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## A Woman of No Importance

Oscar Wilde

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A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE  
by  
OSCAR WILDE

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**Oscar Wilde : A Woman of No Importance** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Woman of No Importance:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Don't bother!!By *lochesmoches*As an AP English Lit teacher, I try to find inexpensive editions of novels and plays that my students can purchase. This edition is horrible! There are too many lines that are attributed to the wrong character and too many typos. Stay away from this edition. The play is too good to be butchered in this manner.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. .By *Cindy*It was OK. Probably a good read for high school and above.Boring in many parts so it was hard for me to keep reading .

Oscar Wilde was a prominent Irish playwright and novelist in the late 19th century. With classics such as *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Wilde remains one of the most widely read authors today. This edition of *A Woman of No Importance* includes a table of contents.

About the Author Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde (16 October 1854 – 30 November 1900) was an Irish playwright, novelist, essayist, and poet. After writing in different forms throughout the 1880s, he became one of London's most popular playwrights in the early 1890s. He is remembered for his epigrams, his novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, his plays, as well as the circumstances of his imprisonment and early death. Wilde's parents were successful Anglo-Irish Dublin intellectuals. He became known for his involvement in the rising philosophy of aestheticism, led by two of his tutors, Walter Pater and John Ruskin. As a spokesman for aestheticism, he tried his hand at various literary activities: he published a book of poems, lectured in the United States and Canada on the new "English Renaissance in Art", and then returned to London where he worked prolifically as a journalist. Known for his biting wit, flamboyant dress and glittering conversation, Wilde became one of the best-known personalities of his day. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1890). The opportunity to construct aesthetic details precisely, and combine them with larger social themes, drew Wilde to write drama. He wrote *Salome* (1891) in French in Paris but it was refused a licence for England due to the absolute prohibition of Biblical subjects on the English stage. Unperturbed, Wilde produced four society comedies in the early 1890s, which made him one of the most successful playwrights of late Victorian London. At the height of his fame and success, while his masterpiece, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895), was still on stage in London, Wilde had the Marquess of Queensberry prosecuted for libel. The Marquess was the father of Wilde's lover, Lord Alfred Douglas. The charge carried a penalty of up to two years in prison. The trial unearthed evidence that caused Wilde to drop his charges and led to his own arrest and trial for gross indecency with men. After two more trials he was convicted and imprisoned for two years' hard labour. In 1897, in prison, he wrote *De Profundis*, which was published in 1905, a long letter which discusses his spiritual journey through his trials, forming a dark counterpoint to his earlier philosophy of pleasure. There he wrote his last work, *The Ballad of Reading Gaol* (1898), a long poem commemorating the harsh rhythms of prison life. He died destitute in Paris at the age of 46.