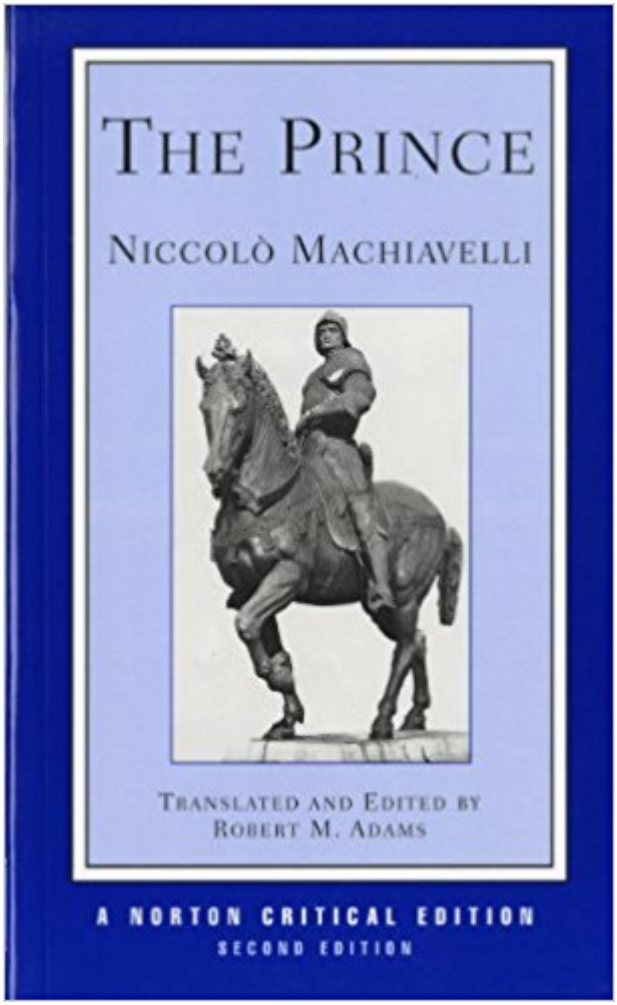
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The Prince (Norton Critical Editions)



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Synopsis

Robert M. AdamsÃ¢â ¬â„¢s superb translation of MachiavelliÃ¢â ¬â„¢s best-known work is again the basis for this Norton Critical Edition. Accurate, highly readable, and thoroughly revised for the Second Edition, this translation renders MachiavelliÃ¢â ¬â„¢s 1513 political tract into clear and concise English. "Backgrounds" relies entirely upon MachiavelliÃ¢â ¬â„¢s other writings to place this central Florentine in his proper political and historical context. Included are excerpts from The Discourses, a report from a diplomatic mission, a collection of private letters, and two poems from Carnival Songs. "Interpretations" retains three of the previous editionÃ¢â ¬â„¢s seminal essays while adding five selections by Felix Gilbert, Federico Chabod, J. H. Whitfield, Isaiah Berlin, and Robert M. Adams. "Marginalia" is an eclectic collection of writings germane to both Machiavelli and The Prince. Of the eight selections represented, five of them are new to the Second Edition, including Pasquale VillariÃ¢â ¬â„¢s comic portrayal of MachiavelliÃ¢â ¬â„¢s first diplomatic post in 1499, Francesco GuicciardiniÃ¢â ¬â„¢s lofty rebuttal to Machiavelli, and a collection of Tuscan Sayings to further the readerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s understanding of this timeless text. An updated Selected Bibliography is also included.

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Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Italian

Robert M. Adams was Professor of English (Emeritus) at the University of California at Los Angeles. He was the author of many books, including Ikon: John Milton and the Modern Critics; Strains of

Discord; Proteus, His Lies, His Truth: Discussion of Literary Translation; The Land and Literature of England; and ShakespeareÃ¢â ¬â ¢The Four Romances. In addition to the Norton Critical Edition of Utopia (he was translator and editor of the First and Second Editions), Professor Adams was editor of five other Norton Critical Editions, including The Prince by Machiavelli, Candide by Voltaire, and The Praise of Folly and Other Writings by Erasmus, the texts of which he also translated. He was a founding editor of The Norton Anthology of English Literature.

The original text of The Prince was written in 1513 and dedicated to Lorenzo deÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ Medici, after NiccolÃƒÂ Machiavelli had been accused of conspiracy. In this text, Machiavelli analyzes the actions taken by popes and historical and Biblical princes in events that have taken place in Italy and throughout Europe during his lifetime to give advice on how to become a great prince. Machiavelli starts with the basics by describing various ways of rising to power: using oneÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s own arms and energy, using other peopleÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s arms and luck, through crime, and by ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“choice of fellow citizensÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• (27). He continues by giving advice on every single aspect of being a prince: from military duties and selecting private counselors to acquiring a reputation and dealing with luck. While his work has been seen as controversial, the supporting evidence of the analysis of past events allows Machiavelli to make compelling arguments.It has been approximately 500 years since Machiavelli wrote The Prince, but it is striking to see the relevance of his work today. We may not live in a society of princes, but some of the advice can be applied in modern daily life as people find themselves in various leadership roles. For example, Machiavelli states that ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“if a prince conducts himself with patience and caution, and the times and circumstances are favorable to those qualities, he will flourish; but if times and circumstances change, he will come to ruin unless he changes his method of proceedingÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• (68), explaining that one must be flexible and change once the times indicate that the methods used will not work. Although some of the advice can be extreme, the reader can find something Machiavelli proposes and apply it to daily life.The Norton Critical Edition of MachiavelliÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s The Prince provides relevant historical context and great analysis of the work that gives the reader a more complete understanding of the context and the various interpretations of The Prince. The historical introduction does a superb job at placing the reader in Florence in the 1500s. The analysis of The Prince includes Felix GilbertÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s essay on ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Fortune, Necessity, and VirtÃƒÂ ,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• which is a great interpretation of MachiavelliÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s use of these terms. Using analysis from other similar works, Gilbert also determines how MachiavelliÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s ideas differ from that of his contemporaries. The

analysis is complete with looking into interpretations of MachiavelliÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s work and the influential nature of his methods and style.The text may be dense at times, but the footnotes really help the reader understand the context. I highly recommend the Norton Critical Edition if you are looking to explore the context and the impact of The Prince.

This is the quote I read when being suggested this book. This is a very interesting book so far. I'd definitely recommend the Norton Critical Editions edition of it. It provides footnotes on each page for clarification, something that is not found in most literature this old. I am not dissatisfied in the least.

Good book.

Very satisfied

My daughter used for a school project

its a really good book and i just bought it for college i recommend this book to every one. I am so happy

After reading this, you'll feel inspired to rule the world. Difficult read and awesome book.

Awesome book. The Norton Critical Edition's annotated notes really helped make it an understandable and approachable read. I highly recommend this book for history buffs and those interested in the science of war.

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