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Posted on 04 August 2018 By Virginia Woolf

Mrs Dalloway Said She Would Buy The Gloves Herself Big Ben Was Striking As She Stepped Out Into The Street It Was Eleven O Clock And The Unused Hour Was Fresh As If Issued To Children On A Beach From Mrs Dalloway In Bond Street The Landmark Modern Novel Mrs Dalloway Creates A Portrait Of A Single Day In The Life Of Clarissa Dalloway As She Orchestrates The Last Minute Details Of A Grand Party But Before Virginia Woolf Wrote This Masterwork, She Explored In A Series Of Fascinating Stories A Similar Revelry In The Mental And Physical Excitement Of A Party Wonderfully Captivating, The Seven Stories In Mrs Dalloway S Party Create A Dynamic And Delightful Portrait Of What Woolf Called Party Consciousness As Parallel Expressions Of The Themes Of Mrs Dalloway, These Stories Provide A Valuable Window Into Woolf S Writing Mind And A Further Testament To Her Extraordinary Genius

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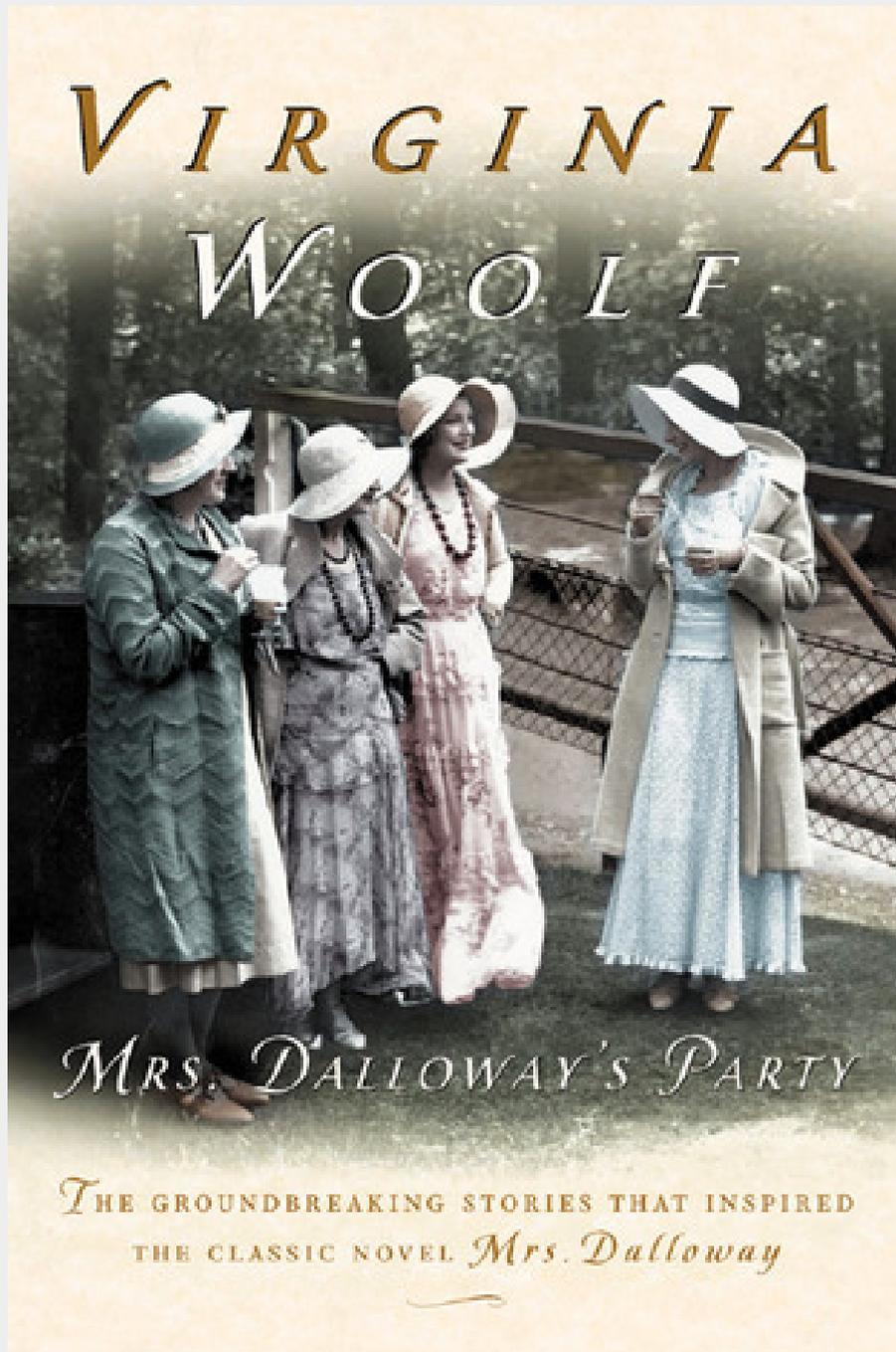
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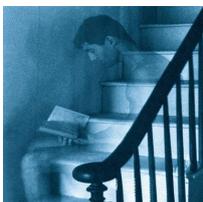
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10 thoughts on "Mrs. Dalloway's Party"

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Kenny Kenny says:

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Mrs Dalloway said she would buy the gloves herself Big Ben was striking as she stepped out into the street It was eleven o'clock and the unused hour was fresh as if issued to children on a beach Virginia Woolf Mrs Dalloway in Bond Street These seven short stories continue or extend Virginia Woolf's ideas about Mrs Dalloway's party in Woolf's landmark 1925 novel Mrs Dalloway The stories in Mrs Dalloway's Party create a dynamic and delightful portrait of what Woolf called party consciousness Woolf has such tremendous insight into human nature and her character's inner psyches These stories amaze me in their depth and the complexity of her characters' emotions This is a wonderful companion piece to Mrs Dalloway, and should be read after Mrs Dalloway to provide an even fuller portrait of the Dalloways' party.

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Petra-X Petra-X says:

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Shallow. I've never been able to see what was so great about Virginia Woolf and Vita Sackville West, the premiere female authors of the Bloomsbury Set Two women from the upper class who wrote books about upper class women who did nothing at all except have minor angsts or affairs which they wrote about with excellent powers of description but no introspection at all The men were different, there were some very great writers amongst them Lytton Strachey and the wonderful E.M Forster, for example. Really, the Bloomsbury set were famous for their casual sexual s, their artistic inclination, their atheism and general opposition to the traditions of the times, all attitudes afforded to them by

You

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their aristocratic status and great wealth Their time came and went, and I can't think of a good reason to revisit it.

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Maria Maria says:

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I absolutely adored these short stories I enjoyed delving into these people's minds while they are supposedly enjoying Mrs Dalloway's party Their thoughts say so much about the human condition and existence How we are our own worst enemies And her writing I am so in love with Virginia Woolf *Let me be, let me be* P.S We all have been to this party Yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Reply



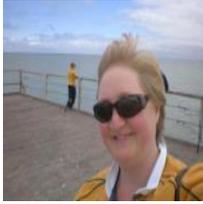
Kathy Duncan Kathy Duncan says:

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Mrs Dalloway's Party is a series of thematically linked stories, that can be read as vignettes or as one long party It the first, Mrs Dalloway in Bond Street, Mrs Dalloway sallies forth to buy the gloves herself At age 52, she runs smack into her own mortality on the way to the glove shop Alarmed, she realizes for the first time that the shop girl is a good twenty years older than the last time Mrs Dalloway bothered to really look at her, to consider her as a fellow human rather than as a mere servant worthy of no special consideration Immediately, Mrs Dalloway turns away from such dreary considerations to important concerns Will the wrong people come to her party while the right people stay away Will dowdy women with no

fashion sense attend The answer is a resounding yes, yes, yes. The following stories revolve around the wrong people, who accept Mrs Dalloway's invitation as almost an afterthought, and the dowdy women, who do not conform to fashion's dictates. Unabashed, the formidable Mrs Dalloway plays matchmaker for these individuals. Even though she senses the true nature of each and makes what should be brilliant pairings, her efforts backfire. Each party attendee secretly feels inferior to the others. Their irrational sense of inferiority stems from such mundane things as their clothing, their small houses, their lack of servants, or their unconventional parents. In reality, each is a fascinating individual of integrity and depth. However, their fear of rejection, of being snubbed in public, is so great that they resort to a defensiveness that renders them insufferable bores. After comparing their secret selves to the false impressions that they have of each other, they each commit the sin of feeling superior. In consequence, they refrain from genuine, revealing discourse. They form quick, superficial opinions of each other and are reduced to insincerity. In exposing the true nature of each character, Woolf explores aestheticism in conflict with humanitarianism, the working poor in conflict with the well fed, overdressed, and the corruption of the city in conflict with the purity of Nature. We also witness an educated man trivializing the literary aspirations of a woman in the eternal conflict of male and female. At Mrs Dalloway's party, we witness the irrationality of human exchange filled with pain and pleasure. Each person in attendance is an island, excluded from humanity. As clichéd as it is, each individual is utterly alone in the crowd. Each is the secluded being, who sits in darkness, aching to be known, but so afraid of being rebuffed that they offer nothing of their true selves to each other.

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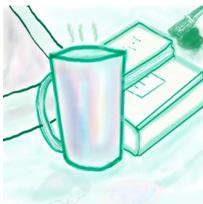


Lara Lara says:

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I found two positive things to say about this book First, as a self confessed lover of all things gramatical , Virginia Woolf s long complex sentences are beautifully constructed These can run for half a page, with side tracks and twists, yet when you look back at them, they are absoltely correct This, for me, is the joy of Woolf.But, this series of short stories is utterley devoid of joy Don t be fooled by the publisher s assessment that the book has the whole range of emotions associated with a party My second positive to take away from this book is the incredibly insight Woolf offers into the mind of a woman who suffered from artistic repression, and depression Her characters have generally negative experiences, as the result of the way they mistakenly view the intentions of others around them It is so true, we create our won misery through misunderstanding and assuming the worst.However, the stories particularly the second to last The New Dress were such a faithful picture of how a paranoid person can create their own miserable experience, whether or not their assumptions are correct For me, this was just too sad a reminder of behaviour in people I know.

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Inkspill Inkspill says:

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I m getting ready to read Virginia Woolf s *Mrs Dalloway* bought me to this collection of 7 short after I discovered

these would lead Woolf to write this novel The first short *Mrs Dalloway in Bond Street* starts with Mrs Dalloway said she would buy the gloves herself When I read this delicious In this story Clarissa Dalloway visits a store to buy a pair of gloves for her party The remaining six stories are all told from a different guest s point of view at the party, where briefly there are glimpses of the Dalloways, their home and lifestyle I also liked how the first two stories give a contrast of Clarissa and Richard, in the second story, *The Man Who loved His kind*, though Richard has only a bit part his stuffiness becomes evident to Clarissa s, who is less sure of herself That unsureness and awkwardness runs through all the different stories as social prejudices and differences are touched upon.It s funny how reading books can become an unintended treasure hunt In learning Woolf wrote a short story I would discover these seven, how close they resemble the novel I will soon find out.

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TheSkepticalReader

TheSkepticalReader says:

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Difficult to rate this collection seeing as how it was something intentionally omitted from the original novel Not one I d recommend to someone new to Woolf, that s for sure.

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Paula Paula says:

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Seven stories, a further look into the high society life that makes Mrs Dalloway s party Ms Woolf had a fascination with parties and I have a fascination with her fascination For a party makes things either much real or much less real My favorite story being the longest written, entirely about one outdated dress.

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Andy Zell Andy Zell says:

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Mrs Dalloway s Party by Virginia Woolf is a collection of stories that serve as a good companion to her classic novel Mrs Dalloway From the introduction to the book we learn that the stories were written at the same time as or just after the writing of the novel, the latter of which was especially unusual for Woolf She usually moved on to something different when she completed a novel But she was interested in what she called in her writing diary party consciousness, that something about the gathering together of so many people under one roof that was both artificial and real than everyday life In the course of seven stories we encounter a guest whose speech would fill a book and others who stand on the fringes hardly able to utter a syllable There are misunderstandings and miscommunications as social opposites are introduced to one another One woman worries the entire night about having worn the wrong dress that is not the current fashion She had thought to wear something unique, but instead ruminated on the decision the entire party Another man thought that he was so above the other party goers and their frivolity that he could barely deign to converse with anyone, and when he did it was with only

the utmost condescension I thoroughly enjoyed this slim book, but I have to say that it works best as a companion to the novel.

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Kendra Danielle Kendra Danielle says:

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My God, was this boring Imagine reading about someone s very normal life for the course of what seems to be 24 hours It was very bland, and while there were some parts that would spark Peter Walsh Mrs Calloway seeing each other years later after Mrs Calloway chose Richard over him my interest didn t continue beyond that Of course, this was an assigned reading for my junior year college English class Otherwise I don t think I would have ever read it I like to give certain books a second chance, but everything I ve read by Virginia Woolf has been rather bland As a reader I feel like my mind needs to wonder with excitement if not excitement than at least wonderment because of ema certain type of eloquence that the writer displays.

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