

A. N. WILSON

BBC

# EMINENT VICTORIANS



# Eminent Victorians

**Lytton Strachey**



## **Eminent Victorians:**

**Eminent Victorians** Lytton Strachey, 2012-11-01 When Lytton Strachey published *Eminent Victorians* he took the general perception of the Victorian age among English speaking readers and turned it upside down. Four of the most eminent and idealized heroic figures of the Victorian age came under his witty and unsparing gaze and emerged astonishingly enough as human beings.

**Eminent Victorians** Lytton Strachey, 1999-06-16 Selected by the Modern Library as one of the 100 best nonfiction books of all time, *Eminent Victorians* marked an epoch in the art of biography. It also helped to crack the old myths of high Victorianism and to usher in a new spirit by which chauvinism, hypocrisy and the stiff upper lip were debunked. In it, Strachey cleverly exposes the self-seeking ambitions of Cardinal Manning and the manipulative neurotic Florence Nightingale and in his essays on Dr Arnold and General Gordon, his quarries are not only his subjects but also the public school system and the whole structure of nineteenth-century liberal values.

*Eminent Victorians* Giles Lytton Strachey, 2020-12-08 *Eminent Victorians* published in 1918 is a compelling examination of four pivotal figures in the Victorian era: Cardinal Manning, Florence Nightingale, Thomas Arnold, and Dr John Henry Newman. Through a blend of biographical narrative and critical analysis, Strachey employs a witty yet incisive literary style that challenges the established hagiographies of these influential individuals. His approach not only highlights their accomplishments but also unveils their human complexities set against the backdrop of a society undergoing profound changes. This work falls within the broader context of Edwardian literature, marked by a critical reassessment of Victorian ideals, and Strachey's often scathing prose serves as both homage and critique of the era's moral landscape.

Giles Lytton Strachey was a prominent member of the Bloomsbury Group, known for his innovation in biographical writing. His upbringing and education imbued him with a unique perspective on Victorian values, which he later perceived as both admirable and deeply flawed. Strachey's background, characterized by literary influence and intellectual curiosity, profoundly shaped his desire to explore the dichotomy of public personas versus private realities in historical figures. *Eminent Victorians* is highly recommended for readers interested in literary biography and critical history. Strachey's sharp wit and keen insights provide a refreshing and engaging look at the lives of individuals who shaped a crucial cultural moment, urging contemporary readers to reflect on the nature of heroism and legacy. It is a must-read for those who wish to grasp the complexities of Victorian morality and its enduring impact. In this enriched edition, we have carefully created added value for your reading experience. A succinct Introduction situates the work's timeless appeal and themes. The Synopsis outlines the central plot, highlighting key developments without spoiling critical twists. A detailed Historical Context immerses you in the era's events and influences that shaped the writing. A thorough Analysis dissects symbols, motifs, and character arcs to unearth underlying meanings. Reflection questions prompt you to engage personally with the work's messages, connecting them to modern life. Hand-picked Memorable Quotes shine a spotlight on moments of literary brilliance. Interactive footnotes clarify unusual references, historical allusions, and archaic

phrases for an effortless more informed read      *Eminent Victorians* Lytton Strachey,1925      *Eminent Victorians* Lytton Strachey,2003 *Eminent Victorians* is a groundbreaking work of biography that raised the genre to the level of high art It replaced reverence with skepticism and Strachey's wit iconoclasm and narrative skill liberated the biographical enterprise His portraits of Cardinal Manning Florence Nightingale Thomas Arnold and General Gordon changed perceptions of the Victorians for a generation Lytton Strachey's biographical essays on four eminent Victorians dropped an explosive charge on Victorian England when the book was published in 1918 It ushered in the modern biography and raised the genre to the level of high literary art Strachey approached his subjects with skepticism rather than reverence and his iconoclastic wit and engaging narratives thrilled as well as shocked his contemporaries Debunking Church Public School and Empire his portraits of Cardinal Manning Florence Nightingale Dr Arnold of Rugby and General Gordon of Khartoum changed perceptions of the Victorians for a generation This edition is unique in being fully annotated and in drawing on the full range of Strachey's manuscript materials and literary remains      **Eminent Victorians** Giles Lytton Strachey,2013-02 This book hardcover is part of the TREDITION CLASSICS It contains classical literature works from over two thousand years Most of these titles have been out of print and off the bookstore shelves for decades The book series is intended to preserve the cultural legacy and to promote the timeless works of classical literature Readers of a TREDITION CLASSICS book support the mission to save many of the amazing works of world literature from oblivion With this series tredition intends to make thousands of international literature classics available in printed format again worldwide      **Eminent Victorians** Lytton Strachey,2018-09-11T23:58:20Z *Eminent Victorians* consists of four short biographies by Lytton Strachey of Victorians who were famous in their day Cardinal Manning a powerful cleric Florence Nightingale founder of modern nursing Thomas Arnold creator of the modern day English public school and General Gordon a popular officer of the British Army In Strachey's day these people were considered heroes and paragons of Victorian morality and ethics But instead of lengthy glowing biographies Strachey opts for short witty and biting biographies that skewer their subjects All of them are portrayed with their human flaws and moral contradictions on full display implicitly knocking down the sanctimonious visions of these former heroes perhaps with the exception of Nightingale who while portrayed as an often cold and mercilessly driven taskmistress nevertheless escaped with her reputation enhanced not tarnished The biographies are not only interesting for their wit humor and readability but because of the windows they open to the issues of the age Manning's biography occurs against the backdrop of a time of upheaval in the English Catholic church with concepts like Papal Infallibility entering the picture Nightingale's biography shines light on the appalling conditions of war Arnold's biography is a lens on the development of formal education and schools and Gordon's biography reveals England as an empire teetering unsteadily whose ability to influence and control faraway lands is not as certain as it might think *Eminent Victorians* took six years to write and was met with glowing reviews on its publication It made Strachey famous and cemented his name in the list of

literature's top tier biographers This book is part of the Standard Ebooks project which produces free public domain ebooks

**Eminent Victorians** Lytton Strachey, 1918 **Eminent Victorians** Lytton Strachey, 1918 **Eminent Victorians** Lytton Strachey, 1918 For other editions see Author Catalog **A Study Guide for Lytton Strachey's "Eminent Victorians"** Gale, Cengage Learning, 2016 A Study Guide for Lytton Strachey's *Eminent Victorians* excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Nonfiction Classics for Students* This concise study guide includes plot summary character analysis author biography study questions historical context suggestions for further reading and much more For any literature project trust *Nonfiction Classics for Students* for all of your research needs *Eminent Victorians* Lytton Strachey, 2014-04 This book consists of biographies of four leading figures from the Victorian era Its fame rests on the irreverence and wit Strachey brought to bear on three men and a woman who had till then been regarded as heroes and heroine They were Cardinal Manning Florence Nightingale Thomas Arnold General Gordon The book made Strachey's name and placed him firmly in the top rank of biographers where he remains THE history of the Victorian Age will never be written we know too much about it For ignorance is the first requisite of the historian ignorance which simplifies and clarifies which selects and omits with a placid perfection unattainable by the highest art Concerning the Age which has just passed our fathers and our grandfathers have poured forth and accumulated so vast a quantity of information that the industry of a Ranke would be submerged by it and the perspicacity of a Gibbon would quail before it It is not by the direct method of a scrupulous narration that the explorer of the past can hope to depict that singular epoch *Eminent Victorians* A. N. Wilson, 1989 **Eminent Victorians** Lytton Strachey, 2014-08-07 This Is A New Release Of The Original 1918 Edition **Eminent Victorians** Lytton Strachey, 1990-07-19 A genre changing work of biography *Eminent Victorians* marked an epoch in the art of biography it also helped to crack the old myths of high Victorianism and to usher in a new spirit by which chauvinism hypocrisy and the stiff upper lip were debunked In it Strachey cleverly exposes the self seeking ambitions of Cardinal Manning and the manipulative neurotic Florence Nightingale and in his essays on Dr Arnold and General Gordon his quarries are not only his subjects but also the public school system and the whole structure of nineteenth century liberal values 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 **Eminent Victorian Chess Players** Tim Harding, 2014-12-03 This book portrays British chess life in the nineteenth century through biographical studies of ten players who shaped the modern game From Captain Evans inventor of the famous gambit to Isidor Gunsberg England's first challenger for the world championship personal narratives are blended with game annotations to reassess players achievements and character The author has combined deep reading in primary sources with genealogical research to reveal

new facts and correct previous misunderstandings Major chapters on Howard Staunton and William Steinitz in particular highlight the tensions between Englishmen and immigrants amateurs and professionals The contrasting long careers of Henry Bird and Joseph Blackburne provide a thread of continuity The lives of several other important figures in Victorian chess are also presented More than 160 games with diagrams several annotated in detail and 50 photographs and line drawings are included Appendices provide career records for all ten there are extensive notes a bibliography and indexes

Enemies of Promise Cyril Connolly, 2008-07 Whom the gods wish to destroy writes Cyril Connolly they first call promising First published in 1938 and long out of print Enemies of Promise an inquiry into the problem of how to write a book that lasts ten years tests the boundaries of criticism journalism and autobiography with the blistering prose that became Connolly's trademark Connolly here confronts the evils of domesticity politics drink and advertising as well as novelists such as Joyce Proust Hemingway and Faulkner in essays that remain fresh and penetrating to this day A fine critic compulsive traveler and candid autobiographer Connolly lays down the law for all writers who wanted to count He had imagination and decisive images flashed with the speed of wit in his mind V S Pritchett New York Review of Books Anyone who writes or wants to write will find something on just about every single page that either endorses a long held prejudice or outrages and that makes it a pretty compelling read You end up muttering back at just about every ornately constructed pen name that Connolly utters but that's one of the joys of this book Nick Hornby The Believer A remarkable book Anthony Powell **Eminent**

**Victorians** Lytton Strachey, 2013-10 This is a reproduction of a book published before 1923 This book may have occasional imperfections such as missing or blurred pages poor pictures errant marks etc that were either part of the original artifact or were introduced by the scanning process We believe this work is culturally important and despite the imperfections have elected to bring it back into print as part of our continuing commitment to the preservation of printed works worldwide We appreciate your understanding of the imperfections in the preservation process and hope you enjoy this valuable book The below data was compiled from various identification fields in the bibliographic record of this title This data is provided as an additional tool in helping to ensure edition identification Eminent Victorians Cardinal Manning Dr Arnold Florence Nightingale General Gordon Modern Library Of The World's Best Books Lytton Strachey The Modern Library 1918 Biography Medical Biography Autobiography Medical Eminent Victorians Lytton Strachey, 1918 Evaluates the lives and times of four people **Eminent Victorians** Lytton Strachey, 1934

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