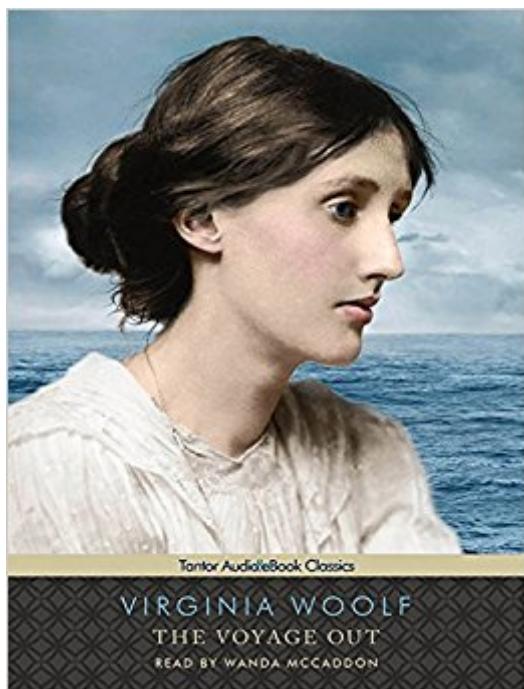


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# The Voyage Out (Tantor Audio & Book Classics)



## Synopsis

Rachel Vinrace, Virginia Woolf's first heroine, is a motherless young woman who, at twenty-four, embarks on a sea voyage with a party of other English folk to South America. Guileless, and with only a smattering of education, Rachel is taken under the wing of her aunt Helen, who wishes to teach Rachel "how to live." Arriving in Santa Marina, a village on the South American coast, Rachel and Helen are introduced to a group of English expatriates. Among them is the young, sensitive Terence Hewet, an aspiring writer, with whom Rachel falls in love. But theirs is ultimately a tale of doomed love, set against a chorus of other stories and other points of view, as the narrative shifts focus between its central and peripheral characters. Less formally experimental than her later novels, *The Voyage Out* nonetheless clearly lays bare the poetic style and innovative technique-with its multiple figures of consciousness, its detailed portraits of characters' inner lives, and its constant shifting between the quotidian and the profound-that are the signature of Woolf's fiction.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Together these ten volumes make an attractive and reasonably priced (the volumes vary between £3.99 and £4.99) working edition of Virginia Woolf's best-known writing. One can only hope that their success will prompt World's Classics to add her other essays to the series in due course."

--Elisabeth Jay, Westminster College, Oxford, *Review of English Studies*, Vol. XLV, No. 178, May '94 22/02/1995 --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"Textually, these editions of Mrs Dalloway and The Voyage Out are the most immaculate available." David Bradshaw, Worcester College --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

This is the third novel I've read by Virginia Woolf and whilst I found it to be the most "readable" of the novels that I've read to date I couldn't in all honesty say that it was an easy read. I kept waiting for something to happen, some momentous event to push the story along. It wasn't until I gained some patience and just went with the flow that I began to see the light and appreciate the vein in which it is written. One thing that has become apparent is that I shall have to source a copy of Mrs Dalloway now. Was also surprised to find that it was the "debut" novel for the author.

I thought it was OK read ... I thought some of the characters were interesting & there was some twists that I liked.

That is a difficult reading that takes absolute concentration that I lost shortly after the beginning.

dad loved it

Don't really have time for a long, in-depth review, but I'll hit my major point. Never before have I read such poignant, eloquent prose. Every word carries meaning; there's no excess, pointless passages. As to the actual tale, I enjoyed it excessively. Romantic in its own way, but even better it presents the insecurities and trials of actual people. Nothing is smoothed over or romanticized. That gives it a flavor of originality. As to which version to get....in this case it doesn't really matter, since there's no translations, but I was very impressed with the Barnes and Nobles version. The notes and introduction were excellent in their explanations. Since I haven't gotten the Penguin Classics edition or the Oxford edition I can't say which is superior, but the B&N was satisfactory. Anyways, very pleased with my buy, and I hope to read more of Woolf's work.....I think Night and Day is the next one on my list!

I appreciate the writing style, but I found the book itself boring. I was 3/4 of the way through it before anything of note happened. The characters do little to distinguish themselves from each other, to the point that I sometimes had to go back to see which one was being written about. Since this was Woolf's first novel, I presume she got better, but I'm not about to read another of her works to find

out.

I enjoyed this book immensely. It has a freshness not found in Woolf's other novels, and also a lot of entertaining eccentric dialogue - a pity she didn't cultivate her gift for social comedy! It's also a very searching book, opening issues of gender, marriage, nationality which she explores more deeply in her major works. If there's a down side to it, it seems as if her characters never really leave England - and it's never explained why Rachel is on this voyage.

Read this for college. Now find myself relating way too often. I hate coming of age.

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