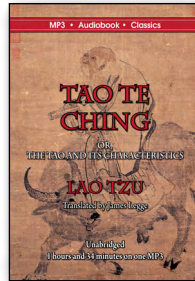


The Analects of Confucius

Author: Confucius (551 BC – 479 BC)
Translated by William Jennings (1847 - 1927)
Read by: Jing Li
Length: 3 hours and 32 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Classics, Philosophy

The Analects of Confucius is a collection of anecdotes, sayings and ideas attributed to the Chinese philosopher and teacher Confucius. *The Analects* are believed to have been written down his followers shortly after his death and to have been further revised into its present form by the mid-Han dynasty. The core idea of Confucianism is that the general welfare of a country depends on the moral virtue of its people, beginning with leadership. Cultivation of virtue is done via the practice of ren, which teaches the importance of devotion to parents and the wisdom of reconciling individual desires with rules and rituals of propriety, which engender respect for others and responsibility. The importance of *The Analects* as an essential philosophical work was seen in the inclusion in the "Four Books" during the Song Dynasty (960 – 1279). It has been one of the most widely read books in China for 2,000 years and maintains a strong influence on Chinese thought and values.

Catalog: DB-1007
UPC: 0684758936493
MSLP: \$10.99

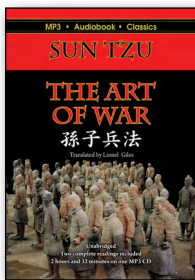


The Tao Te Ching

Author: Lao Tzu (6th Century BCE)
Translated by James Legge (1815 - 1897)
Read by: Eric S. Piotrowski
Length: 1 hour and 34 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Philosophy

The Tao Te Ching is an ancient Chinese classic text written by sage Lao Tzu in the sixth century BC. The book is a sequence of 81 short poems structured in two parts – the Tao Ching (chapters 1-37) and the Te Ching (chapters 38-81). The style combines two elements: short, memorable declarative statements and intentional contradictions that force the listener to reconcile the resulting ambiguities. The absence of grammatical connectors increases the ambiguity and gives rise to varying interpretations. *The Tao Te Ching* is a fundamental text in both religious and philosophical Taoism and has greatly influenced Confucianism, Legalism, and Chinese Buddhism, which was originally introduced to China through Taoist concepts and terminology. The oldest version dated prior to 300 BC was discovered in 1993 and consists of 800 slips of bamboo. It is a continuing source of inspiration to Chinese artists and is one of the most translated works in all of world literature.

Catalog: DB-1131
UPC: 0683422134333
MSLP: \$9.99



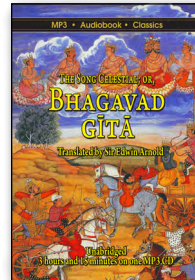
The Art of War

Author: Sun Tzu (554 BCE - 496 BCE),
Translated by Lionel Giles (1875 - 1958)
Read by: Phil Chenevert (v. 1), Moira Fogarty (v. 2)
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour 20 minutes (v. 1) 1 hours 13 minutes (v. 2)
Genre: War & Military

This ancient work of the Chinese General Sun Tzu has proved the test of time. Translated into French in 1792 and then into English in 1905, this treatise on war has been the handbook for those engaged in combat as well as other adversarial encounters outside the scope of military activities. Businessmen, lawyers, politicians, even athletes have availed themselves of Sun Tzu's genius. Sun Tzu believed war to

Catalog: DB-1006
UPC: 0684758935861
MSLP: \$10.99

be a necessary evil that must be avoided, though, when necessary, should be prosecuted to a quick end. His writings on the knowledge of one's enemy, the true nature of strategy and tactics, and the primacy of pre-battle positioning, have enlightened the western mind and become bedside reading for figures like Generals MacArthur and Schwartzkopf. It's rare to find a book that delivers on its promise. In thirteen chapters *The Art of War* delivers all that and more.

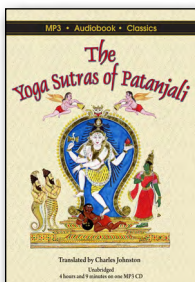


The Bhagavad-Gita

Author: Vyasa (2nd - 5th century BC)
Translated by Sir Edwin Arnold
Read by: Jothi Tharavant
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 3 hours 15 minutes
Genre: Poetry, Epics, Classics

The Bhagavad-Gita is a core book in Hindu scripture that recounts a dialog between warrior prince Arjuna and his charioteer Lord Krishna in 700 verses framed by a conversation between a blind ruler and his minister, a clairvoyant who eavesdrops on Krishna and Arjuna. The central conflict is warfare that threatens to destroy the kingdom. Arjuna is torn between his duty to serve the family on one side of the conflict and the sense that the conflict itself violates the laws of Dharma, which he is also sworn to uphold. Frozen, he refuses to fight. Krishna realizes that he must impart the mysteries of Dharmic action to Arjuna and so reveals himself as a many-sided divine being. He instructs Arjuna in the structure of the universe, primordial nature, and the importance of self-control, faith, equanimity, unselfishness, and devotion. Only by attending to his duty will Arjuna transcend the bonds of matter and human behavior and achieve immortality. The battle is generally seen as an allegory for the struggles of human life and has prompted many interpretations over time.

Catalog: DB-1155
UPC: 0683422134708
MSLP: \$10.99



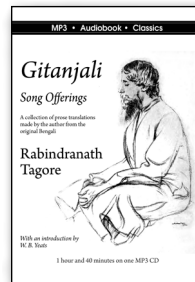
The Yoga Sūtras of Patañjali

Author: Patañjali (c. 400 CE)
Translated by Charles Johnston (1867 - 1931)
Read by: Jothi Tharavant
Length: 4 hours 9 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Religion, Reference, Education

The Yoga Sūtras of Patañjali is a collection of 196 Indian sūtras or aphorisms composed in approximately. He compiled the book from older materials from two different traditions – the "eight limb yoga" known as ashtanga yoga, and action yoga, known as karma yoga. The aphorisms and accompanying commentary constitute "The Treatise on Yoga according to Patañjali". Yoga Sūtras is divided in to four books or padas: Samadhi Pada Sadhana Pada;

Catalog: DB-1114
UPC: 0683422134210
MSLP: \$10.99

Vibhuti and Kaivalya Pada. He outlines the system of ashtanga yoga consisting of eight limbs, five of which are external aids to and three of which are internal aids. The Yoga Sūtras synthesized the teachings of many philosophical systems and were highly influential for over a thousand years before falling out of favor by the 16th century. Interest was reawakened the early 19th century and led to the consideration of the work as a primary key to the "science of yoga".

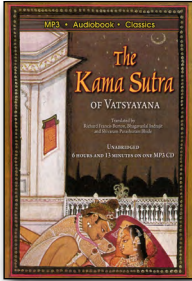


Gitanjali

Author: Rabindranath Tagore (1861 - 1941)
Translated by the author
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 40 minutes
Genre: Poetry

Gitanjali is a collection of 103 poems translated from the original Bengali collection by the author, Rabindranath Tagore. The word gitanjali combines the words for "song" and "offering", hence the subtitle "Song Offerings". The word "anjali" has a devotional connotation, which can be applied to the volume, which is sometimes called a "prayer offering of song". The original volume was published in 1910 and contained 157 poems. Tagore took extensive liberties in producing the 1912 English edition, omitting some, altering others, and combining still others. The book included an introduction by the noted Irish poet William Butler Yeats and became famous in the west, which led Tagore becoming the first non-European author to win the Nobel Prize in 1913.

Catalog: DB-1188
UPC: 0683422135095
MSLP: \$9.99

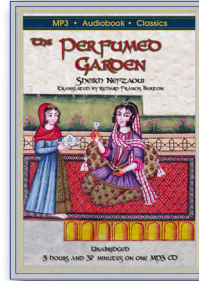


The Kama Sutra of Vatsyayana

Author: Vatsyayana (2nd century AD)
Translated by Richard Francis Burton, Bhagavanlal Indrajit and Shivaram Parashuram Bhide
Read by: Mark F. Smith
Length: 6 hours 13 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Education, Self-Help

Catalog: DB-1109
UPC: 0683422134203
MSLP: \$11.99

Often mistakenly thought to be a guide to tantric sex, the *Kama Sutra* is not exclusively a sex manual, but rather a guide to living a virtuous and fulfilling life that treats matters of love, family, pleasure and passion in a frank and insightful manner. "Kama" means "desire", and is one of the four goals of life, the others being Dharma (virtuous living), Artha (material prosperity), and Moksha (liberation). A "sutra" is a line or thread that connects things, and often refers to a collection of rules, formulas, or aphorisms that serve as a guide or manual. The *Kama Sutra* was written in Sanskrit in the Second Century AD, and represents an abridged assemblage of longer works. The book is written in prose with generous sprinklings of verse, and is structured in seven parts, 36 chapters and 1,250 verses. The best known English translation first appeared in 1883 and is attributed to Sir Richard Francis Burton, who supervised the translation and the assembly of a complete version from versions obtained from libraries in Calcutta, Benares, Bombay, and Jaipur.

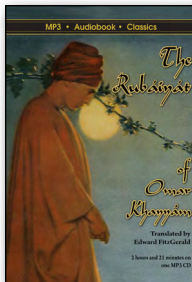


The Perfumed Garden

Author: Sheikh Nefzaoui (15th century AD)
Translated by: Sir Richard Francis Burton (1820 - 1890)
Read by: Alia Makki
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 5 hours and 37 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Erotica

Catalog: DB-1137
UPC: 0683422134531
MSLP: \$11.99

The Perfumed Garden by Sheikh Nafzaoui is a fifteenth-century Arabic sex manual and work of erotic literature. The book contains a discussion of qualities men and women should cultivate to be attractive, gives advice on sexual technique, and treats issues of sexual health, complete with remedies for sexual maladies. It lists the many names used to briefly describes the nature of sex among animals. Also included are a section on the interpretation of dreams and stories. The reputation of the book in the Arab world was similar to that of the *Arabian Nights*. It is unique in "the seriousness with which the most lascivious and obscene matters are presented." *The Perfumed Garden* was introduced to the English speaking world in a 1886 by Sir Richard Francis Burton, who compared the work to that of Rabelais and the French book *Conjugal Love* by Nicolas Venette.

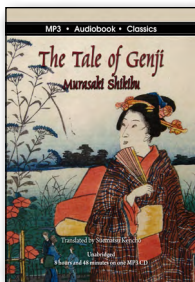


The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam

Author: Omar Khayyam (1048 - 1131)
Translated by Edward FitzGerald (1809 - 1883)
Read by: Algy Pug
Length: 2 hours 21 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Poetry

Catalog: DB-1100
UPC: 0684758936479
MSLP: \$10.99

The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam is a translation by Englishman Edward FitzGerald of poems by the Persian Omar Khayyam. The word rubaiyat combines the term 'rubai', meaning a two line stanza with two parts per line, and 'yat', meaning four. Khayyam produced over one thousand such stanzas. The English translations by FitzGerald are the best known and consist of about one hundred quatrains in each of five editions which appeared over the course of thirty years between 1859 and 1889. The translations are by no means literal or exacting. FitzGerald admittedly took liberties while taking pains to capture and render the spirit of the original. Numerous phrases that have entered the cultural lexicon have their origins in the Rubaiyat, the most common cited being "A Book of Verses underneath the Bough, A Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread--and Thou". Lines and phrase from the poem have served as titles for many literary and dramatic works.



The Tale of Genji

Author: Murasaki Shikibu (973 or 978 - 1014 or 1031)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 8 hours and 48 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Fiction, Roman

Catalog: DB-1138
UPC: 0683422134371
MSLP: \$11.99

The Tale of Genji is a classic of Japanese literature that depicts the manners and intrigues of members of the court culture. The novel was written in installments delivered periodically to an audience of aristocratic women the early 11th century and is attributed to Murasaki Shikibu, a noblewoman and lady-in-waiting. The story takes place over a long period of time, centers on Genji's romantic escapades and depicts the highly regimented customs of the day. There little in the way of plot, and a cast of some hundred characters come and go as the years go by, events evolve, affairs produce offspring, lovers die, power changes hands, and unexpected consequences multiply. Most of the characters are never given names, but rather referred to by their social role. The book ends abruptly in mid-sentence, and scholars have debated whether it was the intended ending, if there are missing chapters, or if Murasaki Shikibu simply left it unfinished.

The Audiobook Listener

In June 2017 the Audio Publishers Association reported the results of a consumer survey conducted in by Edison Research that provides key insights into listeners and behavior.

Who listens to audiobooks?

- The listening audience is growing. 4% of Americans (over 67 million people) have completed listening to at least one audiobook in 2016, a 22% increase over the 2015 survey. Nearly half (48%) of frequent audiobook listeners are under 35.
- Audiobook listeners are often also podcast listeners. Respondents who consumed both
- podcasts and audiobooks listened to twice as many audiobooks in the past 12 months as non-podcast consumers.
- Avid readers are also listening. Audiobook listeners read or listened to an average of 15 books in the last year, and 77% of frequent listeners agreed or strongly agreed that "audiobooks help you finish more books".

How and where are they listening?

- Far more listeners are saying they use their smartphone most often to listen to audiobooks than ever before - 29% in 2017 vs. 22% in 2015.
- A majority of audiobook listening is done at home (57%), with the car being the second most frequently-cited location (32%).
- 68% of frequent listeners do housework while listening to audiobooks. Other multitasking activities among frequent listeners include baking (65%), exercise (56%) and crafting (36%).
- The 2017 survey asked about voice-enabled wireless speakers (such as Amazon Echo or Google Home) for the first time, with 19% of all listeners reporting using them to listen to an audiobook in the last year. Among frequent listeners, that rises to 30%.