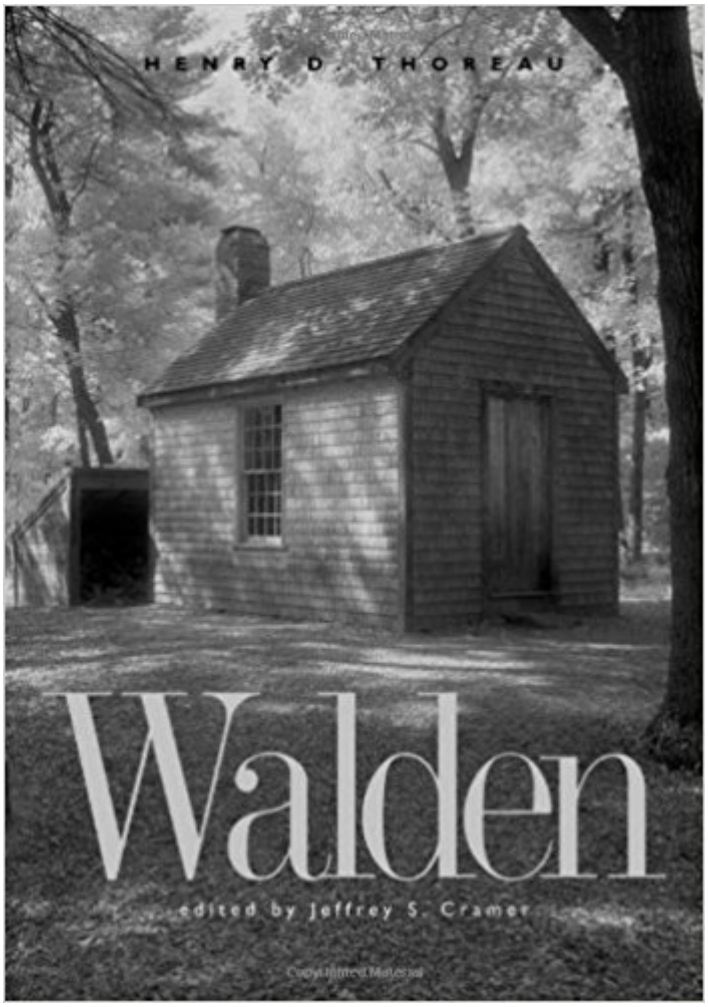
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Walden: A Fully Annotated Edition



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Synopsis

This is the authoritative edition of an American literaru classic:Ã Â Henry David ThoreauÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Walden, an elegantly written record of his experiment in simple living.Ã Â With this edition, Ã Â Thoreau scholar Jeffrey S. Cramer has meticulously corrected errors and omissions from previous editions of Walden and here provides illuminating notes on the biographical, historical, and geographical contexts ofÃ Â the great nineteenth-century writer and thinker'sÃ Â life.CramerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s newly edited text is based on the original 1854 edition of Walden, with emendations taken from ThoreauÃ¢â ¬â„¢s draft manuscripts, his own markings on the page proofs, and notes in his personal copy of the book. In the editorÃ¢â ¬â„¢s notes to the volume, Cramer quotes from sources Thoreau actually read, showing how he used, interpreted, and altered these sources. Cramer also glosses Walden with references to ThoreauÃ¢â ¬â„¢s essays, journals, and correspondence. With the wealth of material in this edition, readers will find an unprecedented opportunity to immerse themselves in the unique and fascinating world of Thoreau.Anyone who has read and loved Walden will want to own and treasure this gift edition. Those wishing to read Walden for the first time will not find a better guide than Jeffrey S. Cramer.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

YA An unintended effect of the cultural diversity curriculum is that we lose touch with seminal works such as Walden. Written for an audience thoroughly versed in Western tradition, many of Thoreau's metaphors and references are unrecognizable to today's students. Though some references were

intended to prove his erudition, one is chagrined at the number of necessary explications of standard classical concepts. Though some annotations are noisy comments upon Thoreau's life, most are informative and enhance the work. Many YAs will view Thoreau's natural essays as he intended, thanks to Harding's efforts. A must for libraries.?Hugh McAloon, Prince William County Public Library, VACopyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Walden's original publisher releases an annotated edition to celebrate the book's 150th anniversary.Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

How could I not love Henry David Thoreau? I found him remarkable. As I got deeper and further into the book Walden, I found his musings and enlightning and uplifting. He was a father of environmentalism, a naturalist, A minimalist,an abolitionist, and a Transcendentalist experiencing nature as God and God in nature. What a surprising treat!

Civil Disobedience written during saber rattling with Mexico and the countryÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s concern over the abolition of slavery in 1848 it is as relevant today as it has ever been, as it transcends space and time.Thoreau's main point is that the best - and many times, the only - method for fighting injustice is through passive disobedience. By refusing to cooperate with the machinery of injustice, the individual can become the friction that stops the machine. Active resistance is bound for failure, as the machine (the State, society, etc.) is too formidable for the individual to fight. But, by refusing to cooperate, justice can be achieved and injustice toppled. "Any man more right than his neighbors constitutes a majority of one ".Other gems:I heartily accept the motto ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“That government is best which governs least or not at allÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•Man has a conscience (not government) we should be Men first and subjects second.Current political thought could use the purity, consistency and clarity that were second nature to thinkers near the American RevolutionThe government never started any enterprise; it does not keep the country free. It did not settle the West. It does not educate. The chapter of the American people accomplished it all. I would have done more if the government got out of the way.Today we are faced with some of the same issues about control. The Government takes our labor (money) and decides who and what wars to fight and how to spend the rest with or with our consent.It is a book about convections of a manÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s right and wrong (not

government) and the fight for injustice.

The language alone is breathtaking. This is a great read. It is comfortable, ponderous, and frank, intelligent, yet humble philosophy. The imagry is intamately articulated and you find yourself completely entertained by the simple wonders of pond, forest, and cabin.

I’m only writing something in this case because it’s required in order to rate the work. My friend is a Walden expert. To my shame, I put off reading it for years. I finally did so, from cover to cover. It’s a great reading experience. Thoreau was very wise, extremely original, and highly educated too. He was also a very resourceful surveyor. Thoreau was no primitive. Many of the paragraphs in "Walden" are famous out of context. If you haven’t read it, give yourself a treat.

while at times i found the book a little difficult to read because of the writing style, I found the insight to be well worth the challenge.It touches upon the true role of the individual within a society and the manner in which a government should view the individual which, Hayek reference in his Road to Serfdom another book worth the time of anyone who has read Civil Disobedience.The one shock for me though was upon reaching the final page of the book with the recommendations for further reading to find Marx who in truth stand on the opposite footing of Thoreau with his collectivism were as Thoreau was a true believer and support of the individuals ability to chose how they relate to the state. I believe we as citizens should be given the choice of which taxes to support and which to not have to pay. Case in point I pay property taxes through the money that I give to my landlord for the schools in my area but yet I have no children those in a community should be given the option to say no to a portion of their property taxes if they do not have children in school and also those that chose to send their children to private school should be given the same option. The state needs to realize that the money they use is our money and as the governed if we chose to revoke our mandate they will receive nothing.

I can’t believe I got to be this old and had never read this philosophical treatise on the role of the individual and government in society. In this day where the political right has shifted the political center for all parties, Thoreau would be considered a revolutionary. Writing in the time of slavery and the Mexican American war, you would think that the essay, being over 150 years old would be dated, but oppression and wars of aggression are the same issues we face today. Civil Disobedience leaves a lot to think about - the role of government, the individual, the difference

between society and government, and what would be the consequence if everyone embraced Thoreau's ideas; a better society or anarchy? The English is sometimes a bit had to digest (a lot of double negatives) but I found Spark Notes a helpful companion.

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