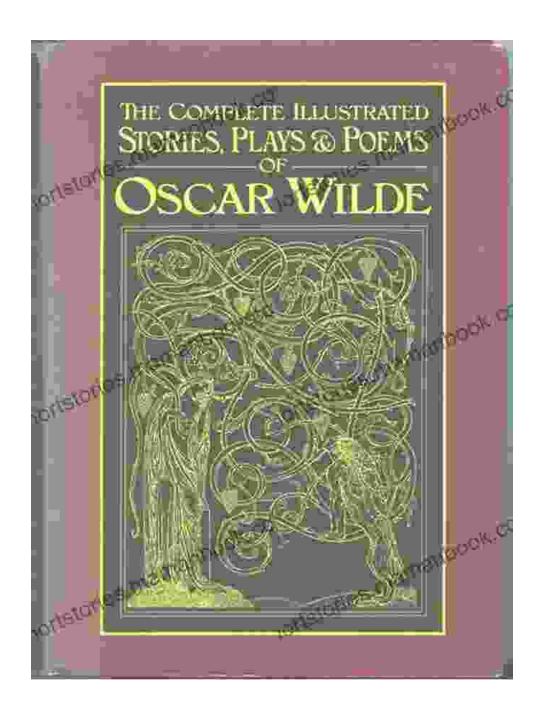
## The Complete Poems of Oscar Wilde: A Masterpiece of Victorian Literature



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The Complete Poems of Oscar Wilde is a captivating collection of over 200 sonnets, ballads, and lyrics that showcase the brilliance and wit of this

enigmatic Victorian writer. From his early romantic poems to his later, more cynical works, Wilde's poetry explores themes of love, beauty, art, and the human condition.



#### Complete Poems of Oscar Wilde (Illustrated) by Oscar Wilde

**★** ★ ★ ★ 4.5 out of 5 Language : English File size : 2378 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Print length : 350 pages Paperback : 242 pages Item Weight : 9.6 ounces

Dimensions : 5.87 x 0.61 x 8.27 inches



#### **Early Life and Education:**

Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde was born on October 16, 1854, in Dublin, Ireland. He attended Trinity College Dublin, where he excelled in classics and mathematics. Wilde's education had a profound influence on his writing, as he was exposed to the works of Greek and Roman poets and philosophers.

#### The Aesthete:

In the 1880s, Wilde became the leading figure of the Aesthetic Movement, a movement that emphasized the importance of art for art's sake. He prided himself on his flamboyant lifestyle and witty conversation, often shocking society with his unconventional views.

#### **Poetic Style:**

Wilde's poetry is characterized by its musicality, wit, and use of paradox. He often employed iambic tetrameter and heptameter, creating a flowing, rhythmic effect. Wilde's use of rhyme is also noteworthy, as he deftly interweaves words and sounds to create a harmonious tapestry.

#### Themes of Beauty and Art:

A central theme in Wilde's poetry is the pursuit of beauty and the transformative power of art. In "The Picture of Dorian Gray," Wilde explores the dangers of obsessive vanity and the idea that art can mirror and influence reality.

#### Love and Desire:

Another major theme in Wilde's poetry is love and desire. He celebrates the joys and sorrows of romantic passion while also critiquing the societal expectations and double standards surrounding love.

#### **Satire and Social Commentary:**

Wilde's poems often served as vehicles for social commentary. He satirized the materialism, hypocrisy, and conformity of Victorian society. His poem "The Ballad of Reading Gaol" is a powerful indictment of the inhumane treatment of prisoners.

#### **Major Works:**

\* Poems (1881) \* The Ballad of Reading Gaol (1898) \* The Sphinx (1894) \* Sonnets of the Portuguese (1889) \* Ravenna (1878)

#### Influence and Legacy:

The Complete Poems of Oscar Wilde remains a beloved work of literature today. His poetry has influenced generations of writers, including William Butler Yeats and Virginia Woolf. Wilde's wit, imagination, and mastery of language continue to captivate and inspire readers.

#### **Critical Reception:**

The Complete Poems of Oscar Wilde has received critical acclaim throughout history. Critics have praised Wilde's technical skill, his ability to capture the complexities of human emotion, and his unique perspective on art and society.

#### **Modern Relevance:**

Even in the 21st century, Wilde's poetry retains its relevance. His themes of love, beauty, and the pursuit of fulfillment resonate with readers today. His wit and irony also provide a refreshing counterpoint to the often-serious nature of modern society.

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The Complete Poems of Oscar Wilde is an enduring masterpiece that showcases the brilliance of one of the most celebrated writers of the Victorian era. Through his sonnets, ballads, and lyrics, Wilde explores the depths of human emotion, satirizes societal conventions, and celebrates the transformative power of art. His legacy lives on through his unforgettable words and his timeless themes.

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