

Virginia Woolf

Jacob's Room

Read by **Juliet Stevenson**

Published in 1922, the same year as *Ulysses* and *The Waste Land*, *Jacob's Room* is Virginia Woolf's own modernist manifesto. Ostensibly a study of a young man's life on the eve of the Great War, it is really a bomb thrown into the world of the conventional novel, as she attempts to capture the richness and randomness of life's encounters. Jacob Flanders is a mere point of contact between a crowd of people, appearing and disappearing in a tableau in which all is flux, without certainty and without a controlling viewpoint. But it seems that the author could not maintain this rigorous impersonality, and the radical technique breaks down, so that we finally see Jacob as a person, just as his world is blown apart.



Juliet Stevenson is one of the UK's leading actresses. Her film credits include *Truly, Madly, Deeply* and *Emma*. For Naxos AudioBooks, she has recorded *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *To the Lighthouse*, *Middlemarch* and many more.

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