

Inferno Penguin Classics

“If there is any justice in the world of books, [Esolen’s] will be the standard Dante . . . for some time to come.”—Robert Royal, *Crisis* In this, the concluding volume of *The Divine Comedy*, Dante ascends from the devastation of the *Inferno* and the trials of Purgatory. Led by his beloved Beatrice, he enters Paradise, to profess his faith, hope, and love before the Heavenly court. Completed shortly before his death, Paradise is the volume that perhaps best expresses Dante’s spiritual philosophy about resurrection, redemption, and the nature of divinity. It also affords modern-day readers a clear window into late medieval perceptions about faith. A bilingual text, classic illustrations by Gustave Doré, an appendix that reproduces Dante’s key sources, and other features make this the definitive edition of Dante’s ultimate masterwork. ‘Happiness beyond all words! A life of peace and love, entire and whole!’ A collection of cantos from *Paradiso*, the most original and experimental part of the *Divina Commedia*. One of 46 new books in the bestselling Little Black Classics series, to celebrate the first ever Penguin Classic in 1946. Each book gives readers a taste of the Classics’ huge range and diversity, with works from around the world and across the centuries - including fables, decadence, heartbreak, tall tales, satire, ghosts, battles and elephants.

‘Rich. . . eclectic. . . a feast’ *Telegraph* This landmark collection brings together forty writers that reflect over a hundred years of Italy’s vibrant and diverse short story tradition, from the birth of the modern nation to the end of the twentieth century. Poets, journalists, visual artists, musicians, editors, critics, teachers, scientists, politicians, translators: the writers that inhabit these pages represent a dynamic cross section of Italian society, their powerful voices resonating through regional landscapes, private passions and dramatic political events. This wide-ranging selection curated by Jhumpa Lahiri includes well known authors such as Italo Calvino, Elsa Morante and Luigi Pirandello alongside many captivating new discoveries. More than a third of the stories featured in this volume have been translated into English for the first time, several of them by Lahiri herself.

An informative introduction and commentary accompany this classic translation of Dante’s epic poem about a spiritual pilgrim being led by Virgil through the nine circles of hell, available in a dual-language edition. Reissue.

This new critical edition, including Mark Musa’s classic translation, provides students with a clear, readable verse translation accompanied by ten innovative interpretations of Dante’s masterpiece.

A sparkling translation that gives new life in English to Dante’s *Vita Nuova*, his transcendent love poems and influential statement on the art and power of poetry, and the most widely read of his works after the *Inferno* A Penguin Classic Dante was only nine years old when he first met young Beatrice in Florence. Loving her for the rest of his life with a devotion undiminished by even her untimely death, he would dedicate himself to transfiguring her, through poetry, into something far more than a muse—she would become the very proof of love as transcendent spiritual power, and the adoration of her a radiant path into a “new life.” Censored by the Church, written in the Tuscan vernacular rather than Latin, exploding the courtly love tradition of the medieval troubadours, and employing an unprecedented hybrid form to link the thirty-one poems with prose commentary, *Vita Nuova*, first published in 1294, represents both an innovation in the literature of love and the work of Dante’s that brings this extraordinary poet into clearest view. This limpid new translation, based on the latest authoritative Italian edition and featuring the Italian on facing pages, captures the ineffable quality of a work that has inspired the likes of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Charles Baudelaire, T. S. Eliot, Jorge Luis Borges, Robert Penn Warren, and Louise Glück, and sustains the long afterlife of a masterpiece that is itself a key to the ultimate poetic journey into the afterlife, *The Divine Comedy*.

The final volume in a brilliant translation destined to take its place among the

great English versions of *The Divine Comedy* In his translation of *Paradise*, Mark Musa exhibits the same sensitivity to language and knowledge of translation that enabled his versions of *Inferno* and *Purgatory* to capture the vibrant power and full dramatic force of Dante's poetry. Dante relates his mystical interpretation of the heavens, and his moment of transcendent glory, as he journeys, first with Beatrice, then alone, toward the Trinity. Professor Musa's extraordinary translation and his interpretive commentary, informative glossary, and bibliography clarify the theological themes and make Dante accessible to the English-speaking public. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

"From the Bible through Dante and up to *Treblinka* and *Guantánamo Bay*, here is a rich source for nightmares." --*The New York Times Book Review* Three thousand years of visions of Hell, from the ancient Near East to modern America From the Hebrew Bible's shadowy realm of Sheol to twenty-first-century visions of Hell on earth, *The Penguin Book of Hell* takes us through three thousand years of eternal damnation. Along the way, you'll take a ferry ride with Aeneas to Hades, across the river Acheron; meet the Devil as imagined by a twelfth-century Irish monk--a monster with a thousand giant hands; wander the nine circles of Hell in Dante's *Inferno*, in which gluttons, liars, heretics, murderers, and hypocrites are made to endure crime-appropriate torture; and witness the debates that raged in Victorian England when new scientific advances cast doubt on the idea of an eternal hereafter. Drawing upon religious poetry, epics, theological treatises, stories of miracles, and accounts of saints' lives, this fascinating volume of hellscape illuminates how Hell has long haunted us, in both life and death.

The second volume of the *Divine Comedy* presents the *Purgatory*. Continuing the story of the poet's journey through the medieval Other World under the guidance of the Roman poet Virgil, the *Purgatory* culminates in the regaining of the Garden of Eden and the reunion there with the poet's long-lost love Beatrice.

With the Roman poet Virgil as his guide, Dante passes through the nine circles of hell to salvation. As the two make their descent through the underworld, the severity of sin being punished increases, such that those in the ninth and deepest pit—the traitors—are encased in ice for eternity. At the centre of Hell, frozen to the waist and beating his wings in torment, is Satan, the one who would have overthrown God. *Inferno* is the first part of the *Divine Comedy*, the epic narrative poem by the medieval Italian poet Dante Alighieri. Dante's examination of the afterlife is continued in the remaining two parts of the *Comedy*, *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*. A masterpiece of world literature, *Inferno* is a political and spiritual

allegory, as well as an exquisite and elaborate imagining of the afterlife and the shape of divine justice. HarperTorch brings great works of non-fiction and the dramatic arts to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperTorch collection to build your digital library.

This Everyman's Library edition—containing in one volume all three cantos, *Inferno*, *Purgatorio*, and *Paradiso*—includes an introduction by Nobel Prize—winning poet Eugenio Montale, a chronology, notes, and a bibliography. Also included are forty-two drawings selected from Botticelli's marvelous late-fifteenth-century series of illustrations. Translated in this edition by Allen Mandelbaum, *The Divine Comedy* begins in a shadowed forest on Good Friday in the year 1300. It proceeds on a journey that, in its intense recreation of the depths and the heights of human experience, has become the key with which Western civilization has sought to unlock the mystery of its own identity. Mandelbaum's astonishingly Dantean translation, which captures so much of the life of the original, renders whole for us the masterpiece of that genius whom our greatest poets have recognized as a central model for all poets.

In this re-assessment of Dante's '*Inferno*', and of the place which it occupies in the plan of the whole '*Commedia*', Kirkpatrick argues that Dante's thinking and poetry are subject to far greater internal tension than is commonly supposed. He then proceeds to analyse each of the 34 cantos of the '*Inferno*'.

"The Count of Monte Cristo has become a fixture of Western Civilization's literature, as inescapable and immediately identifiable as Micky Mouse, Noah's flood, and the story of Little Red Riding Hood." -Luc Sante "A piece of perfect storytelling." -Robert Louis Stevenson With Alexandre Dumas's epic novel of intrigue and adventure, *The Count of Monte Cristo* has thrilled readers for centuries with its sweeping themes of alienation, love, and revenge. With its intricate plot and evocative settings in France and the Mediterranean, this book is one of the most beloved classics ever written. In this quintessential tale of vengeance set in the Napoleonic era, Edmond Dantès, a young French sailor, is engaged to marry Mercédès, a young and beautiful Catalan woman. In a terrible act of jealousy, three men betray Edmond, and he is wrongfully convicted of treason. He is sent to the infamous Château d'If, one of the most feared prisons of France. After a daring escape from imprisonment, Dantès hunts in search of a treasure that he has learned of from a fellow inmate. Once in possession of his vast fortune, he returns to Paris as the mysterious Count of Monte Cristo to wreck revenge on the three men who have betrayed him. Dumas's tale simmers with intrigue and excitement and remains one of the great classics of our time. With an eye-catching new cover, and professionally typeset manuscript, this edition of *The Count of Monte Cristo* is both modern and readable.

Dive into centuries of mermaid lore with these captivating tales from around the world. A Penguin Classic Among the oldest and most popular mythical beings, mermaids and other merfolk have captured the imagination since long before Ariel sold her voice to a sea witch in the beloved Disney film adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's "*The Little Mermaid*." As far back as the eighth century B.C., sailors in Homer's *Odyssey* stuffed

wax in their ears to resist the Sirens, who lured men to their watery deaths with song. More than two thousand years later, the gullible New York public lined up to witness a mummified "mermaid" specimen that the enterprising showman P. T. Barnum swore was real. The Penguin Book of Mermaids is a treasury of such tales about merfolk and water spirits from different cultures, ranging from Scottish selkies to Hindu water-serpents to Chilean sea fairies. A third of the selections are published here in English for the first time, and all are accompanied by commentary that explores their undercurrents, showing us how public perceptions of this popular mythical hybrid--at once a human and a fish--illuminate issues of gender, spirituality, ecology, and sexuality.

Presents a translation of Dante's allegorical poem.

"La vita nuova marked a turning point in European literature, introducing personal experience into the strict formalism of medieval love poetry. The sequence of poems tells the story of Dante's passion for Beatrice, the beautiful sister of one of his closest friends, transformed through his writing into a symbol of love that was both spiritual and romantic. From unrequited passion to the profound grief he experiences at the loss of his love, this work intersperses exquisite verse with Dante's own commentary on the structure and origins of each poem, offering a unique insight into the poet's art and skill. Barbara Reynolds's translation, acclaimed for its lucidity and faithfulness to the original, is now enhanced with a new introduction and other material." --Publisher description.

Dante's classic is presented in the original Italian as well as in a new prose translation, and is accompanied by commentary on the poem's background and allegory.

Most English translations of INFERNO are full of colorful, but meaningless language based on today's modern standards. Some translations are so elaborate that they are as difficult to read as the original Italian version. This translation uses the Longfellow translation as a base, but replaces the obscure or antiquated verbiage with the language of Modern English. This translation could easily be read and understood by today's reader.

An acclaimed translation of Dante Alighieri's *The Divine Comedy* Volume 1: *Inferno* that retains all the style, power and meaning of the original A Penguin Classic This vigorous translation of *Inferno* preserves Dante's simple, natural style, and captures the swift movement of the original Italian verse. Mark Musa's blank verse rendition of the poet's journey through the circles of hell recreates for the modern reader the rich meanings that Dante's poem had for his contemporaries. Musa's introduction and commentaries on each of the cantos brilliantly illuminate the text. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

The famed Italian poet Dante Alighieri's two masterworks—*The Divine Comedy* and *La Vita Nuova*—in one volume A Penguin Classic As a philosopher, he

wedded classical methods of inquiry to a Christian faith. As an autobiographer, he looked unsparingly at his own failures to depict universal struggles. As a visionary, he dared draw maps of Hell, with Purgatory and Paradise, and populate all three realms with recognizable human beings. As a passionate lover, he became a poet of bereavement and renunciation. As all of these, Dante Alighieri paved the way for modern literature, while creating verse and prose that remain unparalleled for formal elegance, intellectual depth, and emotional grandeur. The Portable Dante captures the scope and fire of Dante's genius as thoroughly as any single volume can. It contains complete verse translations of The Divine Comedy and La Vita Nuova, as well as a bibliography, notes, and an introduction by the eminent scholar and translator Mark Musa. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Describing Dante's descent into Hell midway through his life with Virgil as a guide, this title depicts a cruel underworld in which desperate figures are condemned to eternal damnation for committing one or more of seven deadly sins.

A new selection from the national epic of India Originally composed in Sanskrit sometime between 400 BC and 400 AD, The Mahabharata-with one hundred thousand stanzas of verse-is one of the longest poems in existence. At the heart of the saga is a conflict between two branches of a royal family whose feud culminates in a titanic eighteen-day battle. Exploring such timeless subjects as dharma (duty), artha (purpose), and kama (pleasure) in a mythic world of warfare, magic, and beauty, this is a magnificent and legendary Hindu text of immense importance to the culture of the Indian subcontinent. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Many have made the journey. None have ever returned... Wandering through a dark forest, Dante finds himself at the gates to the underworld. Despite his terror, he dares to enter the Circles of Hell, where the damned lie in torment. As he descends deeper, he encounters wild-eyed sinners, sees the three-headed, howling hound Cerberus, and meets a long-dead prophet who foretells Dante's destiny. He passes through realms of fire and ice, and at last reaches the frozen heart of Hell - where the hideous Satan, greatest of all the damned, lies in wait... "Inferno" tells the story "of those who have rejected spiritual values", of those

who are lost and are unable to find the right way to salvation. It describes each sin and the corresponding punishment. It differentiates between Purgatory and Hell by presenting people begging for forgiveness and others willing to justify their sins. "Inferno" represents the Christian soul who gets to see what it really is to commit a sin and what is to be expected in the afterlife. "Inferno" is the first part of Dante Alighieri's medieval poem "The Divine Comedy" which was written in the period 1308-1320. It depicts the nine circles of Hell and Dante's journey through them. Dante Alighieri was an Italian poet, philosopher, language and political theorist, born in Florence in 1265. He is one of the best known poets of the Middle Ages and his masterpiece "The Divine Comedy" is considered to be a representative of the medieval world-view. "The Divine Comedy" and "The New life" were written in vernacular, i.e. the speech variety that was used in everyday life. This made the literature accessible to most people and this is mainly why Dante is called "The father of Italian language". Dante's life was divided by poetry and politics and the relationships between secular and religious authority were topics which were often depicted in his literary works.

Durante di Alighiero degli Alighieri, commonly known by his pen name Dante Alighieri or simply as Dante (1265 - 1321), was an Italian poet during the Late Middle Ages. His Divine Comedy, originally called Comedia (modern Italian: Commedia) and later christened Divina by Giovanni Boccaccio, is widely considered the most important poem of the Middle Ages and the greatest literary work in the Italian language. In the late Middle Ages, most poetry was written in Latin, making it accessible only to the most educated readers. In *De vulgari eloquentia* (On Eloquence in the Vernacular), however, Dante defended the use of the vernacular in literature. He would even write in the Tuscan dialect for works such as *The New Life* (1295) and the *Divine Comedy*; this highly unorthodox choice set a precedent that important later Italian writers such as Petrarch and Boccaccio would follow. Dante was instrumental in establishing the literature of Italy, and his depictions of Hell, Purgatory and Heaven provided inspiration for the larger body of Western art. He is cited as an influence on John Milton, Geoffrey Chaucer and Alfred Tennyson, among many others. In addition, the first use of the interlocking three-line rhyme scheme, or the *terza rima*, is attributed to him. In Italy, he is often referred to as *il Sommo Poeta* ("the Supreme Poet") and *il Poeta*; he, Petrarch, and Boccaccio are also called "the three fountains" or "the three crowns".

In his introduction, the translator says: "I suppose that a very great majority of English-speaking people, if they were asked to name the greatest epic poet of the Christian era in Western Europe, would answer Dante." THE DIVINE COMEDY continues to be widely read today, whether for its religious inspiration or for the sheer power of its verse. The first part of the epic, THE INFERNO, tells how the narrator "loses his way," and finds himself in a strange landscape he's never seen before. There he encounters the shade of the ancient Roman poet, Virgil, who offers to lead him through the nine circles of Hell. The damned of

Dante's imagination, it's quite clear, have condemned themselves through their actions or inactions to become permanent prisoners of the nether regions. Down, down, down, go Dante and his guide, meeting friend and foe alike, with horror piled upon horror. Finally, they must climb Satan's body to find the only possible exit from this terrible place--where once more the poet will "see again the stars." A first-rate modern rendering of a literary classic!

A verse translation by a prize-winning translator with facing Italian text Dante's dramatic journey through the circles of hell in search of redemption—and his encounter with devils, monsters, and the souls of some of the greatest sinners who ever walked on earth—is one of the cornerstones of Western literature, the summit of medieval thinking, and arguably the highest poetic achievement of all time. Inferno, the first part of Dante's Divine Comedy, is presented here in a verse translation together with the original text facing, extensive notes, illustrations, and a critical apparatus focusing on the author's life and works. Excerpt from The Comedy of Dante Alighieri That shook the placid depth within my breast, All the night long so saddened and perplexed. Like one who breathless issues from the waves Turns to the waters he no longer braves, My spirit, that still ?ies, turns back to see The pass that living man ne'er trod but me. My weary frame once more refreshed, I paced The way along the desert ridge, and traced The hindmost footstep ever deepest placed. And, lo just where the steep ascents begin, A light swift leopard with a spotted skin Appeared never for once he left my view, As if he meant t' impede my journey through, That twice or thrice I from the path withdrew. The sun was mounting, with those stars that high Companioned with him when the heavenly 1 First moved those things so beautiful above. The hour of time, sweet season of the day, Made me hope better of the beast of prey, With variegated skin, that caused my stay. But so that terror might not leave me quite, A lion there appeared within my sight, With lofty head and raging famine's ?ame, The very air was trembling as he came And in its leanness full of each desire, She - wolf that saddened nations with its ire. This creature put me in such painful plight, Assailed with fear that issued from its sight. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

The ancient Sumerian poem The Epic of Gilgamesh is one of the oldest written stories in existence, translated with an introduction by Andrew George in Penguin Classics. Miraculously preserved on clay tablets dating back as much as four thousand years, the poem of Gilgamesh, king of Uruk, is the world's oldest epic,

predating Homer by many centuries. The story tells of Gilgamesh's adventures with the wild man Enkidu, and of his arduous journey to the ends of the earth in quest of the Babylonian Noah and the secret of immortality. Alongside its themes of family, friendship and the duties of kings, The Epic of Gilgamesh is, above all, about mankind's eternal struggle with the fear of death. The Babylonian version has been known for over a century, but linguists are still deciphering new fragments in Akkadian and Sumerian. Andrew George's gripping translation brilliantly combines these into a fluid narrative and will long rank as the definitive English Gilgamesh. If you enjoyed The Epic of Gilgamesh, you might like Homer's Iliad, also available in Penguin Classics. 'A masterly new verse translation' The Times 'Andrew George has skilfully bridged the gap between a scholarly re-edition and a popular work' London Review of Books

An accessible new translation, accompanied by notes and introduction, recreates the narrative immediacy of Dante's masterpiece while preserving its theological complexity and Christian passion for the divine

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