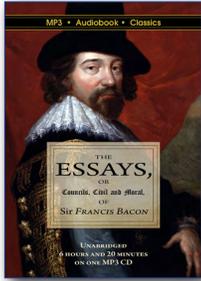


Essays and Short Works

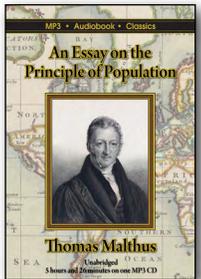


The Essays of Francis Bacon

Author: Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626)
Read by: Carl Vonnoh, III
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 6 hours 20 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Essays, Philosophy

Francis Bacon thought of his Essays as "recreation of my other studies" in politics, law, natural philosophy, and science. First published in 1597 as *Essays: Religious Meditations, Places of Perswasion and Disswasion, Scene and Allowed*, the collection was expanded to 38 essays in 1612 and again in 1625 to 58 essays under the title *Essays or Counsels, Civill and Morall*. The Essays have no logical sequence or theme (ironic for the man who brought method and organization to science) and find their topics in diverse areas, public and private. Bacon had a gift for making catchy phrases, and many expressions still in use are found first in *The Essays*. The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations contains 91 quotations from *The Essays*. Although the treatments vary in style from the unadorned to the epigrammatic, he invariably covers the topic at hand from all angles in a systematic and considered fashion. They were well received and so well done that some have thought of Bacon as the originator of the essay form; they clearly stand with the work of Aristotle and Montaigne and have stood the test of time.

Catalog: DB-1112
UPC: 0684758936660
MSLP: \$9.99

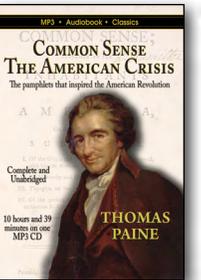


An Essay on the Principle of Population

Author: Thomas Malthus (1741 - 1803)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 5 hours 26 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Science, Economics

An Essay on the Principle of Population (1798) was the most influential work on the subject of population of its time. In it Malthus formulated the Iron Law of Population, which holds that an increase in the supply of labor leads inevitably to lower wages and thus to poverty, famine and disease. He held that population generally increased in times and places of plenty until demand for resources exceeded supply, and that epidemics, famines and wars that stymied growth also masked the fundamental problem. He proposed that the only solution was to limit the birth rate through moral restraint on a wide scale. The book fueled debate on the size of the British population and helped speed the passage of the Census Act of 1800, which mandated a national census to be conducted every ten years. Malthus revised the work over the course of six editions, incorporating new material and changes in his thinking. The book has been cited as an important influence in the development of the theory of natural selection by Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace.

Catalog: DB-1098
UPC: 0683422134227
MSLP: \$10.99



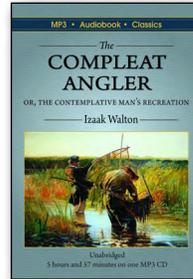
Common Sense and the American Crisis

Author: Thomas Paine
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 10 hours and 35 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: History, Political Philosophy

This volume contains the pamphlets by Thomas Paine that inspired the American Revolution. *Common Sense* argued for seeking independence from Britain when the matter was the issue of the day. Reasoned and written in a clear, simple style, Paine structured *Common Sense* as a sermon to make his case, drawing together the drive for independence with prevailing dissenting Protestant tenets to forge a uniquely American political identity.

Catalog: DB-1037
UPC: 852679827439
MSLP: \$12.99

Published January 10, 1776, it became an instant sensation. The first of sixteen *The American Crisis* pamphlets published during the American Revolution begins with "These are the times that try men's souls...". Signed "Common Sense", Paine's writings clarified the issues, improved morale, appealed to the good sense of the English and argued against a negotiated peace. George Washington had it read aloud to the Continental Army before the Battle of Trenton to bolster morale.

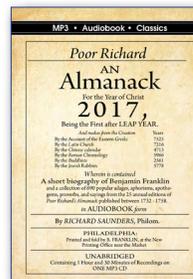


The Compleat Angler

Author: Izaak Walton (1593-1683)
Read by: Nicole Lee
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 5 hours and 57 minutes
Genre: Education, Essays

The Compleat Angler, or, the Contemplative Man's Recreation (1653) is a unique classic work, a treatise that celebrates the art and spirit of fishing. The subtitle conveys its essence well, as the material ranges from technical tips to quotations, anecdotes, poems, songs, turns of phrase and musings on the nature of creation. Walton revised the work through five editions in the twenty-five years following its initial publication, during which time it grew from thirteen to twenty-one chapters. Originally structured with two speakers, Piscator and Venator, later editions added new companions who each discoursed on the aspects of his favorite pastime. Walton was a reputed master in the use of worms, frogs, and grasshoppers for bait fishing, but turned to humorist and retired cook Thomas Barker for the fly fishing section, which was added to and completed by his friend Charles Cotton in later editions. The book was thus a living thing, and developed much the way a blog might evolve in the present day.

Catalog: DB-1164
UPC: 0683422134838
MSLP: \$11.99

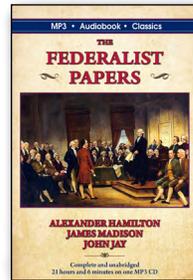


Poor Richard's Almanack

Author: Benjamin Franklin
Read by: Michelle Fry
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 30 minutes
Genre: Humor, Philosophy

Poor Richard's Almanack was a yearly almanac published by Benjamin Franklin using the pseudonym Richard Saunders, the "Poor Richard" of the title. Almanacs offered an amalgam of weather forecasts, sunrises, sunsets, phases of the moon, and tides along with household tips, puzzles and other amusements. Both useful and entertaining, they were immensely popular, and none more so than Franklin's, which sold quite well, as many as 10,000 copies per year, and made him a wealthy man. Published for 25 years between 1732 and 1758, the pamphlet was known for its wordplay and extensive sprinkling of witty and wise sayings throughout, many of which have found their way into the American vernacular. Some 690 of these aphorisms and sayings are collected here.

Catalog: DB-1211
UPC: 0701236969290
MSLP: \$9.99



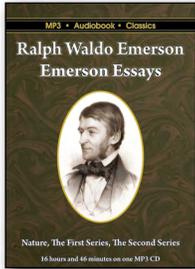
The Federalist Papers

Author: Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, & John Jay
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 21 hours and 6 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, Essays, History

The Federalist Papers is a series of 85 articles arguing in favor of ratification of the United States Constitution by the thirteen original colonies. During the Constitutional Convention that met in 1787 to revise the Articles of Confederation, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton advocated instead for the creation of a new government. The delegates agreed on the principles contained in Madison's Virginia Plan and produced the Constitution, which was submitted to the states in September 1787. The Federalist papers were written in response to criticism of the Constitution. The articles were first published between October 1787 and August 1788 in newspapers and then published in 1788. Hamilton is the author of 51 articles, Madison the author of 26, and John Jay, who fell ill, authored 5. In the words of historian Richard B. Morris, they are an "incomparable exposition of the Constitution, a classic in political science unsurpassed in both breadth and depth by the product of any later American writer."

Catalog: DB-1190
UPC: 0683422134937
MSLP: \$14.99

Essays and Short Works

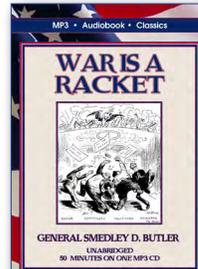


Essays: Nature, The First Series, The Second Series

Author: Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1883)
Read by: Nature - Multiple readers
First Series and Second Series - Bob Neufeld
Length: 17 hours 32 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Essays, Philosophy

This volume aggregates the essays by Ralph Waldo Emerson first collected in *Nature* (1837), *Essays: The First Series* (1841) and *Essays: The Second Series* (1844). His essays derived from his many lectures on the subject topics and articulated the ideas and values that came to be known at the time as the Transcendentalist movement and have since become woven into the fabric of the American temperament. He was a champion of the emerging idea of individualism and a critic of the constraints imposed by conformity to prevailing social and religious beliefs. The first and formative expression of the Transcendentalist philosophy appeared in 1836 in his essay "Nature". With Margaret Fuller, he founded the Transcendentalist journal *The Dial* in 1840 and published his seminal *Essays: First Series* in 1841 and *Essays: Second Series* in 1844. His essays and lectures set the course of much of the intellectual life of the country.

Catalog: DB-1079
UPC: 0684758936585
MSLP: \$13.99

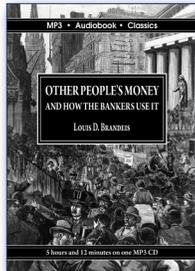


War Is A Racket

Author: General Smedley D. Butler (1881 - 1940)
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 50 minutes
Genre: Economics, History, Essays, War & Military

After his retirement from the Marine Corps in early 1930's, General Smedley D. Butler embarked on a national lecture tour, where he gave his speech about how commercial interests benefit from war. The speech was well received and he wrote an expanded version of it, which was published as *War Is A Racket*. The work was published by *Reader's Digest* as a condensed book supplement, which added to its popularity. The book consists of five chapters. The first chapter cites telling statistics. The second chapter compares the profits made by U.S. corporations before and after World War I. The third chapter explains how the costs are borne by the public. Chapter four sets forth three simple methods to limit wars. The final chapter shows the futility of arms limitations negotiations and makes it plain that only total disarmament will break the back of the beast. It can easily be seen as a precursor to Eisenhower's warning of the power of the military-industrial complex.

Catalog: DB-1189
UPC: 0683422135101
MSLP: \$9.99

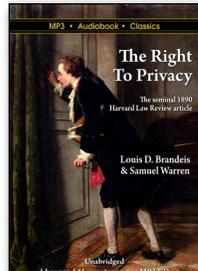


Other Peoples' Money and How The Bankers Use It

Author: Louis D. Brandeis
Read by: D.S. Harvey
Length: 5 hours 4 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Economics, Political Philosophy

Other People's Money and How the Bankers Use It first appeared in *Harper's Weekly* and was published in book form in 1914. The book takes to task the small cadre of investment bankers led by J.P. Morgan & Co. known as the "Money Trust", who habitually used the ordinary person's money on deposit as their own to control the banks, trusts, and public corporations that dominated American business. Brandeis marshaled an exhaustive amount of research to describe the exact extent of the holdings, the interlocking directorships, and the resulting degree of control. He exposes the practices that stifle competition, lead to self-dealing and excessive enrichment, inhibit creativity and progress, foster inefficiency, and go against the grain of fundamental ideas of liberty crucial to America's identity. His warnings reverberate eerily today in light of the practices that recently damaged the American economy. One feels nothing much has changed except the decimal points in the numbers. Viewed in this light, Brandeis' message has never been more on-point.

Catalog: DB-1055
UPC: 0684758936394
MSLP: \$11.99

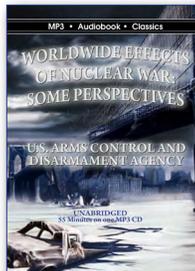


The Right to Privacy

Author: Louis D. Brandeis and Samuel Warren
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Length: 52 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Political Philosophy, Law

Inspired by the coverage of intimate details of private lives made possible by instantaneous photography and mass circulation of newspapers, *The Right to Privacy* (1890) is the first essay that argued for an inherent right to privacy, the "right to be left alone". The core argument is an extension of the fundamental right of the individual to full protection in person and property, principles continually reconfigured in light of political, social and economic change, in much the same way that definitions of protection against bodily harm and protection of property were expanded. Libel, slander, and intellectual property law are considered as possible protections and found inadequate. The argument examines case law and attempts to define privacy itself, and finally imposes limitations on the protection. *The Right to Privacy* is especially relevant today as new technologies and business models seek ever more personal data and threats of terror invoke escalating surveillance tactics.

Catalog: DB-1136
UPC: 0683422134517
MSLP: \$9.99

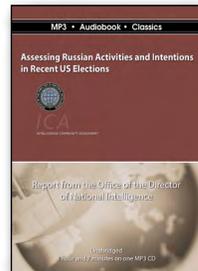


Worldwide Effects of Nuclear War: Some Perspectives

Author: U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
Read by: Alyson Hester
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 55 minutes
Genre: Political Philosophy, Science

In 1974 the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency commissioned the National Academy of Sciences to produce a study that became *Long-Term Worldwide Effects of Multiple Nuclear Weapons Detonations*. The report ran to over 200 pages, so the Agency produced an abbreviated version of the study which conveyed its essential findings along with information from other studies and basic background facts. The Academy found that a massive attack with multiple detonations was likely to create such widespread and long-lasting environmental damage that an aggressor nation would itself suffer serious environmental effects even without a response. Perhaps the most compelling conclusion is that existing knowledge is largely based on hypothesis and so uncertainty as to the consequences is the central truth. We just don't really know what would happen, and that alone should serve as a deterrent. The report presents the findings in language that common people can understand; scientific background is not necessary.

Catalog: DB-1223
UPC: 0701236969429
MSLP: \$9.99



Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions In Recent U. S. Elections

Author: Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Read by: D. S. Harvey
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 1 hour and 7 minutes
Genre: History

The 2016 United States Presidential Election was one of the closest, nastiest, and most contentious in the history of the country. The narrow victory of Donald J. Trump was an unprecedented upset. When Wikileaks released thousands of emails from the Democratic National Committee and the Republican platform became surprisingly friendly to Russia, it became evident that extraordinary forces were at play and influencing the public conversation. After the election President Obama ordered the three major intelligence agencies to coordinate their findings and report them to key persons in the US Government. The classified report was shared with the Executive branch, the Congress and the President-elect in early January. A shortened, declassified version with the same assessments was released at the same time. That report, entitled *Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections*, is read here verbatim. It reveals that the Russian activities were deliberate, extensive, and originated at the very top of the Russian government.

Catalog: DB-1221
UPC: 0701236969405
MSLP: \$9.99