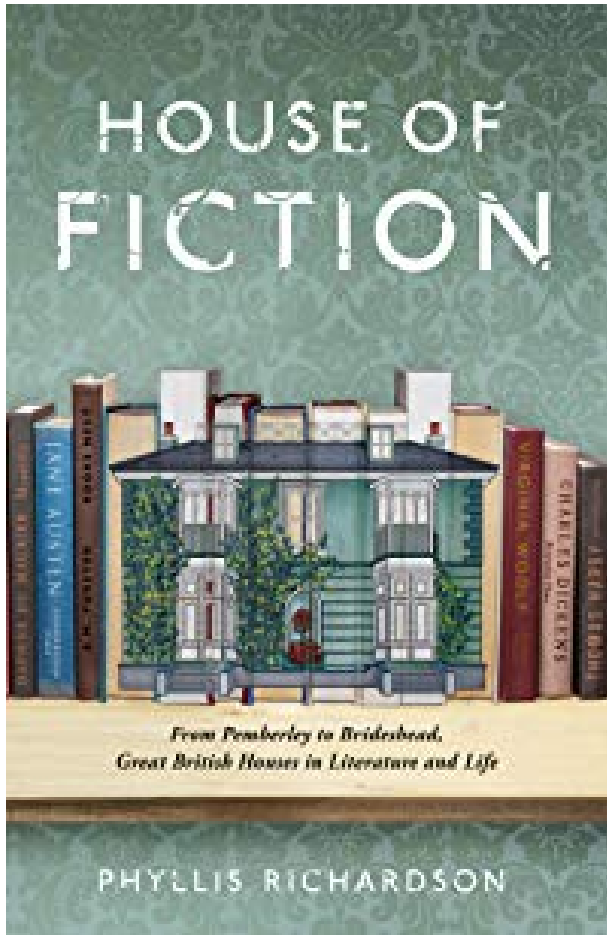


# House of Fiction: From Pemberley to Brideshead, Great British Houses in Literature and Life



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Take a journey through history to discover how authors' personal experiences in their homes helped to shape the imaginative dwellings that have become icons of English literature: Virginia Woolf's love of Talland House is palpable in *To the Lighthouse*, just as London's Bloomsbury is ever-present in *Mrs. Dalloway*. E.M. Forster's childhood home at Rook's Nest mirrors the idyllic charm of *Howards End*. And Horace Walpole's "little Gothic castle" in Twickenham inspired him to write the first English Gothic novel, *The Castle of Otranto*.

But the English country house is also viewed through a modern lens—Kazuo Ishiguro's *Darlington Hall*, Ian McEwan's *Tallis House*, Alan Hollinghurst's *Two Acres*.

Using historic sources, authors' biographies, letters, news accounts, and the novels themselves, this book presents some of the most influential houses in Britain through the stories they inspired.