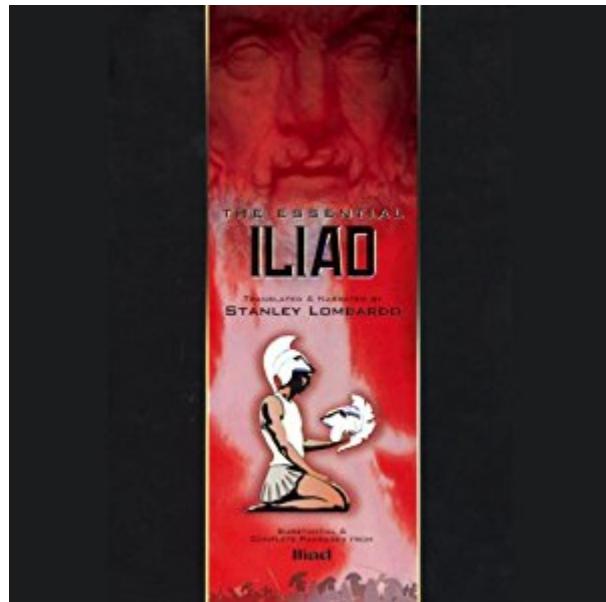


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The Essential Iliad



Synopsis

The classics are rapidly receding from public consciousness, and modern revisions of them, such as the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou*, are in genuine danger of never being linked to their original inspiration. Noted classicist Stanley Lombardo breathes new life into one of the most famous and beloved ancient works with this engaging and vibrant audio performance of carefully selected excerpts of Homer's *Iliad*. This state-of-the-art compact disc recording provides high-quality access to one of the greatest works in world literature.

"The most daring, rapid and colloquial translation of Homer I know. Lombardo's taut and punchy verse conveys admirably and accurately the excitement and desperation of the battle, the urgency of the commanders, the occasional flashes of humor, the passion of Homer's narrative and the vivid and subtle humanity of his characters."

•Richard Janko, University College, London

More than 3,000 years after the fall of Troy, here at last is a rendition of the Homeric epic that everybody can understand and appreciate. The world can't hear Homer speak his own words, but Stanley Lombardo is the next best thing. Reading his own acclaimed (abridged) translations, Lombardo's insightful rendition takes advantage of the rhythms and other poetic resources of everyday American speech. The result provides cinematic and performance qualities to the time-honored poetry -- sharp scene cuts, dynamic language, urgency of the characters (human and divine). His virtuoso performance in these audiobooks reflects years of experience before a wide variety of audiences -- beautifully paced, shaped, intoned, and acted throughout.

"The definitive English version of Homer for our time."

-- Common Review

"The excellence of Lombardo's performance can't be lauded too much. There's no other translator of the world's greatest poetry that is also a world-class reader."

-- Douglass Parker, University of Texas at Austin

"Just the right degree of involvement or detachment as each circumstance in the reading calls for."

-- William Levitan, Grand Valley State University

"Remarkably true to the centrality of performance in Homer, the varied pacing and tone, the clarity, speed, narrative drive, and moments of breathtaking beauty."

-- Rachel Hadas, Rutgers University

"The quality of Stan's voice, which has an honest, unshowy American core, makes these performances sound fresh, intimate, and believable --very different from those theatricalized oral interpretations that overplay the 'epic' note. Altogether this is as good as Homer gets in English."

-- Richard P. Martin, Stanford University

STANLEY LOMBARDO is Professor of Classics at Kansas University. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 5 hours and 18 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Abridged

Publisher: Parmenides Publishing

Audible.com Release Date: September 28, 2007

Language: English

ASIN: B000WOYDMK

Best Sellers Rank: #70 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Poetry #92 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Ancient #279 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Ancient, Classical & Medieval > Ancient & Classical

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