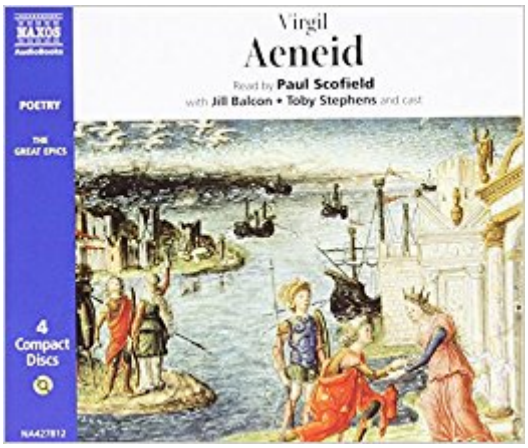
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Aeneid



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Synopsis

Virgil’s Aeneid, one of the greatest Classical poems, tells the story of Aeneas, son of Priam, after the fall of Troy. His quest is to find the site "in the west" where he will found a new town prophesied to be the seat of a world empire - Rome. This great poem, in a modern translation by Cecil Day Lewis, is superbly read by the great classical actor Paul Scofield, with Jill Balcon

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Customer Reviews

A new and noble standard bearer . . . Theres a capriciousness to Fagless line well suited to this vast storys ebb and flow. "The New York Times Book Review" (front page review) Fagless new version of Virgils epic delicately melds the stately rhythms of the original to a contemporary cadence. . . . He illuminates the poems Homeric echoes while remaining faithful to Virgils distinctive voice. "The New Yorker" Robert Fagles gives the full range of Virgils drama, grandeur, and pathos in vigorous, supple modern English. It is fitting that one of the great translators of "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey" in our times should also emerge as a surpassing translator of "The Aeneid," J. M. Coetzee"A new and noble standard bearer . . . There’s a capriciousness to Fagles’s line well suited to this vast story’s ebb and flow." -"The New York Times Book Review" (front page review) "Fagles’s new version of Virgil’s epic delicately melds the stately rhythms of the original to a contemporary cadence. . . . He illuminates the poem’s Homeric echoes while remaining faithful to Virgil’s distinctive voice." -"The New Yorker" "Robert Fagles gives the full range of Virgil’s drama, grandeur, and pathos in vigorous, supple modern English. It is fitting that one of the great translators of "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey" in our times should also emerge as a surpassing translator of "The

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I studied The Aeneid in 4th year Latin in high school many years ago. I am sure it was never like this or I would remember it more fondly. This telling has a real sense of action and adventure. From ships tossed at sea to battles fought, the tale unfolds with energy and the characters come to life or larger-than-life, as the case may be. The voices of the gods are splendid and distinct; the narration by Paul Scofield quiet but never dull. And Toby Stephens as Aeneas is completely heroic and compelling. When he speaks it is easy to imagine his fellow Trojans’ willingness to follow him for seven years and not lose heart. There was much more to the love story between Dido and Aeneas than I remembered from school, too. I guess unmarried intimacy was not for our tender ears. My only complaint is a somewhat abrupt and slightly unsatisfying ending to this excellent rendition of a classic.

A work for the ages. In a word: Magnificent.I don’t like to read translations because I know that so much is lost from the original language. As a poet and writer, I know how important the play of language is, its rhythms, a word’s several meanings.But when it comes to The Classics, I have to set that issue aside and try to find the "best" translation I can find. I also realize that people in antiquity read aloud, even when alone. This was such a common practice, in fact, that Augustine remarked in his Confessions (c. 398) how surprised he was when he found a friend in his room reading to himself, silently. So, when I learned of Robert Fagles translation of Virgil’s The Aeneid, I got excited. The NYT wrote of it: "Fagles always aimed to produce translations for reading aloud, and for his translations to be fully savored you have to take them in by the ear."I downloaded Fagles’ The Aeneid as an audiobook and started listening. But I soon found myself getting "lost" while listening. Maybe it was me as a modern reader (not a listener), maybe it was the flow of words. The language seemed so rich that it felt like I was hitting a wall of sound and words. The story was there somewhere but I had a hard time following it. So, I bought a paperback copy of the book, too. Then I listened and followed the text as well. What a delightful experience! I could follow along the text and listen, and I have to say, it was incredible.Now that I’ve finished this Fagles translation, I just might try his Homer. I’ve already read Pope’s translation of both The Illiad and The Odyssey. But now I feel encouraged to try listening to both. I did not understand what was meant by "epic poetry" until I read those two works. Now, with Virgil’s The Aeneid, my trifecta is complete.If you’ve hesitated about The Classics, don’t. Jump in here with Fagles’ The Aeneid. And to feel the joy of the language that Virgil wanted his audience to experience, give it a listen, too. It just might open a whole new world for you, as the poet meant it to be.

Without a doubt this timeless classic is always a challenge for translators since Virgil’s meter never changes but each new generation’s does.At best, a translation hints at the flavor and spirit of a work. This modern translation seems to do the trick and with the exceptions of an interlinear translation or a academic study is as close as you will get.

A very telling story of Aneas after the famous fall of Troy and has long struggle to find a home and make peace with the goddess Juno who his forever nursing a grudge to the land of Italy to found the Roman people. However he must make heavy sacrifices along the way, his wife father, nurse ect. Along the journey many realize the war between the Greeks and Trojans is over and come together for a bigger cause. the right to live in peace when Turnas wages war. I couldn’t but it down, till it was

over Virgil started where Homer left off.

When talking about canonized epics written in dead languages, you're talking about the quality of translation. Robert Fitzgerald's translation of Virgil's THE AENEID is a text that sings with expert cadence and rhythm. I marvel at the precision and time it must have taken Fitzgerald to cobble this together. I found myself underlining passages throughout my reading. Lines such as "Harsh repose oppressed his eyes, a sleep of iron, and in eternal night they closed" have a timelessness that reaches over centuries.The story itself is the postscript to the Trojan War, a sort of Life After Troy follow-up. The Trojans have been driven from Asia and are seeking a new homeland that providence has told them awaits in Italy among the Latium. It's the Roman Empire's origin story - replete with demigods, he-man bravery, and Olympic favoritism. (Reading in the twenty-first century, you can't help but crack a smile, knowing that Aeneas' forbears would one day, centuries later, find themselves returned to Turkey and surrounded by hostile forces as the Roman Empire makes its final stand). THE AENEID doesn't stray too far from the Homeric formula: fate vs. choice, gluttonous feasts, lots of battle porn, and a smattering of hysterical women.Reading THE AENEID, one can see its influence on later work. It calls to mind Shakespeare, Milton, and, yes, Dante. The beauty of the metaphors and the blockbuster pacing simply work. We're told reading Virgil is vital to understanding Western Literature. Robert Fitzgerald's translation shows us exactly why that is.

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