

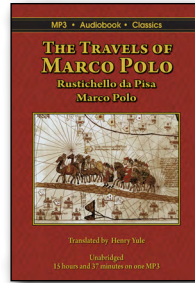
How the Other Half Lives

Author: Jacob Riis (1849 - 1914)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 8 hours and 45 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, History, Political Science

How the Other Half Lives: Studies among the Tenements of New York by Jacob Riis documented the squalid living conditions in the New York City tenements in the 1880's. The book evolved from a magazine article in Scribner's magazine in 1889 and is one of the first examples of photojournalism. Riis used the newly invented technique of flash photography to capture images of the dark, unlit corners of the slums and portrayed a world

Catalog: DB-1135
 UPC: 0683422134548
 MSLP: \$11.99

unknown or overlooked by the middle- and upper-classes of society where poor migrants and immigrants lived in unsanitary housing and often worked in sweatshops for pennies a day. He assumed that raising the consciousness of the public about the poor conditions and the crime rate, drunkenness and recklessness that were the consequence would motivate efforts to make improvements. The direct result was a decade of what we would now call "urban renewal" in the Lower East Side, where tenements were torn down, schools reformed, child labor eliminated and sweatshops closed.

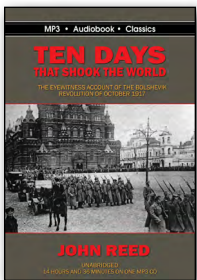


The Travels of Marco Polo

Author: Rustichello da Pisa (1274 - 1300) & Marco Polo (1254 - 1324)
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 15 hours and 37 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, History

The Travels of Marco Polo is the English title of a travelogue about Marco Polo's travels to Asia and his experiences at the court of Kublai Khan in the 13th century. Polo left Venice with his father and uncle in 1276 for China and left to return in 1291, arriving in Italy in 1295. The book was written by French writer Rustichello da Pisa from stories he heard from Marco Polo when two were imprisoned in Genoa during 1298-1299. The book was published about 1300 and titled both *Book of the Marvels of the World* and *Description of the World* in French. It consists of four books: Book One describes the Middle East and Central Asia; Book Two describes China; Book Three covers coastal lands of the east; Book Four describes the return to Italy. Produced before the advent of the printing press, the book was quite popular. *The Travels of Marco Polo* were an important influence in Christopher Columbus' quest to seek a western route to Asia by sea.

Catalog: DB-1143
 UPC: 0683422134524
 MSLP: \$12.99



Ten Days That Shook The World

Author: John Reed
 Read by: Multiple readers
 Length: 10 hours and 10 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Non-Fiction, History

In October 1917 Vladimir Lenin led the revolutionary Bolsheviks in an armed insurrection in Petrograd, an event known as the October Revolution and a pivotal moment in the larger Russian Revolution. American journalist John Reed was there reporting for a socialist magazine and witnessed much of the critical action. When he returned to the United States in April 1918 he was interrogated and his notes and materials were confiscated. After recovering the material seven months later he sequestered

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 UPC: 0701236969498
 MSLP: \$11.99

himself and wrote his account of the proceedings in a frenzy. It was published in 1919 to a generally positive reception in spite of Reed's admitted bias in favor of the revolutionaries. It is considered today as the best account of possibly the most important event of the 20th century. It is listed by the New York Times in its 1999 list of the Top 100 Works of Journalism and is central to the noted film *Reds*, which chronicles Reed's life and work covering the revolution.

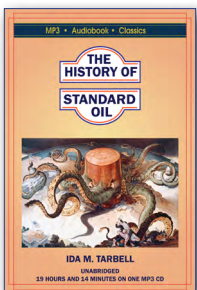


The Loss of the S. S. Titanic: Its Story and Its Lessons

Author: Lawrence Beesley (1877 - 1967)
 Read by: Allyson Hester
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 5 hours and 27 minutes
 Genre: Biography, Autobiography & Memoir, History

The sinking of the Titanic, largest ship afloat, after colliding with an iceberg in the North Atlantic in April 1912, was greeted with shock and outrage at the systemic failures that caused such a huge loss of life. While Titanic boasted numerous advanced safety features, she was equipped with lifeboats for only 1,178 people, just over half of capacity. Lawrence Beesley was a passenger on the voyage who managed to survive and was soon after persuaded to publish his account of the event to counter the misinformation already stemming from the piecemeal accounts by those who were not present. Although reluctant at first, Beesley felt a duty to bring the need for reform to public attention in recognition of the many that died needlessly as a result of management shortcomings. His memoir is a gripping story that stands the test of time and helped lead to public inquiries that resulted in significant maritime safety improvements.

Catalog: DB-1199
 UPC: 0701236969177
 MSLP: \$11.99



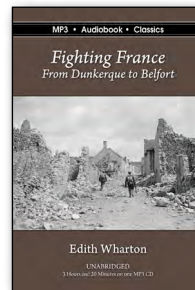
The History of Standard Oil

Author: Ida Mae Tarbell
 Read by: Tom Weiss
 Length: 19 hours and 8 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Economics, History

In 1900 Ida Tarbell, one of the first "muckraking" investigative journalists, began exhaustive research on the Standard Oil Corporation, which resulted in a 19-part series in McClure's magazine and was published in 1904 as *The History of Standard Oil*. The book confronts the irony inherent in corporate success: can corporate dominance ultimately harm the consumer, since dominance can extend to the unfettered setting of prices and the overwhelming potential competitors?

Catalog: DB-1066
 UPC: 0684758936455
 MSLP: \$13.99

This is the story of John D. Rockefeller, a preternaturally gifted manager and financier who used anti-competitive tactics to create the most successful company of its time and become the wealthiest American of all time. The book continues to be relevant in our new gilded age. NYU lists it as number 5 on its list of the top 100 non-fiction works of all time. Like many works of non-fiction, it's too good to be true - but it is.



Fighting France, From Dunkerque to Belfort

Author: Edith Wharton
 Read by: Elizabeth Klett
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Length: 3 hours and 20 minutes
 Genre: History

When the First World War broke out Edith Wharton, who had settled permanently in Paris after the breakup of her marriage, joined the French Red Cross and began to record her experiences so that Americans would have a better understanding of the war and its consequences. She was one of the few foreigners permitted to travel to the front lines and with her novelist's eye vividly described the destruction of the countryside, the oppressive dread of the trenches, the "sudden scream of a battery", and a military hospital populated by "battered, shattered, frostbitten, deafened and half-paralysed" soldiers from the front. She manages to maintain an analytical distance from the subject which gives her the perspective to fully and clearly describe the utterly hellish reality of the war on the ground. The articles appeared in *Scribner's Magazine* in 1915 and were published in book form as *Fighting France, From Dunkerque to Belfort* in 1918 as part of *The War on All Fronts* series.

Catalog: DB-1228
 UPC: 0701236969474
 MSLP: \$10.99