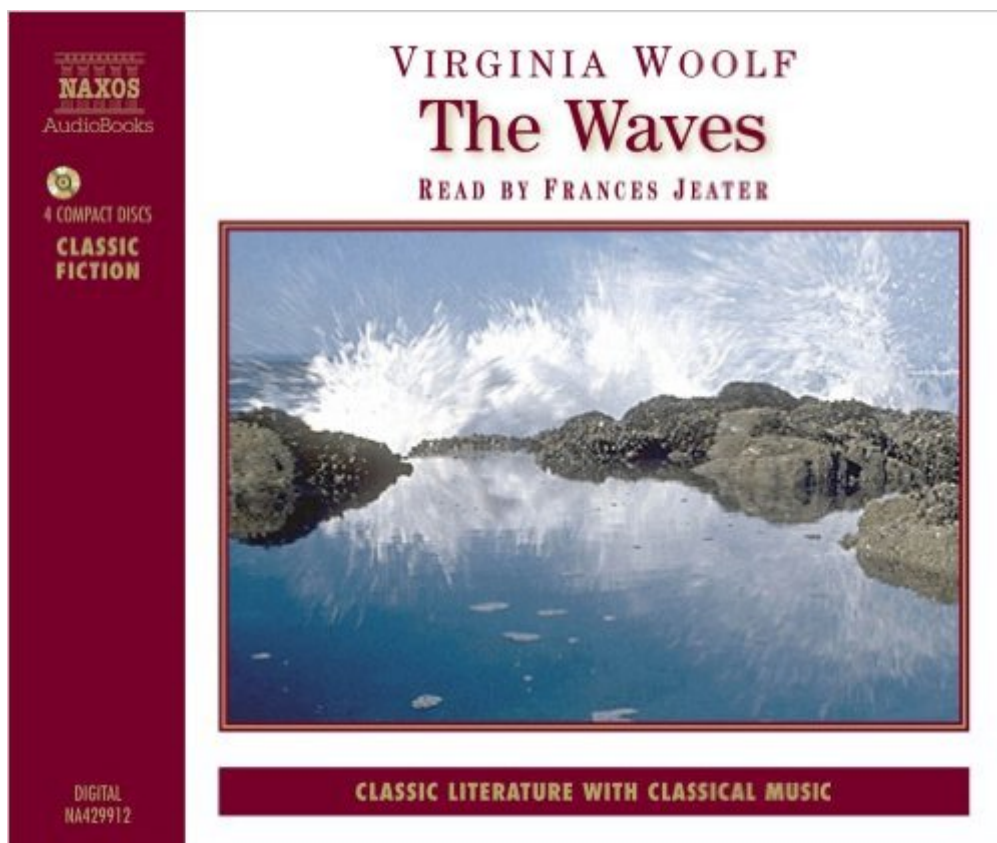


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Waves (Modern Classics)



Synopsis

Published in 1931, "The Waves" is perhaps the most challenging and experimental of Virginia Woolf's novels. As they move from childhood to maturity, the personalities of six friends are revealed through interior monologues. Elliptical, but deeply poetic, the strands of their experiences emerge gently and reflectively in a stream of consciousness, illuminating the meaning of life itself. As always, the language - so resonant and vivid - plays a paramount role.

Book Information

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Audio CD

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (79 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,858,659 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in [Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > \(W \) > Woolf, Virginia](#) #1349 in [Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Classics](#) #8019 in [Books > Books on CD > General](#)

Customer Reviews

Although at times I consider myself intelligent, after reading "The Waves," I must now concede to being mediocre in my intellect. Upon finishing the novel, I consulted various criticisms and opinions on the work to find that I missed much of what was portrayed in the book. Therefore, I admit to being ignorant. However, I still believe everyone's response to a work is valuable and this is mine: Just like many other works by Virginia Woolf, there were moments when I was absolutely swept away by the depth of her narrative and the poignancy of her descriptions. Put simply, she blows my mind and this is why I continue to read her. However, I often wonder if the subconscious mind babble that we encounter everyday is worth repeating. Perhaps there is a reason why we have public presentations and filter out much of what we typically are thinking. Therefore, my response to this novel is undecided. Upon finishing the novel, renditions of Shakespeare's "To be or not to be?" ran through my head. I find Woolf's characters and their ambiguous identities and feelings to be confusing and I feel frustrated by their inability to provide me with an answer to the great questions

of life. Of course, I realize that life is supposedly more about the questions than the answers and if the goal of good writing is to provoke conversation and thought, Virginia Woolf certainly has done that here. If the purpose of reading is to somehow see ourselves and our struggles reflected in someone else's writing, then Woolf has accomplished that much. Nevertheless, I found the novel to be frustrating in that Woolf provides very little direction or resolution for the reader. I felt as if I was left hanging in so many ways.

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