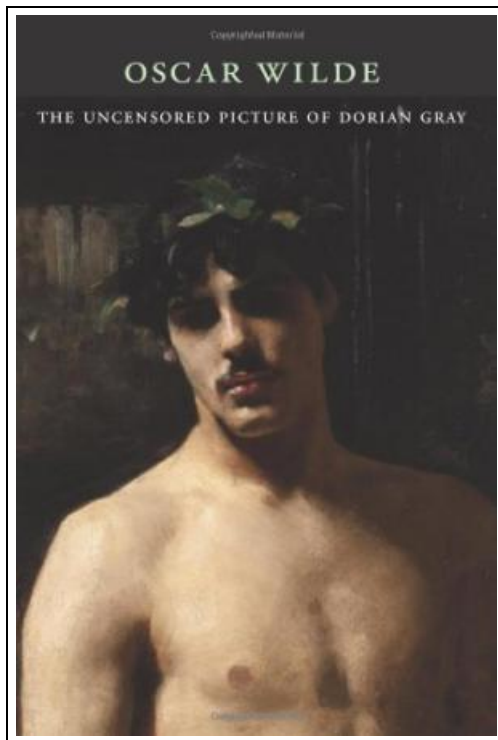


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THE UNCENSORED PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY: A READERS EDITION

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The Belknap Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 272 pages. More than 120 years after Oscar Wilde submitted The Picture of Dorian Gray for publication in Lippincott and rsquo;s Monthly Magazine, the uncensored version of his novel appears here for the first time in a paperback edition. This volume restores all of the material removed by the novel and rsquo;s first editor. Upon receipt of the typescript, Wilde and rsquo;s editor panicked at what he saw. Contained within its pages was material he feared readers would find and ldquo;offensive and rdquo;especially instances of graphic homosexual content. He proceeded to go through the typescript with his pencil, cleaning it up until he made it and ldquo;acceptable to the most fastidious taste. and rdquo; Wilde did not see these changes until his novel appeared in print. Wilde and rsquo;s editor and rsquo;s concern was well placed. Even in its redacted form, the novel caused public outcry. The British press condemned it as and ldquo;vulgar, and rdquo; and ldquo;unclean, and rdquo; and ldquo;poisonous, and rdquo; and ldquo;discreditable, and rdquo; and and ldquo;a sham. and rdquo; When Wilde later enlarged the novel for publication in book form, he responded to his critics by further toning down its and ldquo;immoral and rdquo; elements. Wilde famously said that The Picture of Dorian Gray and ldquo;contains much of me and rdquo;; Basil Hallward is and ldquo;what I think I am, and rdquo; Lord Henry and ldquo;what the world thinks me, and rdquo; and and ldquo;Dorian what I would like to be in other ages, perhaps. and rdquo; Wilde and rsquo;s comment suggests a backward glance to a Greek or Dorian Age, but also a forward-looking view to a more permissive time than his own repressive Victorian era. By implication, Wilde would have preferred we read today the uncensored...

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