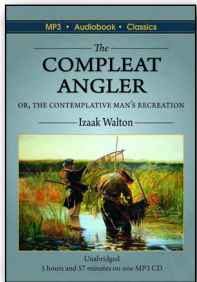


An Essay on the Principle of Population

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



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

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

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.

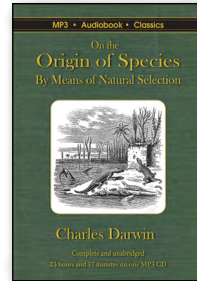


Worldwide Effects of Nuclear War: Some Perspectives

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

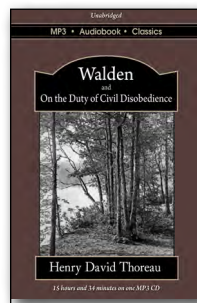


The Origin of Species

Author: Charles Darwin (1809 - 1882)
 Read by: Michael Armenta
 Length: 23 hours and 44 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Science, Nature

The Origin of Species (1859) laid the foundation for the science of evolutionary biology that revolutionized our understanding of nature and mankind's place within it. Published in 1859, the original title was *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life* and was abbreviated for the sixth edition in 1872. The central premise is that the diversity of life results from a branching pattern of evolution from a common source and that populations change over the generations to adapt to changing circumstances through natural selection. Darwin was an established scientist, and the work, which was written for the general reader, included exhaustive documentation from decades of research and analyzed the theory from philosophical and religious perspectives as well as scientific. As such, it was taken seriously and gained widespread interest. During the late 19th century the notion of evolution became generally accepted, but it wasn't until the mid 20th century that the significance of natural selection was fully understood as scientists combined Darwin's work with Mendel's genetic theories to arrive at the modern evolutionary synthesis. This central notion is now the unifying concept of the life sciences.

Catalog: DB-1086
 UPC: 0683422134814
 MSLP: \$13.99

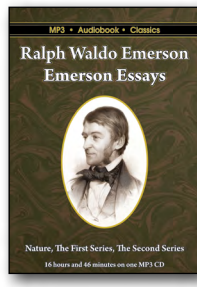


Walden and On the Duty of Civil Disobedience

Author: Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)
 Read by: Gord Mackenzie
 Length: 14 hours 7 minutes
 Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
 Genre: Nature, Philosophy,

Catalog: DB-1017
 UPC: 0684758936110
 MSLP: \$12.99

When Henry David Thoreau, transcendentalist and friend of Emerson, retreated to Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts, he stripped himself of every unnecessary object and distraction and chose to live deliberately. He sought to examine the nature of Life itself, something so dear, precious, imminent and yet so often elusive to so many. There may be no time more in need of the teachings of Thoreau's *Walden* than today. In the age of instant information and big data we are bombarded with enormous amounts of facts, figures and stories, both pertinent and superfluous, and left to our own devices to "process" the information. We become so tied to our "screens" and enmeshed in the flow that we risk mistaking the virtual for the real. And our lives remain stubbornly, undeniably real. Thoreau would counsel a pause and a closer examination, never blinking in the face of Life itself, and never confusing the atoms of data or the molecules of information for the elements of knowledge and wisdom.



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

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

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.