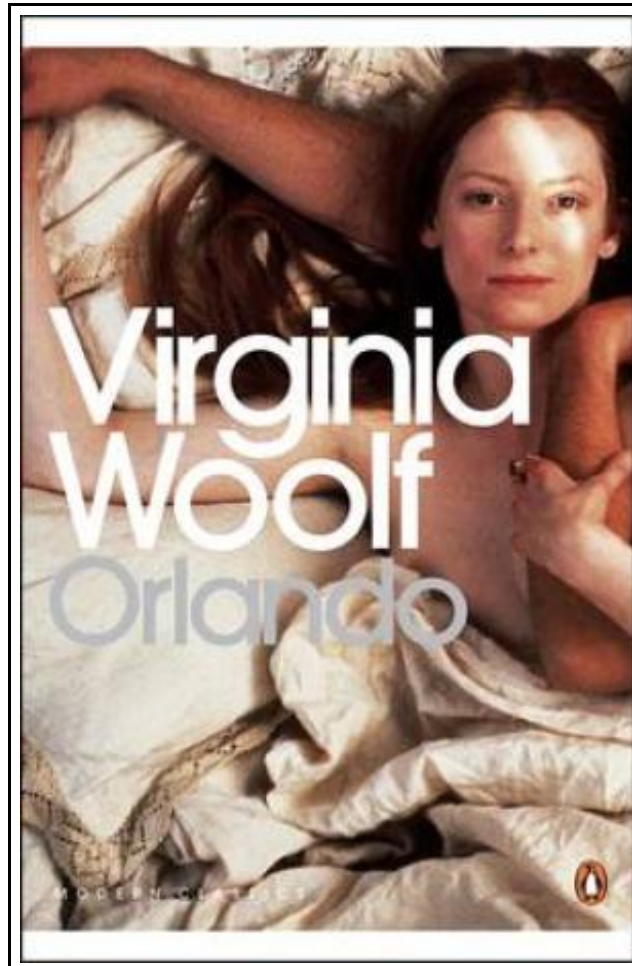


Orlando



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ORLANDO

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Paperback. Book Condition: New. Not Signed; Once described as the 'longest and most charming love-letter in literature', the Virginia Woolf's *Orlando* is edited by Brenda Lyons with an introduction and notes by Sandra M. Gilbert in Penguin Classics . Written for Virginia Woolf's intimate friend, the charismatic writer Vita Sackville-West, *Orlando* is a playful mock 'biography' of a chameleonic historical figure, immortal and ageless, who changes sex and identity on a whim. First masculine, then feminine, Orlando begins life as a young sixteenth-century nobleman, then gallops through three centuries to end up as a woman writer in Virginia Woolf's own time. A wry commentary on gender roles and modes of history, *Orlando* is also, in Woolf's own words, a light-hearted 'writer's holiday' which delights in ambiguity and capriciousness. Virginia Woolf (1882-1941) is regarded as a major 20th century author and essayist, a key figure in literary history as a feminist and modernist, and the centre of 'The Bloomsbury Group'. This informal collective of artists and writers, which included Lytton Strachey and Roger Fry, exerted a powerful influence over early twentieth-century British culture. Between 1925 and 1931 Virginia Woolf produced what are now regarded as her finest masterpieces, from *Mrs Dalloway* (1925) to the poetic and highly experimental novel *The Waves* (1931). She also maintained an astonishing output of literary criticism, short fiction, journalism and biography, including the playfully subversive *Orlando* (1928) and *A Room of One's Own* (1929) a passionate feminist essay. If you enjoyed *Orlando* , you might like Woolf's *The Waves* , also available in Penguin Modern Classics . I read this book and believed it was a hallucinogenic, interactive biography of my own life and future . (Tilda Swinton). book.

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