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The Essential Goethe



Synopsis

The Essential Goethe is the most comprehensive and representative one-volume collection of Goethe's writings ever published in English. It provides English-language readers easier access than ever before to the widest range of work by one of the greatest writers in world history. Goethe's work as playwright, poet, novelist, and autobiographer is fully represented. In addition to the works for which he is most famous, including *Faust Part I* and the lyric poems, the volume features important literary works that are rarely published in English, including the dramas *Egmont*, *Iphigenia in Tauris*, and *Torquato Tasso* and the bildungsroman *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*, a foundational work in the history of the novel. The volume also offers a selection of Goethe's essays on the arts, philosophy, and science, which give access to the thought of a polymath unrivaled in the modern world. Primarily drawn from Princeton's authoritative twelve-volume Goethe edition, the translations are highly readable and reliable modern versions by scholars of Goethe. The volume also features an extensive introduction to Goethe's life and works by volume editor Matthew Bell. Includes:
Selected poems
Four complete dramas: *Faust Part I*, *Egmont*, *Iphigenia in Tauris*, and *Torquato Tasso*
The complete novel *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*
A selection from the travel journal *Italian Journey*
Selected essays on art and literature
Selected essays on philosophy and science
An extensive introduction to Goethe's life and works
A chronology of Goethe's life and times
A note on the texts and translations

Book Information

File Size: 3919 KB

Print Length: 1045 pages

Publisher: Princeton University Press (January 12, 2016)

Publication Date: January 12, 2016

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00YFSU9SG

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #430,148 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #68

inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > World Literature > German #142

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Customer Reviews

Wonderful new translation. And considering the size and scope of this volume, just a fraction of the genius of Goethe. This book is a great starting point for anyone interested in this often overlooked and under read philosopher/ essayist/ playwright/ critic etc...

Good read.

Essential

The book is a compendium of a number of Goethe's writings that are translated into English. Several of the more famous items are not included. Many are lengthier than makes for a comfortable "read". I am not sure who the target audience is.

no.....The Sorrows of Young Werther....what? but other stuff....

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