innovative narrative techniques. The novel’s enduring relevance lies in its exploration of timeless themes such as the fluidity of gender, the passage of time, and the quest for personal authenticity, making it a landmark work in 20th-century literature.

Virginia Woolf (January 25, 1882 – March 28, 1941) was one of the most important modernist English writers of the twentieth century and a pioneer of stream of consciousness narrative. She was born into an upper-middle-class London family that was well established in the social and cultural world of Victorian England. Her father, Leslie Stephen, was a leading figure in Cambridge literary circles. Her mother, Julia, was from a prominent Anglo-Indian family. She grew up speaking fluent French and German, living for part of the year in Paris, and making many trips to Europe. From 1897 to 1901, she attended the Ladies’ Department of King’s College London, where she studied classics and history and met the early reformers of women’s higher education and the women’s rights movement. In her teens she began to read the literary and philosophical works that her parents collected and began to write for herself. After her father’s death in 1904 the family moved to Bloomsbury, where Virginia became a part of the Bloomsbury Group of artists, writers, and other intellectuals founded by her brother. She married Leonard Woolf in 1912. In 1917 they established the Hogarth Press, which published many of her novels: *The Voyage Out* (1915), *Night and Day* (1919), *Jacob’s Room* (1922), *Mrs. Dalloway* (1925), *To the Lighthouse* (1927), *Orlando* (1928), and *The Waves* (1931). She also wrote many essays, notably “A Room of One’s Own” (1929), which have been collected as *The Essays of Virginia Woolf* in six volumes. Throughout her life she suffered from what would be diagnosed today as bipolar disorder. In 1941, at age 59, Woolf died by drowning herself in the River Ouse at Lewes.