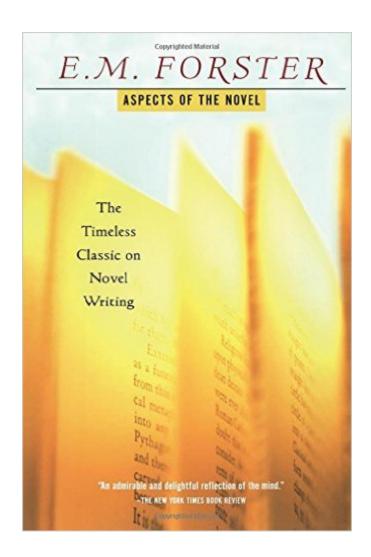
## The book was found

# **ASPECTS OF THE NOVEL**





### Synopsis

A highly original and intelligent investigation of the novel from celebrated writer and "gentle genius" E. M. Forster E. M. Forster's renowned guide to writing sparkles with wit and insight for contemporary writers and readers. With lively language and excerpts from well-known classics, Forster takes on the seven elements vital to a novel: story, people, plot, fantasy, prophecy, pattern, and rhythm. He not only defines and explains such terms as "round" versus "flat" characters (and why both are needed for an effective novel), but also provides examples of writing from such literary greats as Dickens and Austen. Forster's original commentary illuminates and entertains without lapsing into complicated, scholarly rhetoric, coming together in a key volume on writing that avoids chronology and what he calls "pseudoscholarship."

#### **Book Information**

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Mariner Books; 1 edition (September 14, 1956)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0156091801

ISBN-13: 978-0156091800

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (56 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #28,926 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Literature & Fiction

> History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > European > British & Irish #140 in Books >

Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Criticism & Theory #555 in Books > Literature &

Fiction > British & Irish

#### **Customer Reviews**

Though Forster structures his essays around such fundamental novelistic elements as plot, character, and language, this is a rather loosely constructed and free ranging discussion of the literary form that has come in the past two hundred years to dominate the Western world's literary preoccupations. It is not systematic, nor is it comprehensive. Its tone is more personal and impressionistic. Fortunately, Forster has a large number of tremendously perceptions about the novel and novelists, and because he couches these reflections in frequently brilliant sentences, this book makes for reading that is both insightful and delightful. It is also an intensely personal book, so

that we gain a great deal of insight into Forster's tastes and quirks. Nearly every chapter in this book has something to offer the reader, but I have found his discussion of the difference between flat and round characters to be especially useful in reading other novels. In Forster's view, a round character is one that can develop and change over the course of a novel's story. They adjust, grow, and react to events and people around them. They are fuller, and therefore more lifelike. A flat character, on the other hand, is essentially the same character at the end of the tale as at the beginning. They do not grow, do not alter with time, do no admit of development. Flat characters are not necessarily bad characters. As Forster points out, correctly, I think, nearly all of Charles Dickens's characters are flat characters. Not even major characters such as David Copperfield change during the course of their history. I have found this distinction to be quite helpful in reading the work of various novelists. Some authors have almost nothing but round characters. Anthony Trollope is a premier example of this.

Sometimes one reads a book and it opens up the brain and heart in such a way that one views the world differently thereafter. This is such a book. You will never again read a novel and think about the book in front of you or how it was written in guite the same way. There is nothing else like it. Delving into this book was part of a quest over the past year to read books on writing by writers. The books did not address HOW to write a novel other than tangentially. Although there are a plethora of dubious choices along those lines, I stayed away from them. The books that I searched out were books on the process of writing, the very lonely experience of the writer in creating fiction. Several of the books were fogettable. A surprising number of them were memorable, including Mystery & Manners by Flannery O'Connor, On Writing by Stephen King, and anything by Margaret Atwood. Of all of the books that I read, this one was the best by far. It covered not only the process of writing but also provided a structure for discussing and understanding the novel art form. As a result, I highly recommend this book for book clubs. When presenting this book recently to my book club of 14+ years as my pick, there was a collective groan. Upon finishing the book, we all thought that it was one of the best of the 125+ books that we had read. It gave us a missing structure and tools for moving discussions and disagreements forward. Several times over the years, one or more of us have disagreed over some book selection or an aspect of it, but the discussion would stall for lack of a way to bridge the various viewpoints. For the first time, we were able to go back through those arguments in a new light using the tools presented in the book.

...the fundamental aspect of the novel is its story-telling aspect... -EM Forster, Aspects of the Novell liked this collected series of lectures on what makes for good novel writing much better than almost

#### Download to continue reading...

Practical Aspects of Interview and Interrogation, Second Edition (Practical Aspects of Criminal and Forensic Investigations) ASPECTS OF THE NOVEL Writing: Novel Writing Mastery, Proven And Simple Techniques To Outline-, Structure- And Write A Successful Novel! - novel writing, writing fiction, writing skills - Summary - Outlander: Novel -- (Outlander Book 1) -- A Great Summary About This Book Of Diana Gabaldon! (Outlander: A Novel-- A Great Summary--Outlander Book 1, Novel, Paperback) Aromatic Plants: Basic and Applied Aspects (World Crops: Production, Utilization and Description) Modern Book Collecting: A Basic Guide to All Aspects of Book Collecting: What to Collect, Who to Buy from, Auctions, Bibliographies, Care, Fakes and ... Investments, Donations, Definitions, and More Tourism and Transport: Modes, Networks and Flows (Aspects of Tourism Texts) Digital System Clocking: High-Performance and Low-Power Aspects Handbook of Port and Harbor Engineering: Geotechnical and Structural Aspects Operational Aspects of Oil and Gas Well Testing, Volume 1 (Handbook of Petroleum Exploration and Production) The Management of Engineering: Human, Quality, Organizational, Legal, and Ethical Aspects of Professional Practice Performance Anxiety Cure: How To Overcome Performance Anxiety And Stage Fright In All Aspects Of Life Forever (anxiety recovery, panic attacks, anxiety management, anxiety attacks) Injuries of the Brain and Spinal Cord and Their Coverings: Neuro-Psychiatric, Surgical, and Medico-Legal Aspects Sex-Related Homicide and Death Investigation: Practical and Clinical Perspectives,

Second Edition (Practical Aspects of Criminal and Forensic Investigations) Spiritual Aspects of the Healing Arts (Quest Books) Psychosocial Aspects of Cystic Fibrosis Aircraft Repossession Enforcement Practical Aspects Volume Ii (Kluwer Law International: International Bar Association) The Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Islamic Banking: A Comparative Look at the United Kingdom and Malaysia (Routledge Research in Finance and Banking Law) The Law of Adaptation to Climate Change: United States and International Aspects Legal Aspects of Managing Technology (West Legal Studies in Business Academic)

<u>Dmca</u>