

MRS DALLOWAY

VIRGINIA WOOLF

12 April 2022

While Septimus appears mad as the war memories are haunting him, Clarissa is assumingly sane, with her existential troubles being centred around the midlife crisis – both, however, share an astute sensibility about societal maladies of post-war Britain.

Even though the two characters never meet, they are inextricably connected. As Clarissa is buying flowers and preparing for a party, she is questioning her life choices. Will there indeed be a life-changing decision taken when she meets her first love, Peter Walsh? Or is she too devoted to the societal pressure and her status as a statesman's wife? Will Septimus's madness detrimentally manifest itself?

Mrs Dalloway was developed from Woolf's earlier short story entitled 'Mrs Dalloway in Bond Street'. The novel has been compared to poetry for being packed with meaning but also to drama for its intense narrative. There is no grounding in the present or the past as the narrative is in a perpetual dialogue between the two – nevertheless, the events take place over the course of a single day. This text is undoubtedly a stylistic symbiosis and a true modernist classic.

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ISBN (Paperback): 9781915054944□

ISBN (Ebook): 9781915054951□

Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £4.99 (Ebook)

Extent: 208 pages

Format: 198x129mm

Genre: Psychological modernist novel

Markets: World English

Key Selling Points:

- Seminal modernist text – answer to Ulysses.
- Dwells on the first wave of feminism.

Comparison Authors:

Ulysses, James Joyce, Marcel Proust, Freud

The Author:

Virginia Woolf (1882–1941) is widely regarded as the most prominent modernist female author. She received a home education and was writing from a very young age.

A series of untimely deaths in her family had a long-term impact on the author's creative psyche as well as her mental state in general. Her novel *Mrs Dalloway* is often read autobiographically as it evolves around the duality of a sane person and a shell shocked war veteran – the work is also commonly seen as the writer's magnum opus.

Among her other renowned titles are *To the Lighthouse*, *Orlando* and landmark feminist essay *A Room of One's Own*. Woolf committed suicide shortly after World War II erupted as she fell into depression yet again.