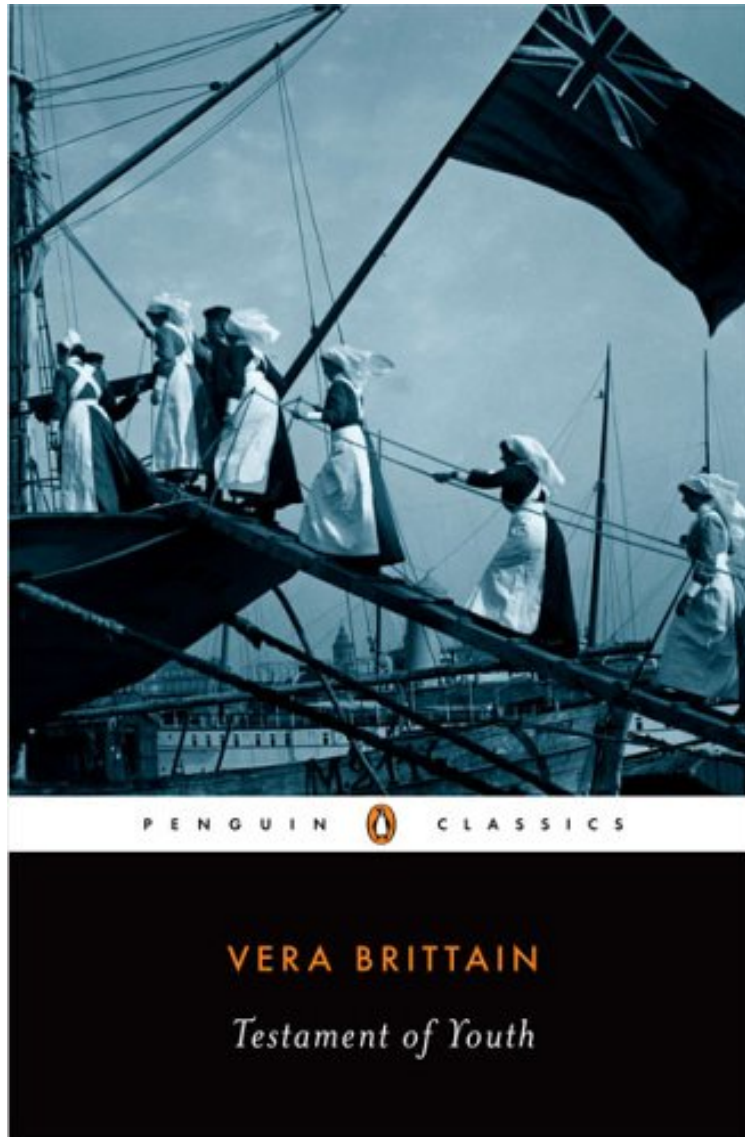


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Testament of Youth (Penguin Classics)

Vera Brittain

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#32403 in Books Vera Brittain 2005-05-31 2005-05-31 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.68 x 1.17 x 5.071, 1.05 #File Name: 0143039237688 pages Testament of Youth | File size: 71.Mb

Vera Brittain : Testament of Youth (Penguin Classics) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Testament of Youth (Penguin Classics):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The human cost of WWI as experienced by a young English girl By Terralee Pettinger World War One changed Europe forever along with the rest of the world. This is the personal story of an English girl who lost a brother, fianc and best friend. So much potential lost, so much death. She becomes a nurse and travels to Malta. This book was very popular in the 1930s-1940s but kind of forgotten now. If you are

interested in the human cost of WWI, this is a must read. An entire generation lost their youth and their lives.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. I was glad I read it. I didn't love it, but I liked it. It's densely written and sometimes a bit difficult to get through. Her life was interesting and I hadn't ever thought about the nursing assistance during World War I. I had read excellent reviews of the movie and wanted to read the book first. This is one of the few occasions that I bet I'm going to like the movie better.⁰ of 0 people found the following review helpful. Following the war she tours Europe and gives a good account the harsh peace imposed on the defeated that ...By RLA100 years after world war 1 this book gives a intimate view of this tragic war as it unfolds through correspondence between Vera B and her brother, her fiance, and two close friends who are all killed. Following the war she tours Europe and gives a good account the harsh peace imposed on the defeated that will lead to WW 2. As a backdrop, Vera, a product of the stiflingly Victorian/Edwardian era shows her growth becoming politically active as a suffragette and pacifist.

Now a major motion picture starring Alicia Vikander and Kit Harington. Much of what we know and feel about the First World War we owe to Vera Brittain's elegiac yet unsparing book, which set a standard for memoirists from Martha Gellhorn to Lillian Hellman. Abandoning her studies at Oxford in 1915 to enlist as a nurse in the armed services, Brittain served in London, in Malta, and on the Western Front. By war's end she had lost virtually everyone she loved. *Testament of Youth* is both a record of what she lived through and an elegy for a vanished generation. Hailed by the *Times Literary Supplement* as a book that helped "both form and define the mood of its time," it speaks to any generation that has been irrevocably changed by war. This edition features a new introduction by Brittain's biographer examining her struggles to write about her experiences and the book's reception in England and America. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

.com When war broke out in August 1914, 21-year-old Vera Brittain was planning on enrolling at Somerville College, Oxford. Her father told her she wouldn't be able to go: "In a few months' time we should probably all find ourselves in the Workhouse!" he opined. Brittain had hoped to escape the Northern provinces, but the war seemingly dashed her plans. "It is not, perhaps, so very surprising that the War at first seemed to me an infuriating personal interruption rather than a world-wide catastrophe." Her father eventually relented, however, and she was allowed to attend. By the end of her first year, she had fallen in love with a young soldier and resolved to become active in the war effort by volunteering as a nurse--turning her back on what she called her "provincial young-ladyhood." Brittain suffered through 12-hour days by reminding herself that nothing she endured was worse than what her fianc, Roland, experienced in the trenches. Roland was expected home on leave for Christmas 1915; on December 26, Brittain received news that he had been killed at the front. Ten months later Brittain herself was sent to Malta and then to France to serve in the hospitals nearer the front, where she witnessed firsthand the horrors of battle. When peace finally came, Brittain had also lost her brother Edward and two close friends. As she walked the streets of London on November 11, 1918--Armistice Day--she felt alone in the crowds: For the first time I realised, with all that full realisation meant, how completely everything that had hitherto made up my life had vanished with Edward and Roland, with Victor and Geoffrey. The War was over; a new age was beginning; but the dead were dead and would never return. First published in 1933, *Testament of Youth* established Brittain as one of the best-loved authors of her time. Her crisp, clear prose and searing honesty make this unsentimental memoir of a generation scarred by war a classic. --Sunny Delaney [*Testament of Youth*] remains one of the most powerful and widely read war memoirs of all time. The *Guardian* (London) About the Author Vera Brittain (1893-1970) served as a nurse in the British armed forces in World War I and afterward devoted herself to the causes of peace and feminism. She wrote twenty-nine books, of which *Testament of Youth* is the best-known. Mark Bostridge is a biographer and literary critic who lives in London.