
In Radclyffe Hall at the Well of Loneliness: A Sapphic Chronicle, scholar Lovat Dickson wrote of the good influence Batten was on the shy Hall, encouraging her writing and remaining a steady companion. The critic noticed the improvement from Hall's debut to the publication of A Sheaf of Verses, remarking that "for the first time, with increasing confidence and power, the passion of those first years of their association is struck for all to hear." Woolf termed The Well of Loneliness "formless and therefore chaotic... It is emotionally that the book loses way, and a sign of this is Miss Hall's use of language. At the beginning the language is alive; the style is not brilliant or beautiful, but it is quick and vivid... Choose books together. Track your books. Bring your club to Amazon Book Clubs, start a new book club and invite your friends to join, or find a club that's right for you for free. Explore Amazon Book Clubs. Flip to back Flip to front. Listen Playing Paused You're listening to a sample of the Audible audio edition. Learn more. See this image... Dickson also is not a great fan of "Well of Loneliness," so why write this biography? you might ask. Believe it or not, he claims to have become a friend of Una's and was even in her will. With friends like this, enemies are a blessing. So if you are going to read only one biography on Hall, avoid this one by all means. Try "Our Three Selves" instead. Read more. Lovat Dickson, Radclyffe Hall at the Well of Loneliness: A Sapphic Chronicle (London and Toronto: Collins, 1975), 132, my emphasis. Google Scholar. 3. Sally Cline, Radclyffe Hall: A Woman Called John (London: John Murray, 1997), 196. Google Scholar. 4. Arnold Bennett, review of The Well of Loneliness, by Radclyffe Hall, Evening Standard, 9 August 1928, in Palatable Poison, eds Laura Doan and Jay Prosser (New York: Columbia University Press, 2001), 56. Google Scholar. 92. Leonard Woolf, review of The Well of Loneliness, by Radclyffe Hall, Nation and Athenaeum, 4 August 1928, in Palatable Poison, eds Laura Doan and Jay Prosser (New York: Columbia University Press, 2001), 53-54. I HAVE read The Well of Loneliness with great interest because... apart from its fine qualities as a novel by a writer of accomplished art... it possesses a notable psychological and sociological significance. So far as I know, it is the first English novel which presents, in a completely faithful and uncompromising form, one particular aspect of sexual life as it exists among us to-day.Â The poignant situations which thus arise are here set forth so vividly, and yet with such complete absence of offence, that we must place Radclyffe Hall's book on a high level of distinction. Havelock Ellis. Author's Note. ALL the characters in this book are purely imaginary, and if the author in any instance has used names that may suggest a reference to living persons, she has done so inadvertently.