

# ?PDF / Epub? ? The Death of the Moth Author Virginia Woolf – Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co

Posted on 10 May 2018 By Virginia Woolf

Sometimes nothing is better than a great book of essays One could go for the classics and pick up Montaigne or De Quincey or Hazlitt but there are also many excellent works written in the last hundred years or so by authors such as Chesterton or Belloc or Virginia Woolf, whose The Death of the Moth and Other Essays I have just finished reading. The essays in the first 60 75% of the book are mostly sheer genius Even some of the back matter, especially the final essay Thoughts on Peace in an Air Raid, written not long before the author s suicide, are well worth reading Woolf has a way of bringing the literature of the past alive Her writings about Edward Gibbon, Coleridge, the Rev William Cole, and Mme de Sevign are so memorable that, no sooner will I return the book to the library than I will find a way of adding a copy to my library I highly recommend Woolf s essays, particularly to those who think than women writers are not good enough to contribute to the fund of world literature. I certainly would have gotten out of this collection if I had knowledge of the nineteenth century political and literary figures Woolf was writing about in some of these pieces, selections which include essays and book reviews, but my acquaintance with some of her subjects is sketchy at best Of course, as an English major in college, I had to take English history courses to buttress and contextualize my knowledge of the literature, but it was so long ago and those factoids are buried so deep in the gray matter, it would probably take deep hypnosis to dislodge them I seemed to remember Robert Walpole was a prime minister oh, wait, Virginia is talking about

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Horace Walpole here man of letters and art historian, Wikipedia tells me I don't know who the hell Horace Walpole was. And my reading of Samuel Coleridge and Percy Bysshe Shelly was limited to survey courses. Even so, VW's evocation of these men through their interactions with their good friends and relatives in the case of Walpole, a Reverend William Cole in Coleridge's, his daughter Sara and an aunt were still entertaining for the way Woolf teases out their personalities through those relationships. Other people she profiles in her inimitable prose I'd never heard of at all: Madame de Sevigne, a Dr Wilkinson and Capt James Jones. But, as Virginia says of Henry James in her reviews of essays and letters he'd penned, All great writers have, of course, an atmosphere in which they seem most at their ease and at their best a mood of the great general mind which they interpret and indeed almost discover, so that we come to read them rather for that than for any story or character or scene of separate excellence. And that's pretty much the way I feel about Virginia: it's her style and insight together that weave the atmosphere that allows me to be both intellectually stimulated and emotionally soothed. Since Henry James was the writer referenced in this volume with whom I am most familiar and that's not to say my knowledge is extensive, only great enough to be reverentially appreciative, I did enjoy those essays that focused on him and his work. My favorites, though, were 1 The five-page Three Pictures, not an essay, but like a flash fiction. Loved this 2 The essay Craftsmanship, which has an early sentence reading Let us then take for our starting point the statement that words are not useful. Clearly, it was going to be interesting to see where she was going with this 3 Professions for Women, a paper read to the Women's Service League in 1931 which talks about the phantoms and obstacles looming in the way of women embarking onto professional paths. Not all of her concerns are obsolete 4 An essay called Why, on questions that should be asked, including why, when our time here on earth is so limited, people would want to sit through anything as dull as a lecture 5 Thoughts on Peace in an Air Raid, ruminations on war and peace. 6 And best of all, a letter to the editor of The Statesman, called here Middlebrow, which was far funnier than anything I've read of hers before. This idiosyncratic collection of posthumously anthologised odds and ends is nevertheless

Me, Margaret

The Chronicles of Narnia

Hop On Pop

Stuart Little

Curious George

One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish

Where the Wild Things Are

The Little Engine That Could

The Hobbit, or There and Back Again

James and the Giant Peach

Where the Red Fern Grows

Because of Winn-Dixie

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Guess How Much I Love

shot through with Woolf's typical wisdom. She is at her best when sharing her generous enthusiasms for other authors, notably the Romantic Poets, Henry James, and the letters of Horace Walpole. . Virginia Woolf ei koskaan pet En olisi uskonut ett olisi koskaan jaksanut lukea esseet laivateollisuudesta ja olla kiinnostunut koko esseen ajan, mutta niin tapahtui Parasta antia olivat alun kirjallisuusesseet, mutta kokoelman laatu on kyll tasapainoinen koko sen ajan Ehdottoman viihdytt v , ter v ja mielenkiintoinen, kuten kaikki mit olen lukenut Woolfilta t h n saakka. The Death of the Moth Some of these essays were phenomenal Others were drudgery I wish I d had a better handle on when she was being facetious because I think I would have liked about half the book better than I did Read the book for the great stuff, skip anything that feels like pain. A Highly Acclaimed Collection Of Twenty Eight Essays, Sketches, And Short Stories Presenting Nearly Every Facet Of The Author S Work Up To The Author S Highest Standard In A Literary Form That Was Most Congenial To Her Times Literary Supplement London Exquisitely Written New Yorker The Riches Of This Book Are Overwhelming Christian Science Monitor Editorial Note By Leonard Woolf Fantastic Recommended not only for literary nerds with obscure reading preferences but, also, for anyone who simply wishes to understand the multifaceted scope of Woolf's all penetrating literary impressionism I did skim over or skip altogether many of the tedious sketches and abstruse criticism, but those that I did read in detail were unforgettable Many of these works, particularly The Death of the Moth, Evenings in Sussex, and Street Haunting evoke her exceptional powers of perception beneath the superficial gloss of real life She empathizes, dramatizes, reminisces, and relives the subtleties of everyday existence and the anxieties of persons The Death of the Moth doubly reads like a melancholy tribute and impressionist portrait of the universally human theme of mortality and our impotence against the grander forces of life It reminds me of Kafka's literary experiments in the oppressiveness of the human condition against supernatural forces when there was nobody to care or to know, this gigantic effort on the part of the insignificant little moth, against a power of such magnitude, to retain what no one else valued or desired to keep, moved one strangely Again, somehow, one saw life, a pure bead. And I

You

The Mouse and the Motorcycle

Horton Hears a Who!

The Darkangel

The Secret Garden

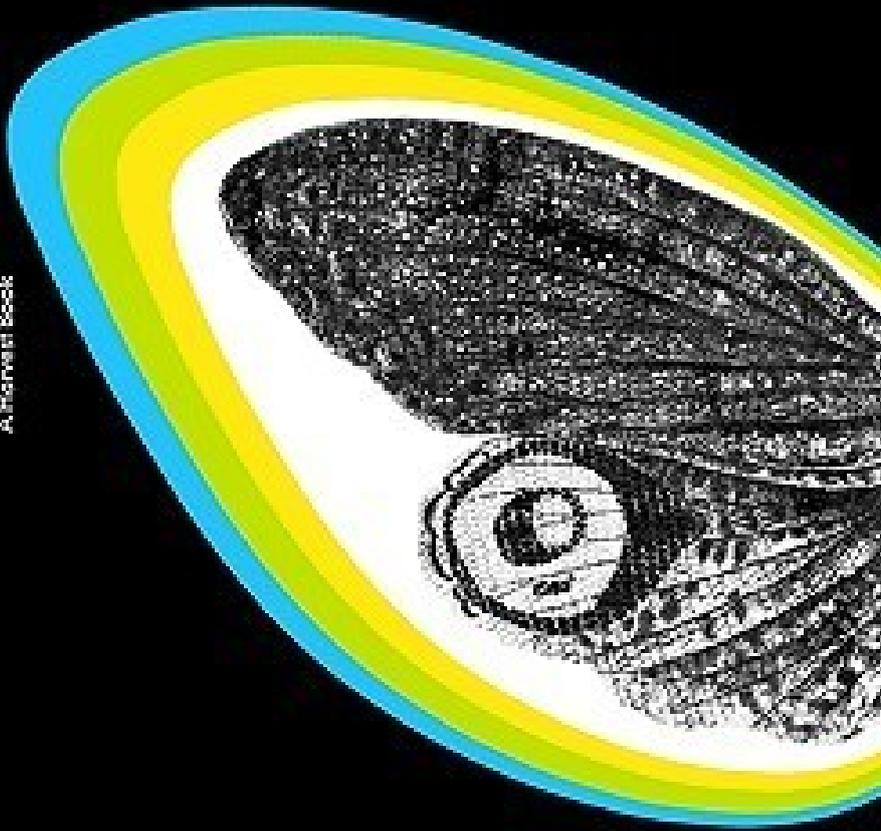
Old Yeller

The Golden Compass

looked at the dead moth, this minute wayside triumph of so great a force over so mean an antagonist filled me with wonder. Just as life had been strange a few minutes before, so death was now as strange. The moth having righted himself now lay most decently and uncomplainingly composed. O yes, he seemed to say, death is stronger than I am. Impressive is Woolf's ability to explore existential yet deeply human questions through the prism of seemingly mundane natural phenomenon. There is beauty and meaning whichever way or how deeply one looks into the diversity of life, but discerning them requires a trained imaginative eye and the restraint to pause and reflect on the insignificant details. Like her two *Common Readers*, the remainder of the collection contains a series of individual sketches, criticism, and some feminist digressions. Most require specialized knowledge of British literary history or patience to read through obscure and arcane lives. Hard to get through them, even with the Woolf's stylistic elegance and descriptive symbolism, which makes one wonder how she would have edited these had she lived to approve its publication. *Craftsmanship*, particularly, is a beautifully written, semi-polemic discussion on the state of English literature by the 1930s that still resonates today. It's an interesting little volume but one to dip into rather than read through. It's a collection of Virginia Woolf's miscellaneous writings published after her death by Leonard Woolf. Some of the essays are quite wonderful and brief such as her writing on peace from an air raid shelter during the blitz. However, others are of historical interest such as her focus on contemporary poetry or book reviews of works that are no longer read. Unfortunately, there's a lot of the limited interest writing than the immortal essays. Some of his might never have been published had she herself edited it. In any case, the worst of her writing is worth reading than many author's best.

# The Death of the Moth and Other Essays

A Harvest Book



Virginia Woolf