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The Importance of Being Earnest a Trivial Comedy for Serious People

By Oscar Wilde

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Importance of Being Earnest, A Trivial Comedy for Serious People is a play by Oscar Wilde. First performed on 14 February 1895 at the St James s Theatre in London, it is a farcical comedy in which the protagonists maintain fictitious personæ to escape burdensome social obligations. Working within the social conventions of late Victorian London, the play s major themes are the triviality with which it treats institutions as serious as marriage, and the resulting satire of Victorian ways. Contemporary reviews all praised the play s humour, though some were cautious about its explicit lack of social messages, while others foresaw the modern consensus that it was the culmination of Wilde s artistic career so far. Its high farce and witty dialogue have helped make The Importance of Being Earnest Wilde s most enduringly popular play. The successful opening night marked the climax of Wilde s career but also heralded his downfall. The Marquess of Queensberry, whose son Lord Alfred Douglas was Wilde s lover, planned to present the writer with a bouquet of...



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Reviews

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