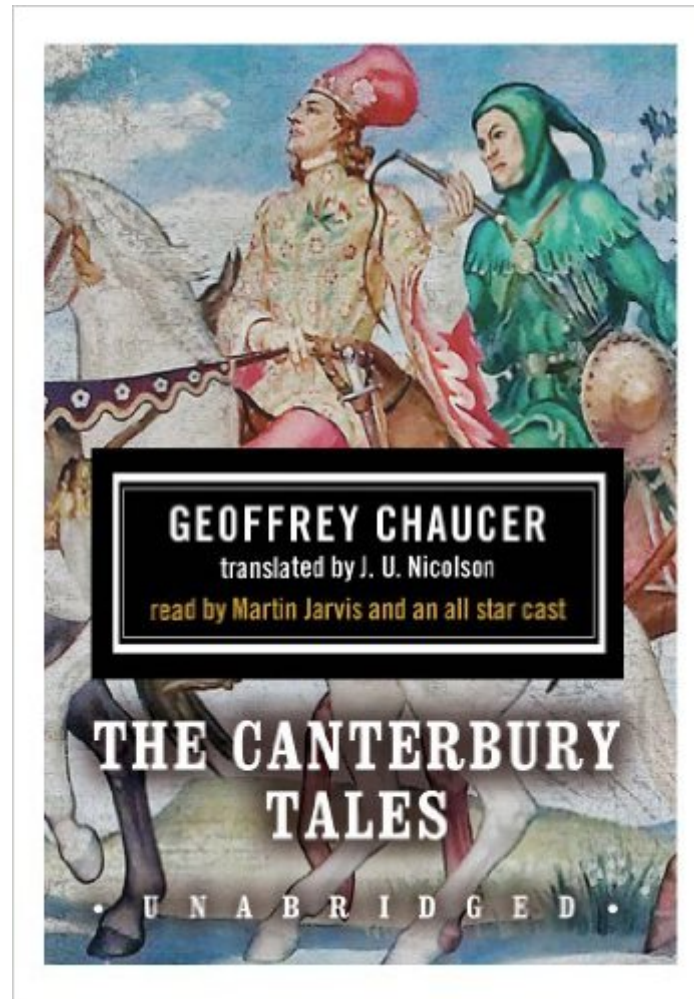


The book was found

The Canterbury Tales (Blackstone Audio Classic Collection)



Synopsis

In this, Chaucer's finest work, the poet tells of meeting at the Tabard Inn with thirty others to make the usual April pilgrimage to Becket's shrine at Canterbury. He describes his companions, who are of widely varying classes and occupations.

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Blackstone Audio, Inc.; Unabridged edition (October 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1433249723

ISBN-13: 978-1433249723

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 2 x 5.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (369 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,216,570 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #117 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Poetry & Drama #140 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Poetry #151 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Drama

Customer Reviews

Over some period I have read several translations of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. My first experience, selections in a high school text, was not promising. (Perhaps, I was not yet ready for Chaucer.) Translating poetry from one language to another is difficult and often unsuccessful. Translating Chaucer from Middle English is not much easier. English has changed dramatically in the last 600 years, to the point that Middle English is nearly indecipherable. For example, we read Chaucer's description of the Knight's appearance: Of fustian he wored a gipoun (Of coarse cloth he wore a doublet) All bismotered with his habergeoun (All rust-spotted by his coat-of-mail) A glossary, diligence, and time are required for reading the original Chaucer. If you choose to do so, the Riverside Chaucer edition (edited by L. Benson) and the Norton Critical Edition (edited by Olson and Kolve) are highly recommended. The Signet Classic paperback edited by D. R. Howard modernizes the spelling a bit, but largely adheres to the original Chaucer and is an easier introduction to Middle English. Although in most cases the instructor assigns a particular version of Canterbury Tales, it can be exceedingly helpful to pick-up an additional version or two. A slightly different translation may entirely surprise you, even resonate with you, making Chaucer much more enjoyable. I suggest that you look for these versions: Selected Canterbury Tales, Dover Thrift edition - provides a poetic,

rather than literal interpretation, and is quite readable. The collection of tales is fairly small, however. *Canterbury Tales*, Penguin edition, translated by Nevill Coghill, is an excellent poetic translation.

The version of this classic I read was a translation into modern English by Nevill Coghill. As you can see above, I awarded Chaucer (and the translation) five stars; but I do have a criticism. This translation (and many other publications of Chaucer) do not contain the two prose tales ("The Tale of Melibee" and "The Parson's Tale"). These are rarely read and I understand the publisher's and the translator's desire to keep the book to a manageable size. Still, that should be the readers' decision and not one else's. I had to go to the University library and get a complete copy in order to read those sections. As I mentioned, this copy is a translation into modern English. However, I do recommend that readers take a look at the Middle English version, at least of the Prologue. Many years ago, when I was in high school, my teacher had the entire class memorize the first part of the Prologue in the original Middle English. Almost forty years later, I still know it. I am always stunned at how beautiful, fluid, and melodic the poetry is, even if you don't understand the words.

Twenty-nine pilgrims meet in the Tabard Inn in Southwark on their way to Canterbury. The host suggests that the pilgrims tell four stories each in order to shorten the trip (the work is incomplete in that only twenty-four stories are told). The tales are linked by narrative exchanges and each tale is presented in the manner and style of the character providing the story. This book was a major influence on literature. In fact, the development of the "short story" format owes much to these tales.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Canterbury Tales (Blackstone Audio Classic Collection) The Canterbury Tales [Blackstone] A Christmas Carol (Blackstone Audio Classic Collection) Robinson Crusoe (Blackstone Audio Classic Collection) The Good Earth (Blackstone Audio Classic Collection) Tom Sawyer Box Set: The Adventures of Tom Sawyer; Tom Sawyer Abroad; and Tom Sawyer, Detective (Blackstone Audio Classic Collection) Canterbury Tales - Volume II (Classic Literature With Classical Music. Classic Fiction) Sense and Sensibility (Blackstone Audio Classics Collection) The Canterbury Tales: Fifteen Tales and the General Prologue (Norton Critical Editions) The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale CD: From The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer Read by Elizabeth Salter (Selected Tales from Chaucer) The Miller's Prologue and Tale CD: From The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer Read by A. C. Spearing (Selected Tales from Chaucer) The Merchant's Prologue and Tale CD: From The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer Read by A. C. Spearing (Selected Tales from Chaucer) Pride and Prejudice [Blackstone Audio] The Sharing Knife, Vol. 2: Legacy (Legacy

(Blackstone Audio)) Warlord of Mars (The Martian-Barsoom-John Carter Series, Book 3) (Martian
(Blackstone Audio)) Warlord of Mars (The Martian-Barsoom-John Carter Series, Book 3)(Library
Edition) (Martian (Blackstone Audio)) The Canterbury Tales: The Knight's Tale (Modern Verse
Translation) The Canterbury Tales The Canterbury Tales (Dover Thrift Editions) Selected
Canterbury Tales

[Dmca](#)