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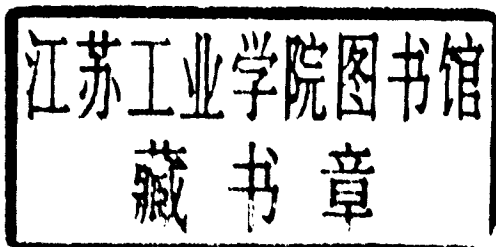


E.M.
FORSTER

Edited by David Bradshaw

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DAVID BRADSHAW



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MAX SAUNDERS is Professor of English at King's College, London University, where he teaches modern English, European, and American literature. He is the author of *Ford Madox Ford: A Dual Life*, 2 vols. (Oxford University Press, 1996), the editor of Ford's *Selected Poems*, *War Prose*, and (with Richard Stang) *Critical Essays* (Carcanet, 1997, 1999, 2002), and has published essays on many other Modernist authors, and on Life-writing and Impressionism.

A CHRONOLOGY OF FORSTER'S LIFE AND WORK

- 1879 Edward Morgan Forster born at 6, Melcombe Place, Dorset Square, London NW1 on 1 January, the only child of Edward Morgan Llewellyn Forster, an architect, and Alice Clara 'Lily', née Whichelo.
- 1880 Father dies of tuberculosis on 30 October.
- 1883 Two years of temporary lodgings and house-hunting come to an end when he moves with his mother to 'Rooksnest', the original for the eponymous Howards End, just outside Stevenage, Hertfordshire.
- 1887 Beginning of his formal education under a local schoolmaster. Bequeathed the large sum of £8,000 in trust by Marianne Thornton, his paternal great-aunt, who dies on 5 November.
- 1890 Enters Kent House, a preparatory school in Eastbourne, Sussex, where he will stay until 1893. Maurice Hall's prep school in *Maurice* is also situated in a south coast 'watering-place' near the downs.
- 1893 Mother moves from 'Rooksnest' to Tonbridge in Kent when her lease on the cottage is not renewed. Forster attends Tonbridge School as a day-boy, where he is bullied and generally unhappy, until 1897. Herbert Pembroke vilifies the day-boys of Sawston School (based on Tonbridge) in *The Longest Journey* and one boy is mercilessly bullied.
- 1897 Enters King's College, Cambridge, where he will remain until 1901 and where he first reads classics and then history.
- 1898 He and his mother move from Tonbridge to 10, Earl's Road, Tunbridge Wells, also in Kent. Back at King's, he begins to form a friendship with Goldsworthy Lowes Dickinson, one of the most important relationships of his life.
- 1900 Takes Second in the Classical Tripos, Part 1. He remains at King's for a further year studying history.
- 1901 Elected in February to the 'Apostles', an exclusive University society which primarily concerned itself with philosophical and moral questions. His friendships with Leonard Woolf, Lytton Strachey,

- posthumously in *The Life to Come and Other Stories* (1972). Vacations in Italy with Masood. Begins work on what was eventually published as 'Arctic Summer: Fragment of an Unfinished Novel' in 1963 and more fully as *Arctic Summer and Other Fiction* (1980). In October, gives last extension lectures until 1922.
- 1912 Departs in October, with Goldsworthy Lowes Dickinson, for his first visit to India. Travels widely and will remain there until April 1913. Becomes friendly with the Maharaja of Dewas State Senior. These experiences later find their way into *A Passage to India* (1924) and *The Hill of Devi* (1953).
- 1913 Growing sense of creative drought only intensifies on his return from India, even though he makes good progress with *A Passage to India* in the immediate aftermath of his trip to the subcontinent. In September he meets the openly homosexual and intensely progressive Edward Carpenter for the first time and this inspires him to begin work on *Maurice*. By the end of the year, *A Passage to India* has been set aside.
- 1914 *Maurice* substantially completed by July but not published until 1971. Renewed and deepening anxiety about the failure of his creative energies and his role in life. The outbreak of the First World War in August only exacerbates these feelings. Works in National Gallery (London) until 1915 as a cataloguer.
- 1915 Begins working for the Red Cross's Wounded and Missing Bureau in Alexandria, Egypt, in November. He continues in this position until 1918.
- 1917 Appointed the Red Cross's Head Searcher in Egypt.
- 1919 Leaves Alexandria in January. Begins reviewing for the *Daily News*, *Daily Herald*, *Athenaeum*, and other papers and journals in March.
- 1920 Appointed literary editor of the *Daily Herald* at the beginning of the year but soon gives it up.
- 1921 Returns to India in March to take up the position of private secretary to the Maharaja of Dewas, remaining there until January 1922. Sees a good deal of Masood during this sojourn in India.
- 1922 Recommences writing *A Passage to India*. Completes 'The Life to Come', but does not attempt to publish this explicitly homosexual story. *Alexandria: A History and a Guide* published in Alexandria in December.
- 1923 *Pharos and Pharillon: A Novelist's Sketchbook of Alexandria through the Ages* published on 15 May in London and 30 July in New York.

- 1946 Elected to an Honorary Fellowship of King's College, Cambridge, in January and takes rooms there for the remainder of his life in November, while retaining his flat in Chiswick.
- 1947 Leaves for a tour of the USA on 14 April and remains there until July. *The Collected Tales of E. M. Forster* published on 10 July in New York and the following year in London.
- 1949 Returns to USA in May to lecture accompanied by Bob Buckingham. Is offered a knighthood but declines.
- 1951 *Two Cheers for Democracy* published on 1 November. Première of *Billy Budd*, the opera by Benjamin Britten for which he writes the libretto with Eric Crozier, on 1 December.
- 1953 Made a Companion of Honour. *The Hill of Devi and Other Indian Writings* published in October.
- 1954 Seventy-five on 1 January. Still reviewing widely and frequently.
- 1956 *Marianne Thornton, 1797-1887: A Domestic Biography* published in May.
- 1969 Ninety on 1 January. Awarded the Order of Merit.
- 1970 Dies in Coventry on 7 June at the home of Bob and May Buckingham. As a humanist, his ashes are scattered on a nearby rose garden.
- 1971 *Maurice* published on 7 October. *Albergo Empedocle and Other Writings* appears in the same month.
- 1972 *The Life to Come and Other Stories* published.
- 1980 *Arctic Summer and Other Fiction* published.
- 1999 *The Prince's Tale and Other Uncollected Writings* published.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- MT *Marianne Thornton*, ed. Evelyne Hanquart-Turner, vol. 15 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: André Deutsch, 2000)
- PI *A Passage to India*, ed. Oliver Stallybrass, vol. 6 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1978)
- PT *The Prince's Tale and Other Uncollected Writings*, ed. P. N. Furbank, vol. 17 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: André Deutsch, 1998)
- RV *A Room with a View*, ed. Oliver Stallybrass, vol. 3 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1977)
- TCD *Two Cheers for Democracy*, ed. Oliver Stallybrass, vol. 11 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1972)
- WAF *Where Angels Fear to Tread*, ed. Oliver Stallybrass, vol. 1 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1975)

ABBREVIATIONS

- AE *Albergo Empedocle and Other Writings*, ed. George H. Thomson (New York: Liveright, 1971)
- AH *Abinger Harvest and England's Pleasant Land*, ed. Elizabeth Heine, vol. 10 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: André Deutsch, 1996)
- AN *Aspects of the Novel and Related Writings*, ed. Oliver Stallybrass, vol. 12 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1974)
- AS *Arctic Summer and Other Fiction*, eds. Elizabeth Heine and Oliver Stallybrass, vol. 9 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1980)
- GLD *Goldsworthy Lowes Dickinson and Related Writings*, ed. Oliver Stallybrass, vol. 13 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1973)
- HD *The Hill of Devi and Other Indian Writings*, ed. Elizabeth Heine, vol. 14 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1983)
- HE *Howards End*, ed. Oliver Stallybrass, vol. 4 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1973)
- LC *The Life to Come and Other Stories*, ed. Oliver Stallybrass, vol. 8 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1972)
- LJ *The Longest Journey*, ed. Elizabeth Heine, vol. 2 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: Edward Arnold, 1984)
- M *Maurice*, ed. Philip Gardner, vol. 5 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: André Deutsch, 1999)
- MS *The Machine Stops and Other Stories*, ed. Rod Mengham, vol. 7 of The Abinger Edition of E. M. Forster (London: André Deutsch, 1997)

- 1924 His last novel, *A Passage to India*, published on 4 June to unanimous critical acclaim. Friendships with T. E. Lawrence ('Lawrence of Arabia'), Thomas Hardy, and J. R. Ackerley developing.
- 1925 Moves with his mother to West Hackhurst, Abinger Hammer, near Dorking, Surrey, in January. Also rents a flat in London. Begins his *Commonplace Book* (published in 1985) in October.
- 1926 Begins his affair with a London policeman, Harry Daley.
- 1927 Delivers Clark Lectures at Cambridge University from January to March, published on 20 October as *Aspects of the Novel*.
- 1928 Second collection of short stories, *The Eternal Moment*, published on 27 March in London and 19 April in New York.
- 1929 He is fifty on 1 January. At end of June leaves for three-month tour of southern Africa.
- 1930 26, Brunswick Square becomes his London base until 1939. Begins his lifelong relationship with Bob Buckingham, another London policeman.
- 1932 Goldsworthy Lowes Dickinson dies on 3 August. Bob Buckingham gets married to May Hockey on 31 August with Forster as witness. Is now broadcasting regularly on BBC radio as well as continuing to review frequently for journals such as the *Listener*.
- 1934 Becomes first President of the National Council for Civil Liberties, forerunner of the modern day Liberty organisation, in March. His homage to his friend, *Goldsworthy Lowes Dickinson*, published on 19 April in London and 7 June in New York.
- 1935 T. E. Lawrence killed in a motorcycle accident in May. Addresses International Writers' Congress in Paris in June.
- 1936 First volume of essays, *Abinger Harvest*, published on 19 March in London and 30 April in New York.
- 1938 Publication of the first critical book on his work, Rose Macaulay's *The Writings of E. M. Forster*.
- 1939 Moves from Brunswick Square to 9, Arlington Park Mansions in Chiswick, London.
- 1940 Broadcasts anti-Nazi talks on BBC. Continues to broadcast regularly for the BBC and to write for a range of publications throughout the Second World War.
- 1945 Mother dies on 11 March aged ninety. Broadcasting career continues. Visits India for the third and final time during last three months of this year.

- J. M. Keynes, and others are forged through it. His first paper is entitled 'Are Crocodiles the Best of Animals?'. He takes a second in the Historical Tripos, Part II. In October he embarks on a year-long tour of Italy with his mother. Many incidents and people from this trip find their way into *Where Angels Fear to Tread*, *A Room with a View*, and his short fiction such as 'The Story of a Panic' and 'The Eternal Moment'.
- 1902 Soon after returning to England he begins giving a weekly Latin class at the Working Men's College, Great Ormond Street, Bloomsbury, London.
- 1903 Visits Italy, Greece, and Turkey in the spring and early summer. Gives his first series of Cambridge University extension (extramural) lectures in the autumn and works intermittently on what would become *A Room with a View*. His first published story, 'Albergo Empedocle', appears in December.
- 1904 Works on, and by the end of the year almost finishes, *Where Angels Fear to Tread*. Moves with his mother to a suburban villa called Harham on Monument Green, Weybridge, Surrey. This will remain their home until 1924.
- 1905 Spends six months (March to August) in Pomerania, Germany, working as a private tutor. First novel, *Where Angels Fear to Tread*, is published on 5 October to much praise.
- 1907 *The Longest Journey* published on 16 April. Good press reviews but adverse criticism from the likes of Lytton Strachey. His friendship with a young Indian student, Syed Ross Masood, whom he met in 1906 and who is now an undergraduate at Oxford, begins to intensify.
- 1908 Commences occasional work as a University of London extramural lecturer in January and continues to lecture at the Working Men's College. *Howards End* begins to take shape from around June. Visits Italy again. Third novel, *A Room with a View*, is published on 14 October, once again to laudatory reviews but to less than buoyant sales. Begins reading the Koran with difficulty and falls more deeply in love with Masood.
- 1910 *Howards End* published on 18 October in London (and three months later in New York). His most successful novel to date, both critically and commercially, it is reprinted four times before the end of the year. Tells Masood he loves him in December.
- 1911 *The Celestial Omnibus*, his first collection of short stories, published in the spring. Begins to write stories with explicitly homoerotic themes in the summer, a number of them collected

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

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