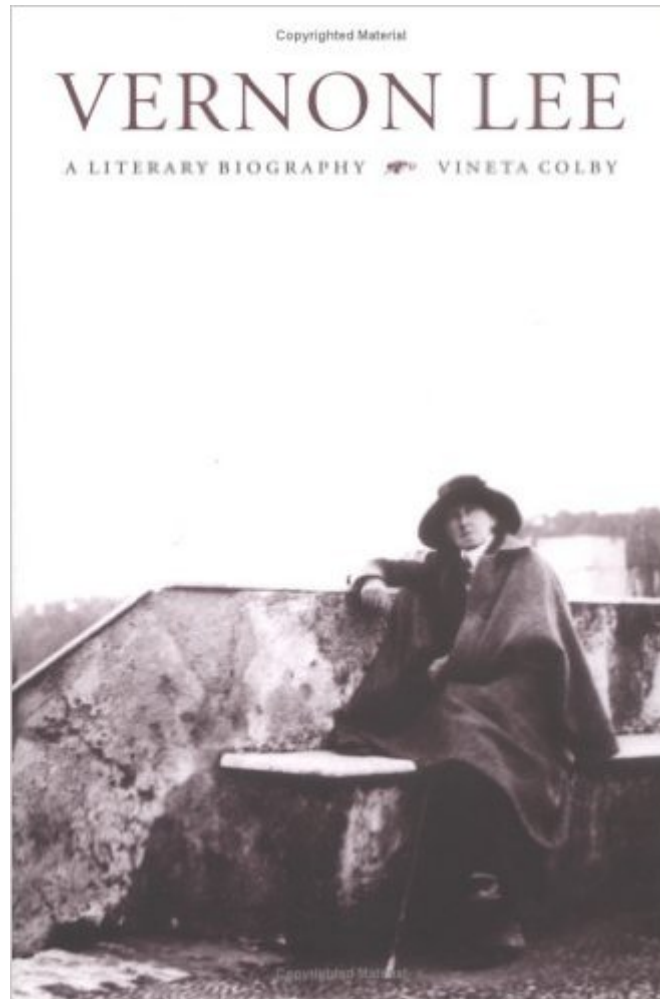


The book was found

Vernon Lee: A Literary Biography (Victorian Literature And Culture Series)



Synopsis

Vernon Lee, born Violet Paget in 1856 to English parents who lived on the Continent, bridged two worlds and many cultures. She was a Victorian by birth but lived into the second quarter of the twentieth century. Her chosen home was Italy, but she spent part of every year in England, where she published over the years an impressive number of books: novels, short stories, travel essays, studies of Italian art and music, psychological aesthetics, polemics. She was widely recognized as a woman of letters and moved freely in major literary and social circles, meeting and at times having close friendships with a huge number of the major writers and intellectuals of her time, among them Robert Browning, Walter Pater, Henry James, H. G. Wells, Bertrand Russell, Bernard Berenson, and Mario Praz. Although she never committed herself to one program of political activism, she was an advocate for feminism and social reform and during World War I was an ardent pacifist. In her last years she watched with dismay the emergence of fascism. *Vernon Lee: A Literary Biography* recovers this crowded and intellectually eventful life from her previously unpublished letters and journals, as well as from her books themselves. Vineta Colby also explores Lee's troubled personal life, from her childhood in an eccentric expatriate family to her several unhappy love affairs with women to her frank recognition that her work, brilliant as some of it was, remained unappreciated. Through it all, Vernon Lee clung to her faith in the life of the mind, and through Colby's engaging biographical narrative, she emerges today as a writer worthy of renewed attention and admiration. *Victorian Literature and Culture Series*

Book Information

Series: Victorian Literature and Culture Series

Hardcover: 404 pages

Publisher: University of Virginia Press (April 29, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0813921589

ISBN-13: 978-0813921587

Product Dimensions: 6.6 x 1.4 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,247,792 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #284 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Movements & Periods > Victorian #1093 in Books > Gay & Lesbian > History #4607 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe > Great Britain

Customer Reviews

Vineta Colby's scholarship is relaxed and assured. Page after page of this book presents information that will be new even to those who thought they knew all about the mysterious "Vernon Lee," the pen name-slash-alter ego of the British heiress Violet Paget, who preferred Italy to her own nation and writing to either. The women who Lee loved are also an interesting gallery, and her brother, the aesthete Eugene, who travelled flat on his back with a male attendant to take care of him, is a whole different trip, deserving of a book of his own. All in all, a terrific biography. I deduct one star only because, skilled as she is as a writer, she cannot manage to make Vernon Lee's individual writings even a fraction as interesting as she says they are. This is a problem Michael Holroyd faced with his magisterial biography of Lytton Strachey, like Vernon Lee a decidedly minor talent, but Holroyd managed to surmount the inherent problems and delivered a convincing defense of Strachey's writing in various categories, but this Colby cannot do. The reasons for this are both manifold and obvious, but a splendid try.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Vernon Lee: A Literary Biography (Victorian Literature and Culture Series) The Forgotten Female Aesthetes: Literary Culture in Late-Victorian England (Victorian Literature and Culture Series) LEE CHILD: SERIES READING ORDER: MY READING CHECKLIST: JACK REACHER SERIES, JACK REACHER SHORT STORIES, HAROLD MIDDLETON SERIES, SHORT STORY COLLECTIONS BY LEE CHILD, LEE CHILD ANTHOLOGIES The Lee-Enfield: A Century of Lee-Metford and Lee-Enfield Rifled and Carbines Victorian People and Ideas: A Companion for the Modern Reader of Victorian Literature Twentieth-Century Victorian: Arthur Conan Doyle and the 'Strand Magazine', 1899-1930 (Edinburgh Critical Studies in Victorian Culture) The Genius of John Ruskin: Selections from His Writings (Victorian Literature and Culture Series) Beowulf (Broadview Literary Texts) (Broadview Literary Texts Series) Islands, Identity and the Literary Imagination (Anthem Studies in Australian Literature and Culture) Ecocriticism and Geocriticism: Overlapping Territories in Environmental and Spatial Literary Studies (Geocriticism and Spatial Literary Studies) Vernon's Collectors' Guide to Orders, Medals and Decorations (With Valuations) The Upanishads: A New Translation by Vernon Katz and Thomas Egenes (Tarcher Cornerstone Editions) Jeff Herman's Guide to Book Publishers, Editors and Literary Agents: Who They Are, What They Want, How to Win Them Over (Jeff Herman's Guide to Book Editors, Publishers, and Literary Agents) George Washingtons Mount Vernon Diary of a Disgruntled Man (Vernon Coleman's Diaries Book 1) Directory of Literary Magazines 2001 (Clmp Directory of Literary Magazines and Presses) The

Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory (Penguin Dictionary) Sicily: A Literary Guide for Travellers (The I.B.Tauris Literary Guides for Travellers) Literary Market Place 2015: The Directory of the American Book Publishing Industry with Industry Indexes (Literary Market Place (Lmp)) Food and Cooking in Victorian England: A History (Victorian Life and Times)

[Dmca](#)