Forster's Maurice is a story of coming to terms with one's sexuality and identity in the early 20th-century England. It tells the tale of a young man named Maurice, whose love for another man is a source of great torment in a society that stigmatizes same-sex desire. The novel explores the challenges of living as a gay person in a time when such feelings were not only socially unacceptable but also legally penalized.

The film adaptation of 'Maurice' by Merchant Ivory Productions, released in 1987, was one of the first films to address the theme of same-sex love on the big screen. It starred James Wilby as Maurice and Hugh Grant as his lover, Clive. The film was highly acclaimed for its sensitive portrayal of the characters and their struggles, and it helped to break down some of the taboos surrounding gay love.

Maurice remains a significant work in the canon of English literature, and its themes of love, identity, and societal conformity continue to resonate with readers and filmgoers around the world.