Leslie Stephen Woolf was a highly moral intellectual father interested in politics. Julia Duckworth was a beautiful mother, supporting and protecting Leslie. Virginia Woolf was a writer, editor, and journalist, deeply sensitive to criticism. Her childhood was spent in a household atmosphere dominated by a stern father and a lively child. The loss of her eccentric mother in 1904 caused Virginia's first breakdown and depression. She recovered and began writing for The Times Literary Supplement. In the years that followed, Virginia faced further breakdowns, including a second breakdown and a suicide attempt. Despite these challenges, Virginia continued to write, developing her own criticism, philosophy, and literary criticism. Her work, marked by a sense of liberation from oppression, continues to inspire readers today.
Gordon Square
Bloomsbury
1905

BLOOMSBURY GROUP

Leonard Woolf
(Jewish writer)

1912
Virginia and Leonard
marriage

The Voyage Out
(1913)

traditional book

heroine's cruise

to

South America

engagement

death

no traditional idea

plot

of

space

Ways of thinking

beliefs

values

Victorian

against

revolt

homosexual relationships

sexual freedom

unconventionality

truth

freedom

openness

artists

intellectuals

1912
Virginia and Leonard
marriage

shock

to

society

fear of people's judge

writing

exhausting process

great writers

S. Freud

by

I. Svevo

books

Hogarth Press
(1917)

traditional novel

Night and Day
(1919)

traditional novel

setting

journal writing

A Writer's Diary

The Voyage Out
(1913)

traditional book

heroine's cruise

to

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A Writer's Diary
TO THE LIGHTHOUSE

The Window (part 1)
- friends (Lily Briscoe, Augustus Carmichael etc)
- Mr and Mrs Ramsay
- holiday
- eight children
- no trip
- bad weather
- trip

Time Passes (part 2)
- one night darkness
- ten years darkness
- death of Mrs Ramsay
- daughter Prue (childbirth)
- son Andrew (war)
- holiday house
- closed
- passing of the time
- ravages
- war end
- return
- Augustus Carmichael
- family
- Lily Briscoe

The Lighthouse (part 3)
- of end painting
- Lily Briscoe
- started ten years before
- Augustus Carmichael
- lighthouse
- to trip
- Mr Ramsay
- children
- James
- Cam
- volume of poems
- great success
NARRATIVE TECHNIQUE

- Experimental novel
- Mathematical time of science (seconds, minutes etc.)

**Time**

- Character's time of the mind
- The time of the mind "duration"

- Bergson's influence

**Characters' Inner Reality**

- More important than exterior, objective reality

- Characters' working of the mind
- Interior monologue
- Direct contact between characters' working of the mind and reader

**Life**

- Incoherent
- Mirror of impressions

**People**

- Pattern of reception

**Selection**

- Subjective only perspective
- Relevant to mind

**Subjective**

- Internal

**Epiphany**

- Sudden revelation
- Momentary spiritual meaning
- Intellectual vision of life meaning

- Detachment
- Objectivity
- Third-person narrators

- Emotional connotation
- Limited in time

- Joycean spiritual meaning
- Woolfian intellectual meaning
Woolf's fiction

- rich symbols
- imagery
- style musicality
- sound devices
- poetic atmosphere

- uncertainty
- different meaning
- individual's uniqueness

- mental breakdown
- expressing impossibility
- of her own self

- writing
- affirmation of herself

- fundamental

- obsession
- with others'
- approval
- disapproval
- logical
- clear
- concise
- style
- critical, essays
- poetic
- flexible

- existence
- as artist
- perfect combination of masculine and feminine qualities
- for style

To the Lighthouse

- late summer afternoon, evening
- one day
- rhythmic
- transparent
- imagination works

- particular idea of time

The Window

- happy family
- Time Passes
- night
- ten years
- forces
- chaos
- darkness
- war
- morning
- rebirth
- eternal
- Mrs. Ramsay
- 2 children
- Mr. Ramsay
- children
- Lily's vision
- Mrs. Ramsay
- death
- insignificant
- human life
- meaningless
- eternity
- Mr. Ramsay
- communion feeling
- The Lighthouse
- trip to lighthouse
To The Lighthouse

- Metaphors
- Symbolism
- Poetic style
- Realistic description
  - Of places
  - Of characters
- Poetic
- Lyrical
- Language
  - Contrast
  - Short sentences
  - Long sentences
    - Sea rhythm
- Serious writer
- Serious themes
- Woolf
  - Sense of humour
    - Anticlimax
  - Absurdity
  - Human behaviour