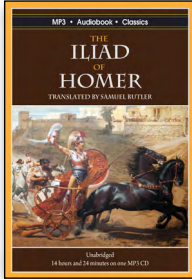


Greek & Roman Classics



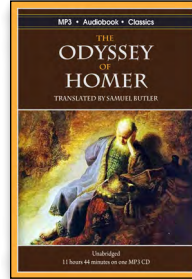
The Iliad

Author: Homer (c. 8th cen - c. 8th cen)
Translated by Samuel Butler (1835 - 1902)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 14 hours 24 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Plays, Poetry, War & Military Fiction

The Iliad is an epic poem that recounts the conflict between Agamemnon, the man of power, and Achilles, the genius of war, set within the larger tale of the ten year Trojan War. The story is told in flashbacks and flash-forwards; by the end the poem has told a fairly complete story of the war. The utterly human story has resonated down the centuries. The ugly man of power: selfish, greedy, entitled and obsessed. The young, beautiful star, burdened with greatness. The authentic versus the phony. Same old story.

Catalog: DB-1012
UPC: 0684758935977
MSLP: \$12.99

The Iliad was composed sometime between 760 and 710 B.C. and was passed down by oral tradition. There's a story that around 700 B.C. a virtual riot broke out when some upstart in the Academy proposed to write it down. The older, wiser men believed transcription would destroy the Greek facility for memorization, not to mention silencing of the sound of the poetry itself. This reading returns this epic to the original oral tradition.



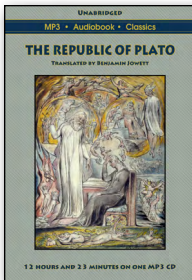
The Odyssey

Author: Homer (c. 8th cen - c. 8th cen)
Translated by Samuel Butler (1835 - 1902)
Length: 11 hours 44 minutes
Read by: Read by LibriVox readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Action & Adventure Fiction, Classics (Antiquity)

The Odyssey, an epic poem composed by Homer in part as sequel to *The Iliad*, is the tale of the Odysseus (Ulysses in Roman mythology) on his journey home to Ithaca from the ten year Trojan War. All starts out well with Aeolus, the god of wind, bagging up the "bad winds," for Odysseus and seeing him off on what should be a short voyage home. But nothing's that easy. The crew untie the bag and for ten years Odysseus and his mates, most of whom don't survive the journey, are tossed about the known world to encounter one trial after another.

Catalog: DB-1013
UPC: 0684758935984
MSLP: \$12.99

Homecoming is a deep seated thing: to arrive again where those who know us best can see in stark relief the person we have become compared with the person we were when last we met. It is the one true measure of growth, aging, progress and mortality. It lies deep within us. *The Odyssey* gives it exposition, laying bear the longing and the struggles of that epic voyage which is life itself.



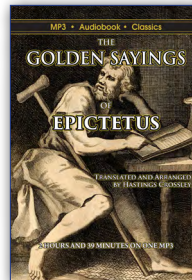
The Republic of Plato

Author: Plato (c. 427 - 327 BCE)
Translated by Benjamin Jowett (1817 - 1893)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 13 hours 7 minutes
Genre: Classics-Greek & Roman, Philosophy

The Republic by Plato is probably the most influential work of philosophy and political theory in history. Its ten books of dialogs address the question of whether a just man or unjust man achieves the greatest happiness by considering the governance and culture of a series of hypothetical cities. Translator Benjamin Jowett writes in his introduction that "The principles of definition, the law of contradiction, the fallacy of arguing in a circle, the distinction between the essence and accidents of a thing or notion, between means and ends, between causes and conditions; also the division of the mind into the rational, concupiscent, and irascible elements, or of pleasures and desires into necessary and unnecessary—these and other great forms of thought are all of them to be found in the Republic, and were probably first invented by Plato." It is no wonder that *The Republic* has been a centerpiece of a classical education for centuries.

Catalog: DB-1111
UPC: 0684758936653
MSLP: \$12.99

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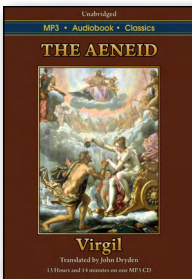
The Golden Sayings of Epictetus

Author: Epictetus (AD c. 55 - 135)
Translated by Hastings Crossley
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 2 hours 38 minutes
Genre: Philosophy

Epictetus was a philosopher in the Stoic school. His teachings were transcribed by his pupil Arrian from memory after lessons in *The Discourses*. *The Enchiridion* is a digest of the *Discourses*, and *The Golden Sayings* is a further distillation consisting of almost 300 aphorisms. Epictetus distinguishes between those things within our power and things over which we have no power. The basis of philosophy is self-knowledge, and that the only things within our power are those we generate from within – impulses, opinions, desires and aversions. Everything else is out of our control and subject to fate. Good and evil rests in the power of choice. Reason alone is good; one should understand not only what to do, but why. Application of reason in the choice of action over things within our power is path to peace of mind. His philosophy has been an inspiration to leaders from the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius to James Joyce, J.D. Salinger, and Tom Wolfe in more modern times.

Catalog #: DB-1082
UPC: 06
MSLP: \$10.99

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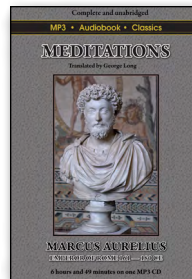
The Aeneid

Author: Vergil (70BC - 19 BC)
Translated by John Dryden (1631 - 1700)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 13 hours and 14 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Poetry, Epics, War & Military Fiction

The Aeneid recounts the travels of Aeneas, a minor character in Homer's *Iliad*, from Troy to Italy, where he founds the city-state destined to become center of the Roman Empire. Written between 29 and 19 B.C., the purpose of Vergil's effort was to compose Rome's epic founding myth. By 19 B.C. Rome dominated the world. The empire encompassed all of the civilized world and much of the world that had yet to be tamed, an empire so grand it called out for a history and mythology equal to its sheer size and strength. In composing *The Aeneid*,

Catalog: DB-1081
UPC: 0683422134807
MSLP: \$12.99

Vergil created a mythic character without firmly drawn characteristics as the protagonist of his epic poem, a hero who was a vague presence on the far edge of Roman consciousness. Ultimately *The Aeneid* did several things: it tied Rome to the legends of Troy, explained the Punic Wars, honored Roman virtues, and helped to legitimize the Julio-Claudian dynasty.



The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius

Author: Marcus Aurelius (129 - 180 AD)
Translated by George Long
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 6 hours 47 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: War & Military

Marcus Aurelius embodied the qualities Plato sought in a philosopher-king, the best of leaders. *The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius*, comprised of his twelve books, set forth the great man's musings on the judgment of himself and others in accord with those principles of stoicism that look to nature for truths. Unlike so many of his predecessors, Marcus Aurelius actually concerned himself with the moral imperative of goodness and reflected often on what it meant to be a good man. "Alone of the emperors," wrote the historian Herodian, "he gave proof of his learning not by mere words or knowledge of philosophical doctrines but by his blameless character and temperate way of life." *The Meditations* are the written record of his thought, written in Greek while on campaign between 170 and 180 in passages as short as a sentence and as long as an extended paragraph. The effect is cumulative. Marcus Aurelius here distinguishes himself as a philosopher, a thinker and a writer, as well as a man of military might and strategic skill.

Catalog: DB-1073
UPC: 0852679827378
MSLP: \$11.99

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