

10 Facts You Should Know About Oscar Wilde

"There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about."

*~ Oscar Wilde, **The Picture of Dorian Gray***

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A bit of biography

- **Oscar Wilde** (Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde, 16 October 1854 – 30 November 1900) was an Irish playwright, poet, and author of numerous short stories and one novel "The Picture of Dorian Gray". He is **one of the most iconic figures** from late Victorian society enjoying a meteoric rise to the top of society. His
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1st fact.

- **Oscar Wilde** was born in Dublin. His parents were well known and attracted their fair share of gossip for their **extravagant lifestyles**. His mother, **Jane Wilde**, was a successful writer, being a poet for the revolutionary Young Irelanders in 1848 and a life-long Irish nationalist. His father, **William Wilde**, was knighted for his services to the



2nd fact.

- **Oscar Wilde** was a very talented a student. He was awarded a scholarship to Trinity College Dublin. From Trinity college he won a scholarship to Magdalen College Oxford University. He was a brilliant scholar but also increasingly rebellious. In one academic year he got rusticated for turning up to College 3 weeks after the start of term. Thus after a while he lost interest in pursuing an ac London.



Oscar Wilde and Lord Alfred Douglas About 1893



3rd fact,

- While at Magdalen College, Wilde became particularly well known for his role in the **aesthetic and decadent movements**. He began **wearing his hair long** and openly scorning so-called "manly" sports, and began decorating his room with **blue** and **cherry** colors.



4th fact.

- It was in London that he was able to skillfully enter into high society, soon becoming well known as a playwright and noted wit. **Oscar Wilde** became famous throughout London society. He was one of the **early "celebrities"** in some respects he was famous for being famous. His dress was a target for satire in the cartoons, but Wilde didn't seem to mind. In fact, he was a master of the art of self-publicity and seem



5th fact.

- In 1884 Oscar Wilde married **Constance Lloyd**, daughter of wealthy Queen's Counsel Horace Lloyd. Constance's allowance of £250 allowed the Wildes to live in relative luxury. The couple had three children.



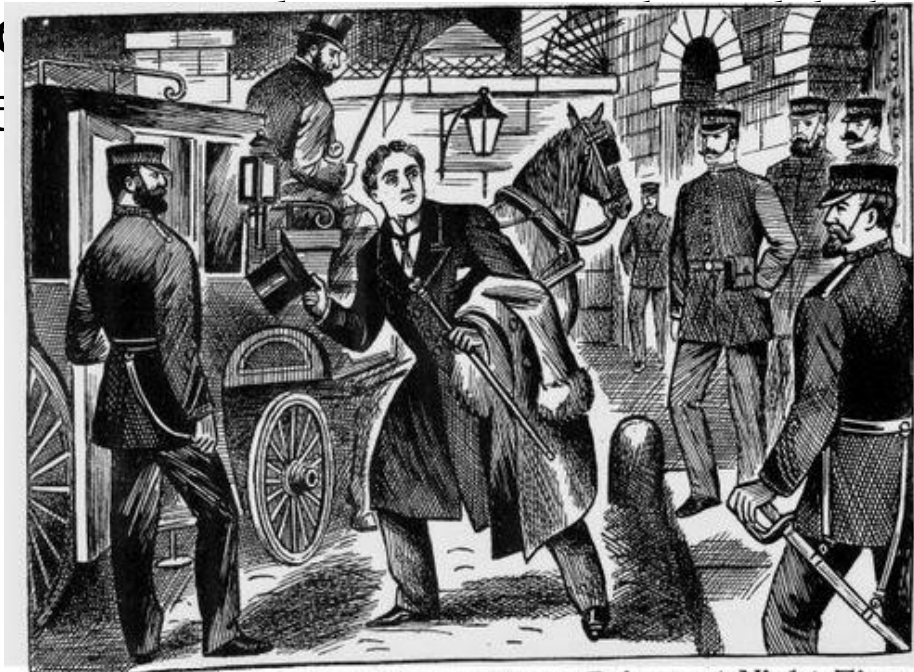
6th fact.

- But in fact Oscar Wilde was in love with Lord Alfred Douglas, who was also known as Bosie.



7th fact.

- Oscar Wilde's years of triumph ended dramatically, when his intimate association with **Alfred Douglas** led to his **trial on charges of homosexuality**(then illegal in Britain). He was sentenced to two years of hard labour for the crime.



Oscar Wilde Secretly Released from Prison at Night Time.

8th fact.

- In some respects he never really recovered, on his release he left for Paris where he lived in comparative anonymity. However he **retained his wit and continued to write**. It was there he wrote the famous *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*



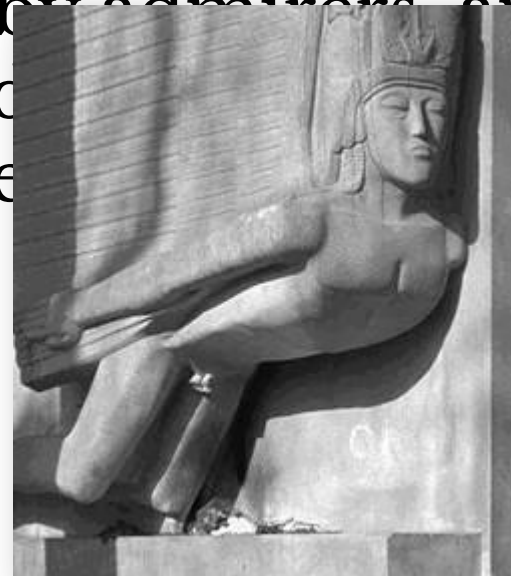
9th fact.

- Wilde died of cerebral meningitis on 30 November 1900. Whilst not his very **last words**, one of the witticisms he spoke on his deathbed was "This wallpaper and I are fighting a **one of us has to go**".



10th fact.

- Wilde was initially buried in the Cimetière de Bagneux outside Paris; in 1909 his remains were disinterred to Père Lachaise Cemetery, inside the city.
- In 2011, the tomb was cleaned of the many lipstick marks left there by admirers and a glass barrier was installed to prevent further marks or damage.



- The epitaph is a verse from *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*:
- *And alien tears will fill for him
Pity's long-broken urn,
For his mourners will be outcast
And outcast*



Quotes

- Oscar Wilde is also a genius author of witty aphorisms about love, life, death, which people of the world adore of. If you want to get acquainted with some of it, please, you're welcome – tap this link:

- [Quotes](#)