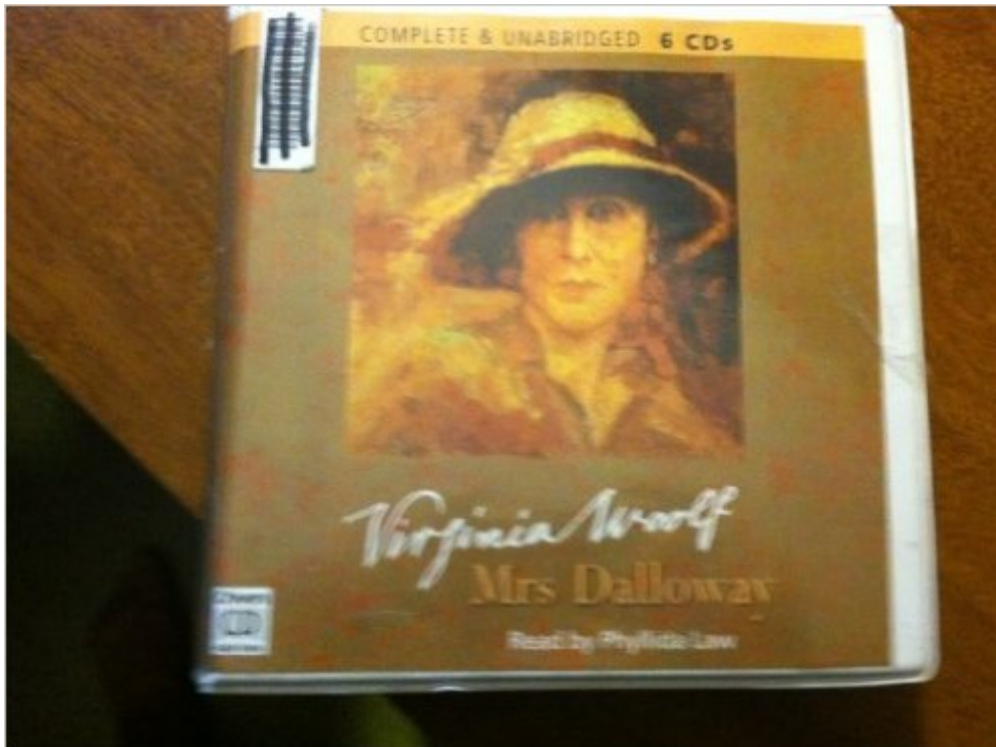


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The Mrs. Dalloway



Synopsis

Mrs Dalloway (published on 14 May 1925) is a novel by Virginia Woolf that details a day in the life of Clarissa Dalloway in post-World War I England. Mrs Dalloway continues to be one of Woolf's best-known novels. Created from two short stories, "Mrs Dalloway in Bond Street" and the unfinished "The Prime Minister", the novel's story is of Clarissa's preparations for a party of which she is to be hostess. With the interior perspective of the novel, the story travels forwards and back in time, and in and out of the characters' minds, to construct a complete image of Clarissa's life and of the inter-war social structure. --This text refers to the Kindle Edition edition.

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: BBC Audiobooks; Unabridged edition (April 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0754055868

ISBN-13: 978-0754055860

Product Dimensions: 1.5 x 7.5 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (407 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #9,419,554 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 inÂ Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > (W) > Woolf, Virginia #2909 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction >

Classics #15163 inÂ Books > Books on CD > General

Customer Reviews

Although the time covered in this complex novel is only one day, Virginia Woolf, through her genius, manages to cover a lifetime unraveling and exposing the mysteries of the human personality. The central character of the novel is the delicate Clarissa Dalloway, a disciplined English gentlewoman who provides the perfect contrast to another of the book's characters, Septimus Warren Smith, an ex-soldier whose world is disintegrating into chaos. Although Clarissa and Septimus never meet, it is through the interweaving of each one's story into a gossamer whole that Woolf works her genius. The book is set on a June day in 1923, as Clarissa prepares for a party that evening. Unfolding events trigger memories and recollections of her past, and Woolf offers these bits and pieces to the reader who must then construct the psychological and emotional makeup of Clarissa Dalloway in his own mind. We also learn much about Clarissa through the thoughts of other characters, such as her one-time lover, Peter Walsh, her friend, Sally Seton, her husband, Richard

and her daughter Elizabeth. It is Septimus Warren Smith, however, driven to the brink of insanity by the war, an insanity that even his wife's tender ministrations cannot cure, who acts as Clarissa's societal antithesis and serves to divide her world into the "then" and the "now." In this extremely complex and character-driven novel, Woolf offers her readers a challenge. The novel is not separated into chapters; almost all of the action occurs in the thoughts and reminiscences of the characters and the reader must piece together the story from the random bits and pieces of information each character provides.

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