

Manuscript Evaluation: "Virginia Woolf"

The author of this well-researched article shows a great understanding of the content and importance of Woolf's works. He or she provides rich details of Woolf's personal life and weaves them into the chronology of Woolf's writings. However, the melding of Woolf's personal life and the creation of her works makes comprehension difficult. Several paragraphs—such as the one describing *To the Lighthouse*—are extremely long. Others lack cohesion or a clear focus. For example, the paragraph that begins with the Woolfs' purchase of Monk's House skips to Woolf's plan for a new novel, and then it moves into a discussion of her friends' "Memoir Club." Here and elsewhere, the author needs to take care to include appropriate transitions between ideas and paragraphs.

Structuring the article thematically rather than strictly according to chronology could solve some of these problems. Ideally, the author would provide an account of Woolf's life, followed by a separate section on her works. The first section could certainly mention Woolf's works, but the second section would offer a more in-depth examination of them. Grouping the works together in this way would give the reader a clearer picture of the evolution of Woolf's writing and its changes in genre and form.

Apart from reorganizing the article in this manner, the author should avoid abstruse, academic-sounding expressions that probably mean little to the average encyclopedia reader—e.g., "aspects of life 'fugitive' from the Victorian novel" and "holistic state beyond binary divisions." Provided that the author is able to make these changes, I would accept the article for publication.