

A LETTER TO A HINDU

LEO TOLSTOY

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY MAHATMA GANDHI

- A groundbreaking piece of literature that was instrumental in forming Gandhi's views on non-violent resistance.
- Features an introduction by Mahatma Gandhi.
- Contains extra material, including explanatory notes and a note on the text, as well as information on the author and topic.

Dated the 14th of December 1908, *A Letter to a Hindu* was a letter written by Leo Tolstoy to Tarak Nath Das, a Bengali revolutionary and scholar, in response to a request for support for India's separation from British rule, which argued that the Indian people should seek to free themselves from British rule through non-violent protests and strikes, and other forms of peaceful resistance.

The letter soon gained international attention after it was published in the *Free Hindustan*, and it came to the attention of the young Mahatma Gandhi. Drawing on a variety of sources, cultures and teachings, Tolstoy's letter was instrumental in forming Gandhi's views on non-violent resistance – as Gandhi himself acknowledges in his introduction: 'To me, as a humble follower of that great teacher whom I have long looked upon as one of my guides, it is a matter of honour to be connected with the publication of his letter'.

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25TH NOVEMBER 2020

WORLD ENGLISH

**'One of the clearest thinkers in the western world,
one of the greatest writers.'**

MAHATMA GANDHI



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Leo Tolstoy (1828–1910) is one of the highest-regarded writers of all time, perhaps best known today for his novels *War and Peace* and *Anna Karenina*.

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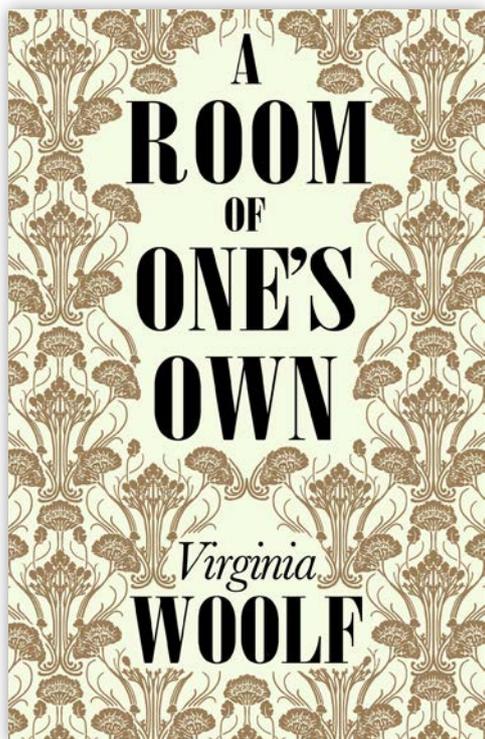
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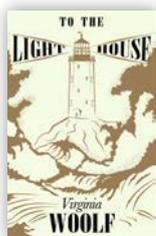
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BY THE SAME AUTHOR:



9781913724092
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A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN

VIRGINIA WOOLF

- One of the foremost feminist texts.
- Part of an elegantly designed series of Woolf's works.
- Contains extra material, including explanatory notes and a note on the text, as well as information on the author and topic and critical reaction.

In October 1928 Virginia Woolf was asked to deliver speeches at Newnham and Girton Colleges on the subject of 'Women and Fiction'; she spoke about her conviction that 'a woman must have money and a room of her own if she is to write fiction'. The following year, the two speeches were published as *A Room of One's Own*, and became one of the foremost feminist texts.

Knitted into a polished argument are several threads of great importance – women and learning, writing and poverty – which helped to establish much of feminist thought on the importance of education and money for women's independence. In the same breath, Woolf brushes aside critics and sends out a call for solidarity and independence – a call which sent ripples well into the next century.

'Probably the most influential piece of non-fictional writing by a woman in this century.'

HERMIONE LEE, *THE FINANCIAL TIMES*

'Brilliant interweaving of personal experience, imaginative musing and political clarity'

KATE MOSSE, *THE GUARDIAN*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Virginia Woolf (1882–1941) was a Modernist writer, widely considered to be one of the most important of the twentieth century. She and her husband Leonard bought a hand-printing press in 1917, and they set up Hogarth Press in their house in Richmond, which published much of Virginia's work, as well as those of friends and fellow luminaries. Today she is best remembered for her novels – in particular *To the Lighthouse* and *Mrs Dalloway* – and her essay *A Room of One's Own*.

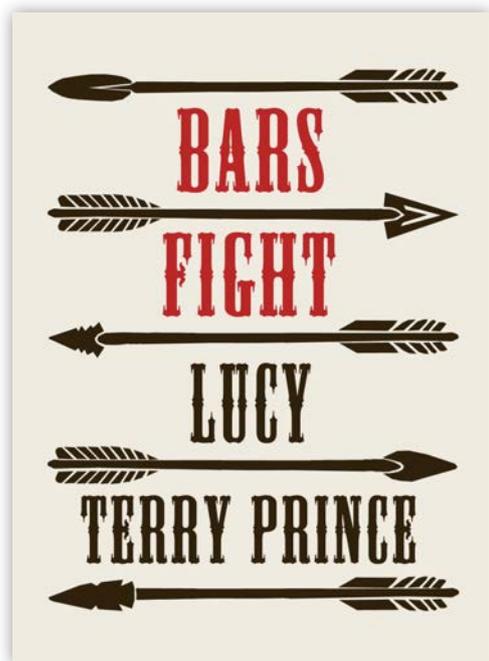
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ISBN: 978-1-913724-15-3
 Concertina • 10pp • £2.50
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BARS FIGHT

LUCY TERRY PRINCE

- The oldest known work by an African-American author.
- The only edition on the market.
- Hand-bound in an unusual concertina format.
- Perfect for the gift market – only £2.50.
- Published to coincide with Black History Month 2020.

Bars Fight, a ballad telling the tale of an ambush by Native Americans on two families in 1746 in a Massachusetts meadow, is the oldest known work by an African-American author.

Passed on orally until it was recorded in Josiah Gilbert Holland's *History of Western Massachusetts* in 1855, the ballad is a landmark in the history of literature that should be on every book lover's shelves.

CELEBRATING BLACK
 HISTORY MONTH
 OCTOBER 2020



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Lucy Terry Prince (c.1730–1821) was taken to America as a slave, but her husband bought her her freedom in 1756. *Bars Fight* was her only work.

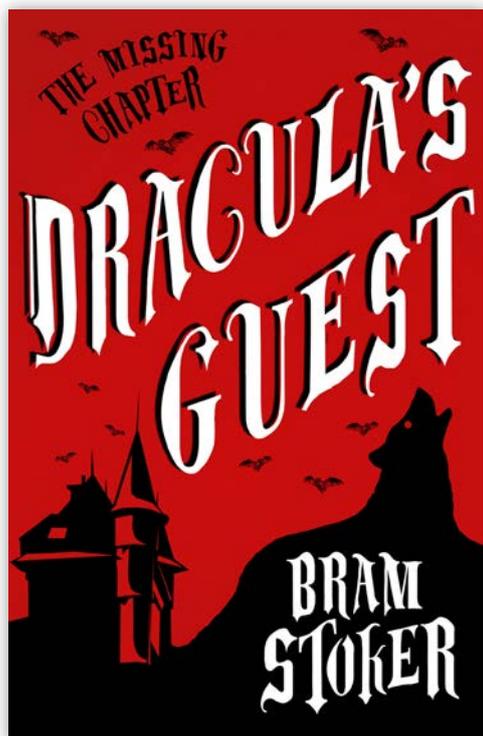
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DRACULA'S GUEST

BRAM STOKER

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY FLORENCE STOKER

- The missing first chapter from *Dracula*, Bram Stoker's landmark Gothic novel.
- Features an introduction by the author's wife.
- Contains extra material, including a note on the text and information on the author and topic.

Dracula, Bram Stoker's 1897 Gothic vampire story, needs no introduction – a perennial on syllabuses and screens alike, generations have been enchanted and enthralled by the Count from Transylvania. But few of *Dracula*'s fans have heard of *Dracula's Guest*, a short story following – it is thought – Jonathan Harker, as he makes his way to Transylvania, and falls prey to Walpurgis Nacht terrors when he stops off in Munich.

Unpublished until after Stoker's death, when it was collected in a volume of short stories by his widow Florence, who revealed that Stoker had intended for it to be the opening section of his great work, *Dracula's Guest* is the missing chapter that will captivate all fans of Stoker's 'dangers from snow and wolves and night'.

ISBN: 978-1-913724-03-0

Paperback • 64pp • £7.99

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28 OCTOBER 2020

WORLD ENGLISH

'The very best story of diablerie which I have read for many years.'

ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Bram Stoker (1847–1912) is best remembered today for *Dracula*, which is now considered one of the foremost examples of Gothic literature. Stoker wrote prolifically – both in his role on the staff of *The Daily Telegraph*, and as a novelist and short-story writer. Some of Stoker's short stories appeared in three collections, including *Dracula's Guest and Other Weird Stories*, but he was always better known for his novels. As a friend of Oscar Wilde, Stoker's personal life attracted much speculation before his death in 1912.

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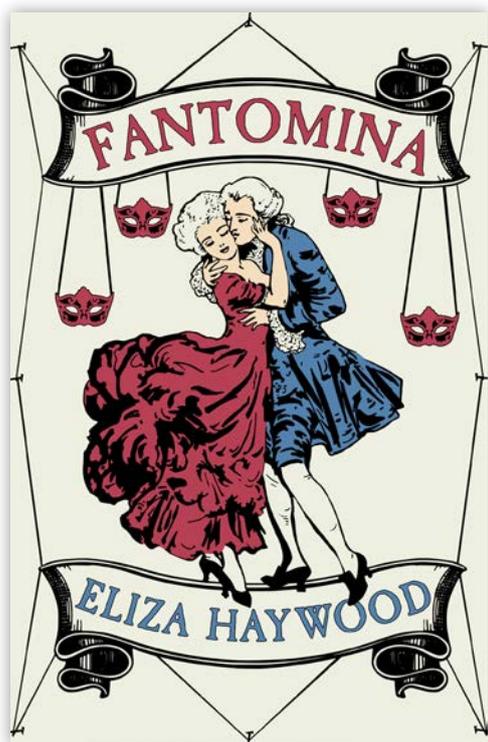
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ISBN: 978-1-913724-02-3

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31 MARCH 2021

WORLD ENGLISH

FANTOMINA, OR, LOVE IN A MAZE

ELIZA HAYWOOD

- An approachable work by one of the founders of the novel form, an unjustly neglected writer.
- Spelling and punctuation have been silently corrected to make the text more appealing to the modern reader.
- Contains extra material, including explanatory notes and a note on the text, as well as information on the author and topic.
- Perfect for students – the only annotated edition on the market for less than £15

Fantomina, or, Love in a Maze is a novella by Eliza Haywood which charts an unnamed female protagonist's pursuit of the charming, shallow Beauplaisir. Dealing with major themes such as identity, class and sexual desire, and first published in 1725, *Fantomina* subverts the popular 'persecuted maiden' narrative, and reaches a climax which would have shocked its contemporary readership.

Moving to London, a young woman – let's call her Fantomina – meets a dashing man at the theatre. After a short, but intense, fling, Beauplaisir grows bored of Fantomina, and leaves her. Outraged that she should be so treated, Fantomina discards her disguise in favour of another, and sets off in hot pursuit of her victim, and a game of cat and mouse begins.

'Haywood's place in literary history is equally remarkable and as neglected, misunderstood and misrepresented as her oeuvre.'

PAULA R. BACKSCHEIDER



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Eliza Fowles Haywood (c.1693–1756), was a writer, actress and publisher. Largely neglected for two hundred years, Haywood attracted a surge of interest in the 1980s, and is now understood to be one of founders of the novel form, as well as a nurturer of important authors. Haywood was a prolific writer, but is best remembered today for her first published work, *Love in Excess, or, The Fatal Enquiry*, which appeared in the same year as *Robinson Crusoe* was published.

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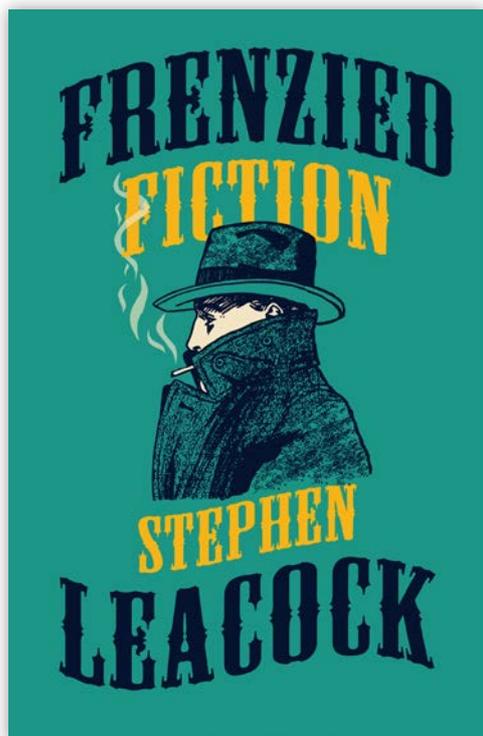
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25 AUGUST 2021

WORLD ENGLISH

FRENZIED FICTION

STEPHEN LEACOCK

- From one of the best-known humorists in the English-speaking world in the early twentieth century.
- An unjustly forgotten author who will appeal to all fans of Saki, P.G. Wodehouse, W.W. Jacobs or Oscar Wilde.
- One of his later works, this collection shows the talent of a master of a genre at the height of his game.

Stephen Leacock is an unjustly forgotten master of the short-story genre who was considered the best-known humorist in the world in the early twentieth century. Although he was a prolific writer, publishing about fifty novels, memoirs and histories in his lifetime, Leacock was best known for the humorous articles he published in various magazines, which he later collected in *Literary Lapses*, *Nonsense Novels* and *Frenzied Fiction*.

One of his later works, *Frenzied Fiction* is a collection from a master of a genre at the height of his game, and contains all the hallmarks of his earlier work, written in the trademark style which he had refined over the previous two decades. Containing such gems as 'My Recollections as a Spy' and 'Simple Stories of Success, or How to Succeed in Life', this collection demonstrates why he met with such success and earned the respect of those as far removed as John Lane, A.P. Herbert and Groucho Marx.

'No one, anywhere in the world, can reduce a thing to ridicule with such few short strokes.'

EVENING STANDARD

'His wisdom is always humorous, and his humour is always wise.'

SUNDAY TIMES



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Stephen Leacock (1869–1944) was a teacher, writer and one of the best-known humorists in the English-speaking world in the early twentieth century.

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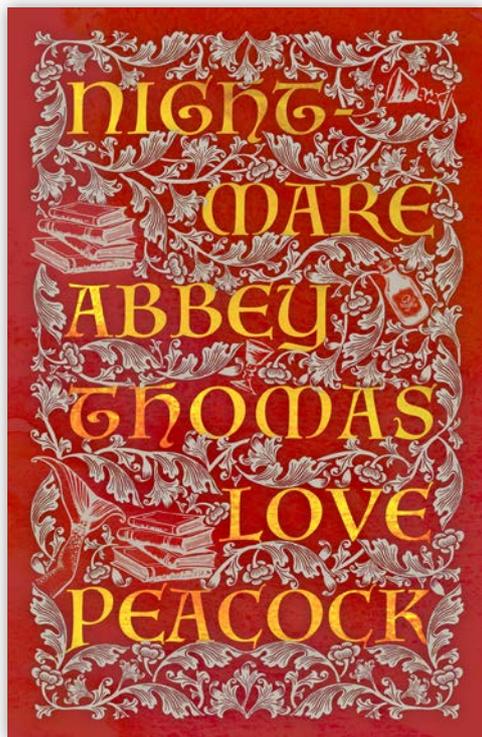
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NIGHTMARE ABBEY

THOMAS LOVE PEACOCK

- The most enduringly popular work by one of Victorian literature's most accomplished satirical writers.
- Includes an introduction by the author.
- Contains extra material, including explanatory notes and a note on the text, as well as information on the author.

Nightmare Abbey is a novella by Thomas Love Peacock, first published in 1818, widely considered to be Peacock's most enduringly popular work. The narrative centres on Christopher Glowry, a miserly widower, his son Scythrop and a host of dismal-sounding servants in his family pile, Nightmare Abbey. Recovering from an ill-fated love affair, Scythrop dreams up various schemes to reform and regenerate the human species, but misanthropy lurks around every corner, and everything changes when a mermaid is spotted and a strange woman appears in his chamber.

Although fundamentally a Gothic novel, and rich in allusion – from Pope to Dante, Rossini to Mozart – *Nightmare Abbey* is, at heart, a satire, as Peacock makes clear in the preface to a later edition, in which he describes the characters – allusions to his friends – as 'status-quotites', 'morbid visionaries', 'romantic enthusiasts' and 'lovers of good dinners'.

ISBN: 978-1-913724-07-8

Paperback • 224pp • £7.99

BIC: FC, WH, FKC 128 x 198 mm

28TH JULY 2021

WORLD ENGLISH

**'Great mental powers on display in
such lightly told tales.'**

CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE, *GUARDIAN*



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Thomas Love Peacock (1785–1866) was a poet and author. He was a prolific writer, mainly of satirical works. Peacock's father died in reduced circumstances, so the young Thomas was largely self-educated, and spent much time in the Reading Room at the British Library studying the best classical texts he could find. Peacock is best known today for his novels *Nightmare Abbey* and *Melincourt*.

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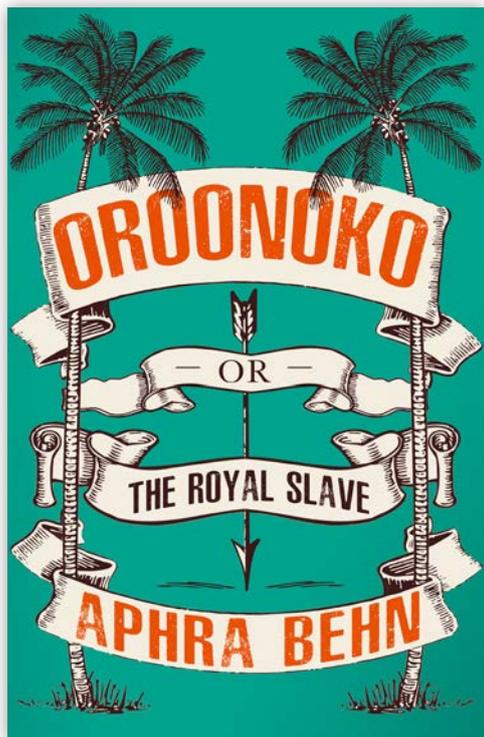
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OROONOKO

APHRA BEHN

- A work of vital importance – one of the founding texts of the novel form, vying for the title of the first English novel.
- Part of an elegantly designed series of Behn's works, with attention paid to production values.
- Contains extra material, including explanatory notes and a note on the text, as well as information on the author's colourful life and works.

First published in 1688, *Oroonoko, or, The Royal Slave* is a short, politically charged novella by the Restoration playwright – and spy – Aphra Behn, and is arguably one of the founding texts of the novel form. Purporting to chart the life of an African prince, Oroonoko, who is tricked into slavery and taken to South America, the narrative follows the Prince through his trials of love, loss and rebellion.

Vying for the title of the first English novel – and certainly the first to be read as an indictment of the treatment of Africans – *Oroonoko* has all the hallmarks of Behn's stage works, which are widely considered to be amongst the most important of the Restoration period.

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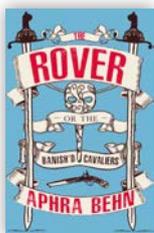
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29TH SEPTEMBER 2021

WORLD ENGLISH

BY THE SAME AUTHOR:



9781913724061

£7.99

‘All women together ought to let flowers fall upon the tomb of Aphra Behn which is, most scandalously but rather appropriately, in Westminster Abbey, for it was she who earned them the right to speak their minds.’

VIRGINIA WOOLF

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Aphra Behn (c.1640–89), or Astrea, was a poet, author and playwright, and is often cited as being one of the leading lights of the Restoration period. She is remembered today as being one of the first English women to earn a living with her pen, as well as for her work as a spy for Charles II. Her best-known works today are a Restoration drama, *The Rover*, and *Oroonoko, or, The Royal Slave*, a short work of fiction.



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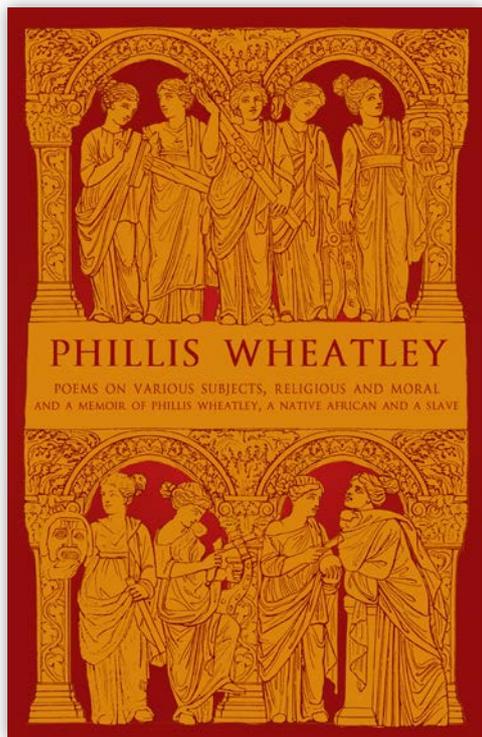
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 WORLD ENGLISH

CELEBRATING BLACK
 HISTORY MONTH
 OCTOBER 2020



PHILLIS WHEATLEY: POEMS ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS, RELIGIOUS AND MORAL & A MEMOIR OF PHILLIS WHEATLEY, A NATIVE AFRICAN AND A SLAVE

- A hugely important text – the first book of poetry by an African-American author to be published.
- Unique edition – includes an 1834 memoir by B.B. Thatcher.
- Perfect for students – contains explanatory notes, an index of first lines and a note on the text, as well as an appendix containing letters and notices from the first edition of the text.
- Published to coincide with Black History Month 2020.

In 1773, *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* became the first book of poetry by an African-American author to be published. At the tender age of seven, Phillis had been brought to Massachusetts, where she threw herself into education, and was soon devouring the classics and writing verse with whatever she had to hand – odes in chalk on the walls of the house. Once her talent became known, there was uproar, and in 1772 she was interrogated by a panel of ‘the most respectable characters in Boston’ and forced to defend the ownership of her own words.

As related in the 1834 memoir also included in this volume, the road to publication was not straight, and while it was clear that such a volume could not be published in America, Phillis was recommended to a London publisher, who brought out the book – albeit issuing with it an attestation as to her authorship, as well as a ‘letter from her master’ and a short preface asking the reader’s indulgence. This edition includes these elements as an appendix, so that the twenty-first-century reader can discover Phillis Wheatley as she should have been read – as a poet, not property.

‘Elegant lines... the style and manner exhibit a striking proof of your great poetical talents.’

GEORGE WASHINGTON

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Phillis Wheatley (1753–84) was the first African American to publish a book of poetry. Taking her name from the slave ship, *The Phillis*, that brought her to Massachusetts and the Wheatley family whose property she became, Phillis showed such a natural aptitude for language that her owners eventually granted her her freedom. Her only work, *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* was published in 1773, to great acclaim.

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 24TH FEBRUARY 2021
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THE FEMALE SOLDIER OR, THE SURPRISING LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF HANNAH SNELL

- The only standalone, non-facsimile edition on the market.
- Spelling and punctuation have been silently corrected to make the text more appealing to the modern reader.
- Contains extra material, including explanatory notes and a note on the text, as well as information on the context and critical reaction.

Hannah Snell's story begins in 1744, with tragedy. That year, she married James Summs, a Dutch seaman. Soon after their marriage, she fell pregnant – and Summs abandoned her. The baby died just a year after she was born. At this juncture, Snell donned a suit, assumed her brother-in-law's identity and set off in search of her husband.

At first she joined the army, but, coming under the Sergeant's lash, deserted, and went to Portsmouth, where she boarded the sloop of war *Swallow* and went off to capture Pondicherry. After that she fought in various battles, and sustained multiple injuries – some of which made it difficult to keep her sex concealed. In 1750, she returned to London and sold her story, which went on to pique the interest of readers for centuries and to inspire generations of men and women alike.

'The most famous of all female warriors.'

DROR WAHRMAN



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Hannah Snell (1723–1792) was an Englishwoman known for the acts described in *The Female Soldier, or, The Surprising Life and Adventures of Hannah Snell*: her husband, James Summes, a Dutch seaman, abandoned her while she was pregnant with their child; the child died a year later, and she disguised herself as her brother-in-law and became a soldier so that she could track down her husband.

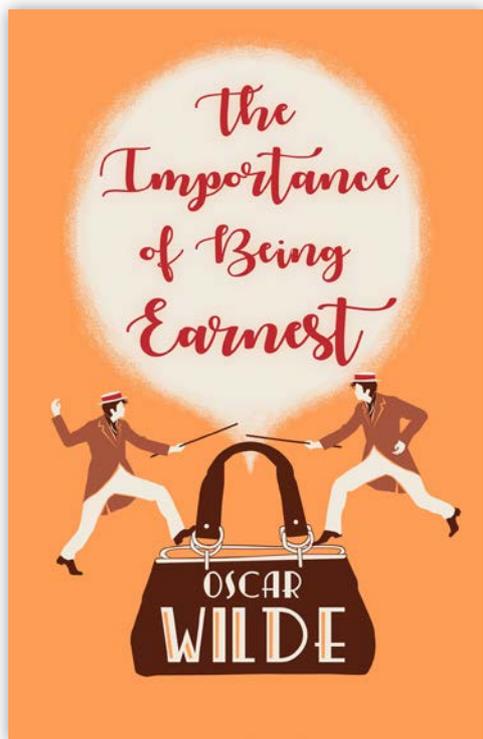
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27TH JANUARY 2021

WORLD ENGLISH

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

A TRIVIAL COMEDY FOR SERIOUS PEOPLE

OSCAR WILDE

- In the words of the journalist Mark Lawson, *Earnest* is ‘the second most known and quoted play in English after *Hamlet*’.
- The first in an intended series of well designed, inexpensive annotated editions of Wilde’s plays, with high production values.
- Contains extra material, including explanatory notes and a note on the text, as well as information on the author and critical reaction.

The Importance of Being Earnest is perhaps Oscar Wilde’s most popular play – since its first performance in 1895, it has seen countless productions and three film adaptations, and, in the words of the journalist Mark Lawson, is ‘the second most known and quoted play in English after *Hamlet*’.

Brimming with the counter-intuitive wit with which Wilde’s name is synonymous, the play follows two young men, Algernon and Jack, as they come to grips with one another’s ‘Bunburying’ – deceits involving invented identities and escaping unwanted socialising – which spiral out of control. Culminating in a hauntingly brilliant scene with a cast of characters dripping with satire, an unpublished manuscript and an unforgettable handbag, *The Importance of Being Earnest* lambasts the Victorian yearning for morality and meaning, and leaves the reader aching for an encore.

‘If I craved for entertaining conversation by a first-class raconteur, I should choose Oscar Wilde.’

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Oscar Fingal O’Flahertie Wills Wilde (1854–1900) was an author, poet and one of the best-known playwrights in the English canon. His private life is widely discussed, since his sexuality and relationship with Lord Alfred Douglas led him to a conviction for ‘gross indecency’. He is best remembered for his short-story collections, his poetry, his novel *Dorian Gray* and his plays – particularly *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

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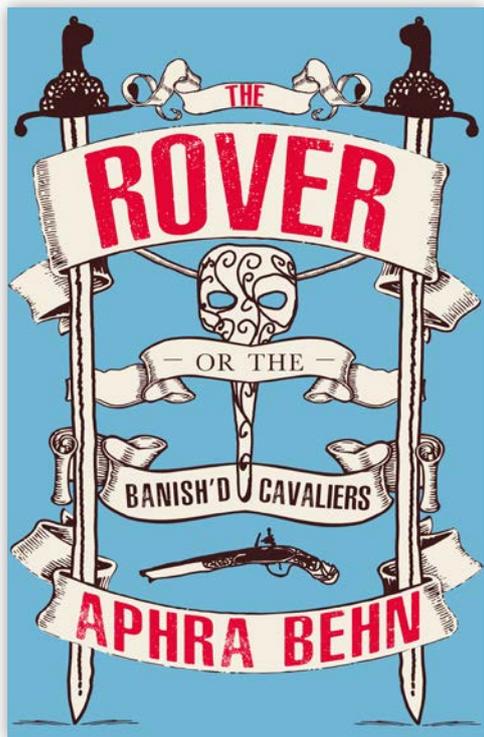
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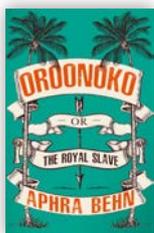
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28TH APRIL 2021

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THE ROVER

APHRA BEHN

- One of the key texts in the Restoration Comedy literary canon.
- Part of an elegantly designed series of Behn's works, with attention paid to production values.
- Contains extra material, including explanatory notes and a note on the text, as well as information on the author's colourful life and works.

The Rover, or, The Banish'd Cavaliers is the most popular play by the Restoration playwright – and spy – Aphra Behn, first performed in 1677. Although Behn's work as a spy for Charles II came to an end when he cut off her income, she was a stout Royalist, and 'the banish'd cavaliers' refers to the period when Charles' court was living in exile on the Continent.

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'All women together ought to let flowers fall upon the tomb of Aphra Behn which is, most scandalously but rather appropriately, in Westminster Abbey, for it was she who earned them the right to speak their minds.'

VIRGINIA WOOLF

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Aphra Behn (c.1640–89), or Astrea, was a poet, author and playwright, and is often cited as being one of the leading lights of the Restoration period. She is remembered today as being one of the first English women to earn a living with her pen, as well as for her work as a spy for Charles II. Her best-known works today are a Restoration drama, *The Rover*, and *Oroonoko, or, The Royal Slave*, a short work of fiction.

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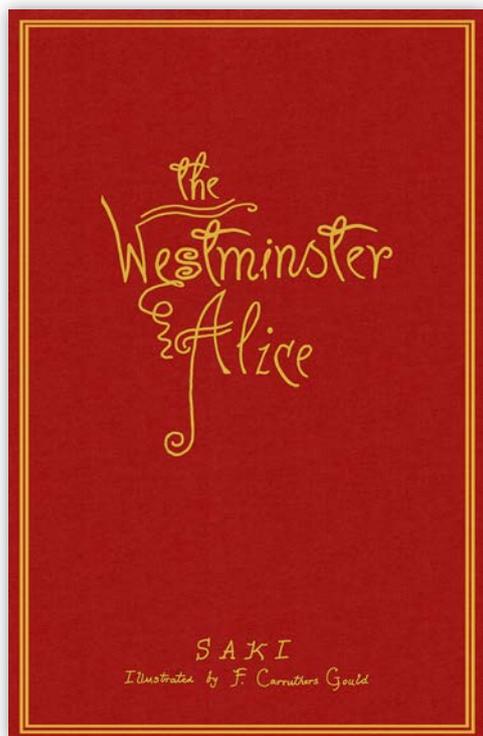
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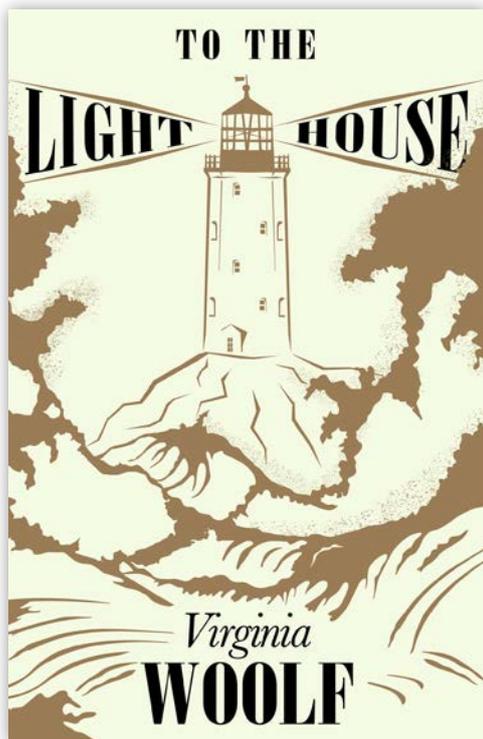
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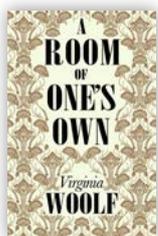
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Virginia Woolf (1882–1941) was a Modernist writer, widely considered to be one of the most important of the twentieth century. She and her husband Leonard bought a hand-printing press in 1917, and they set up Hogarth Press in their house in Richmond, which published much of Virginia's work, as well as those of friends and fellow luminaries. Today she is best remembered for her novels – in particular *To the Lighthouse* and *Mrs Dalloway* – and her essay *A Room of One's Own*.

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