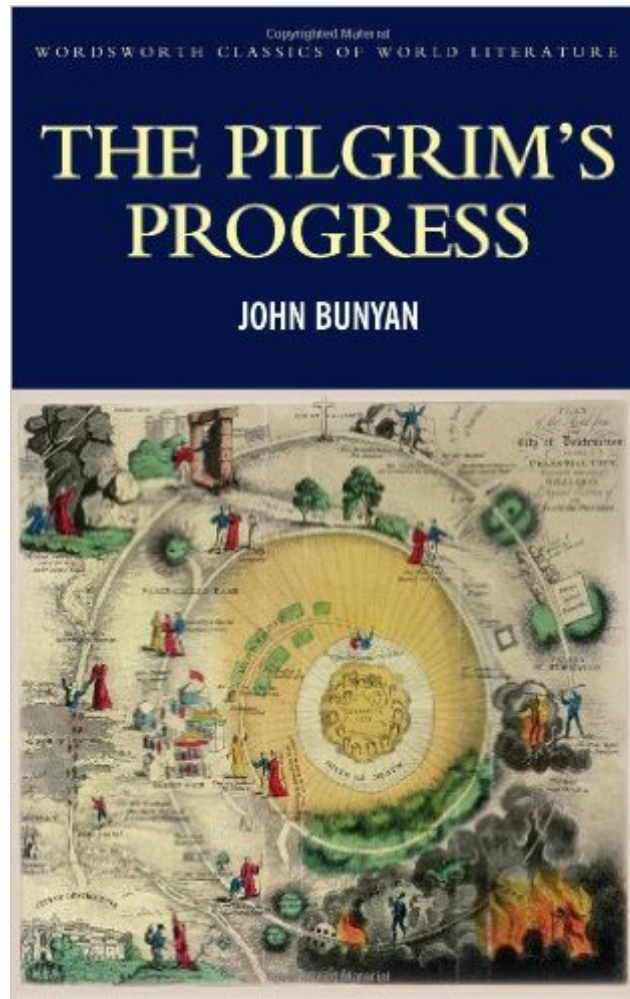


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Pilgrim's Progress (Wordsworth Classics Of World Literature)



Synopsis

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Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was originally going to title this review, "I Can't Believe I Liked This Book!" I started reading The Pilgrim's Progress as part of a quest to read history's great novels. After making my way through Cervantes's Don Quixote (which took me 82 days), I began reading The Pilgrim's Progress in small chunks, and got through the first 100 pages or so in about two weeks... And then I stopped.Four

months later, I resumed my quest. This time, I committed myself to reading in longer blocks of time. After all, The Pilgrim's Progress consists of two ~130-page Parts, neither of which is broken down into smaller chapter units, so stopping and starting seriously disrupts the flow. Still, I was having difficulty. The language is so archaic and the allegories are particularly hard to follow for someone (such as myself) with virtually no background in Biblical studies. But then a funny thing happened: in attempting to demonstrate the difficulty of the language to my wife, I began reading aloud... And then everything started to sink in, for me! I offer this as a tip to anyone else who at first has trouble getting into the book. Prior to my experiment with reading aloud, I would often find myself needing to go back and re-read a paragraph or even a half-page. This is not a book that you can read casually -- you must be in deep concentration while reading. The payoff, however, is definitely worth it. This is a tale, after all, that has stood the test of time: the most influential English-language book in all of Christendom. The story of the more-famous First Part centers around Christian, who was formerly known as Graceless.

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