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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 Fowler 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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