

*Wednesday, the twenty-first of September*  
*Class work*

# **OSCAR WILDE**

## **(1854–1900)**



# The Irish poet and dramatist Oscar Wilde wrote some of the finest comedies in the English language.



**Oscar Wilde Birthday Celebration and Round Table**  
Friday, October 16, 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.

at the  
Pierpont Morgan Library  
and  
Lillie's Irish Victorian Pub

- view Wilde letters and manuscripts
- toast his birthday with his favorite tippie
- discuss his life and work
- explore the Decadents and Victorian society
- enjoy tasty Irish fare

~ costumes optional ~

7:00 p.m. - Meet at the Pierpont Morgan Library to view Wilde collection  
225 Madison Avenue at 36th Street, admission free

9:00 p.m. - Join us at Lillie's Irish Victorian Pub for dinner and drinks  
13 East 17th Street between Broadway and Fifth Avenue

**A Scholarly Steampunk Event**  
no kids, please for ages 14+

The poster is framed by a decorative Art Nouveau border. On the left side, there is a vertical illustration of a woman in a long, flowing dress holding a basket of grapes. In the center, there is a small portrait of Oscar Wilde, which is the same as the one in the adjacent image. The text is arranged in a formal, elegant layout.

**‘A Woman of No Importance’ appeared in 1893, ‘An Ideal Husband’ in 1895, and the ever-popular ‘The Importance of Being Earnest’ was published in 1895.**



**... was a great  
conversationalist and a man  
of wide learning, but his life  
ended in disgrace and**



**Wilde was born on Oct. 16, 1854, in Dublin, Ireland. He was educated at Portora Royal School in Enniskillen, Trinity College in Dublin, and Magdalen College, Oxford**



Life is too  
important  
to be taken  
seriously!

(Oscar Wilde)

**Then he settled in London, where in 1884 he married Constance Lloyd. They had two sons.**

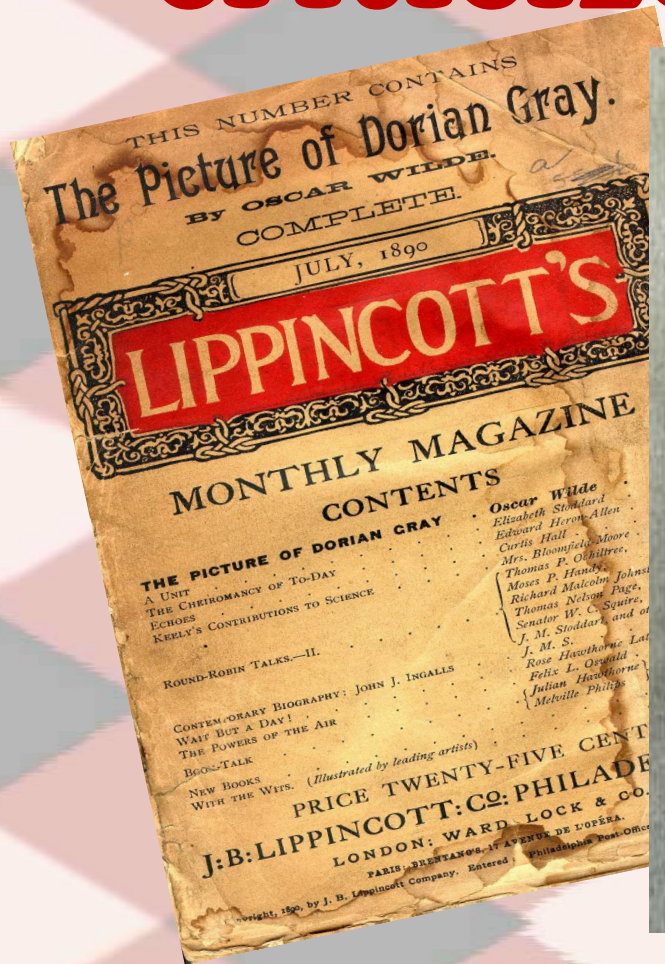


**He published his early poetry, wrote book reviews, and edited the journal *Woman's World*.**



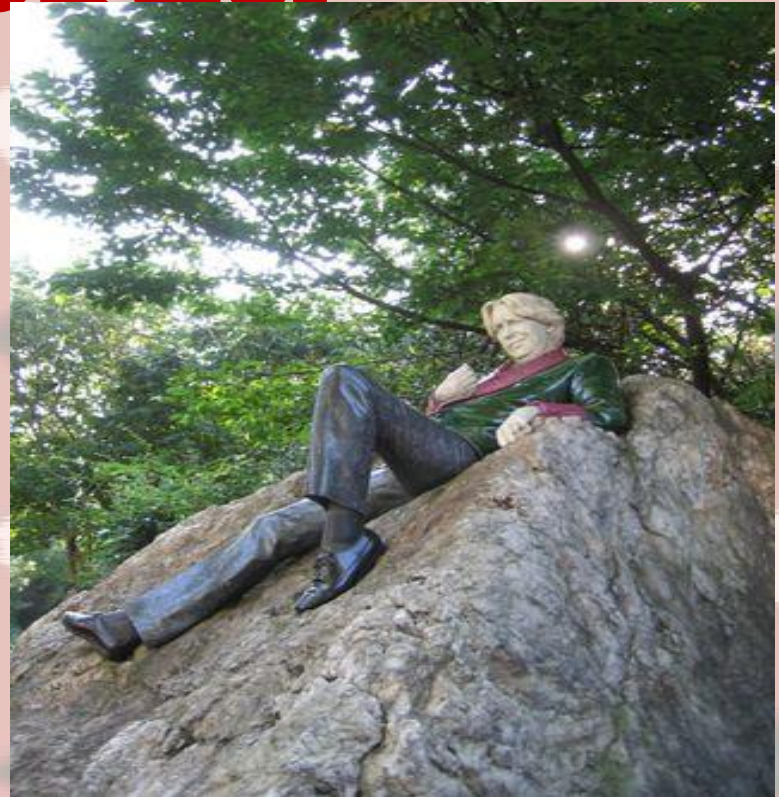


**His only novel, 'The Picture of Dorian Gray' (1891), was severely criticized as immoral.**

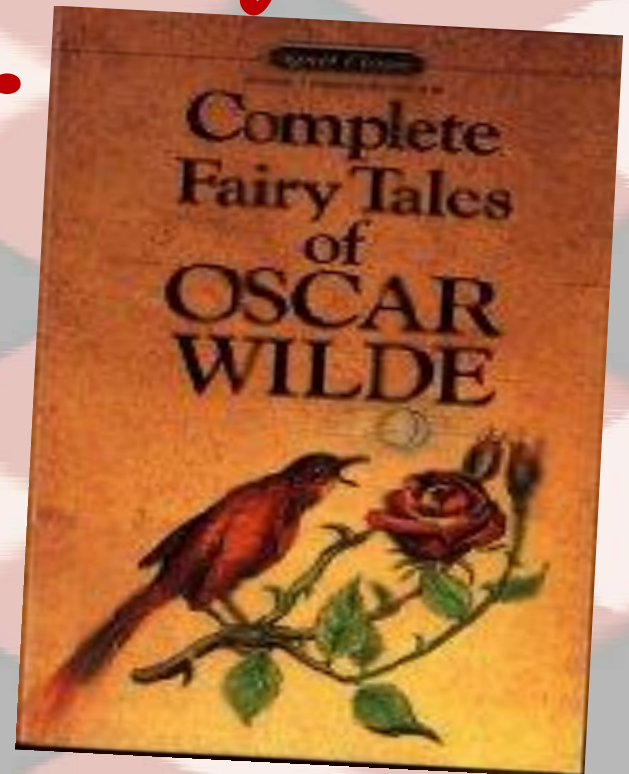
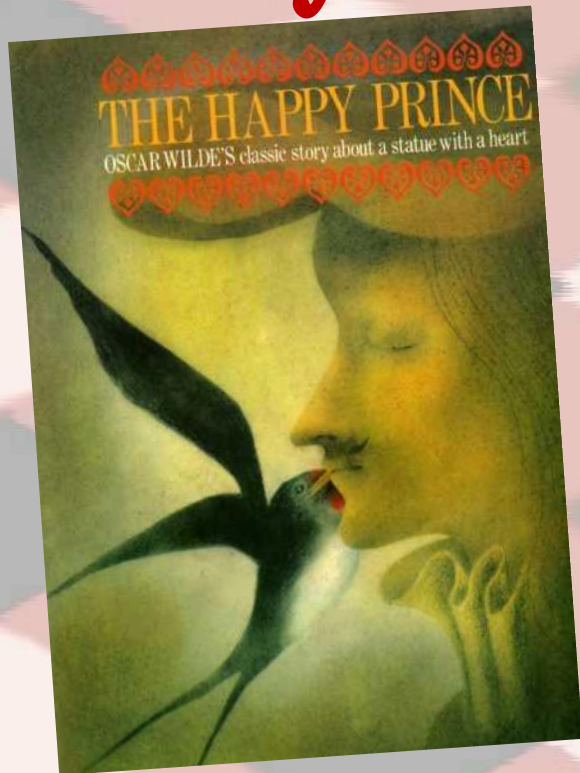


**He had the ability to take conventional plots and turn them into brilliant comedies by his witty dialogue.**

"We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."



**Star-Child, Young King,  
Happy Prince, Fisherman  
and His Soul,  
Devoted Friend - are not fairy  
tales for children. These are sad  
fairy tales. These are fairy tales  
for adults.**



**In the classic 'The Importance of Being Earnest', the plot and the dialogue are equally fantastical**

