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# Paradiso (Bantam Classics)



## Synopsis

This brilliant new verse translation by Allen Mandelbaum captures the consummate beauty of the third and last part of Dante's Divine Comedy. The Paradiso is a luminous poem of love and light, of optics, angelology, polemics, prayer, prophecy, and transcendent experience. As Dante ascends to the Celestial Rose, in the tenth and final heaven, all the spectacle and splendor of a great poet's vision now becomes accessible to the modern reader in this highly acclaimed, superb dual language edition. With extensive notes and commentary.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The English Dante of choice."--Hugh Kenner."Exactly what we have waited for these years, a Dante with clarity, eloquence, terror, and profoundly moving depths."--Robert Fagles, Princeton University."Tough and supple, tender and violent . . . vigorous, vernacular . . . Mandelbaum's Dante will stand high among modern translations."--The Christian Science Monitor"Love of the English language will be delighted by this eloquently accomplished enterprise."--Book Review Digest

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Italian --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The picture shown was not what was delivered. I specifically wanted the 1986 version shown on the product description but what I received was the updated 2004 version. As a book fan the versioning

is very important especially when trying to round out the older set. As for Dante's Divine comedy, it's 5 stars.

I tried the free sample already suspicious because the description claims in different places to be the Mandelbaum translation and to be translated by Ciardi. The sample was neither but one of the old stilted translations available free from Gutenberg. Come on . You are famous already for abusing your employees. Some of us mores the pity overlook that because of great convenience for us. But this kind of error makes us want to wake up to the rest of your wrongs.

I truly enjoy reading the classics. However some classics must be translated. Some translations loose meaning since you can not translate word for word. Only the meanings can be translated and with the evolving English language sometimes words can have skewed definitions. John Ciardi is the best Dante translator I have read. Signet has done a good job at this price point. The Devine comedy is a book set that will expand your understanding on many uncannonized ideas.  The Inferno (Signet Classics) The Paradiso (Signet Classics) The Purgatorio (Signet Classics)

"The Purgatorio" was translated by the American poet, John Ciardi, and is accompanied by copious notes. If you want to plunge further into Dante you can, but it is by no means essential! I would give this ten stars if I could.

I have been grappling with Dante for many years and every time I turn back to the Divine Comedy I am once again hooked. I like this version because it is elegantly translated and has a modern touch that I find compelling (in comparison to Longfellow's, for example). I always prefer the translations that maintain rhyme and structure, although I have prose versions also for when I get confused. The introductions and summaries of each canto are minimal but helpful. I always use the on-line Shmoop commentaries that are much more detailed yet also light hearted and readable. If you studied the Inferno at college or high school .... I recommend completing the set. This version is a very good place to start.

I won't go into detail on how amazing Dante's Divine Comedy is or how fantastic a job John Ciardi does with this translation since that has been handled well by the other reviewers. The only reason why I have knocked off some stars is due to the deficiencies present in the Kindle edition. If you are not considering the Kindle Edition, read no further. These are: 1. There are no line numbers at each

tercet. The notes at the end of each Canto are fantastic, but they all reference the text itself by specific line numbers. This makes it difficult to go back to the text after reading an interesting note or vice versa.2. There are no links to the notes within the text. This isn't a huge deal, but given there are no line numbers, it would have been nice to have a footnote hyperlink within the text and notes to jump back and forth between them.3. There are many misspelled/incorrect words. It looks like the publisher merely ran a print copy of this book through a piece of OCR software and nobody bothered to read through it! Probably 3-4 times per Canto, I come across a word that is obviously the wrong word or misspelled in either the summary, poem, or notes. I have a print copy of this edition as well, and these are definitely mistakes. Most of the time you can quickly figure out what it's supposed to be by context, but not always. This is just sloppy on the part of the publisher and a complete travesty given the greatness of the work itself and the fantastic translation.

It still has lovely moments, but as a non-Catholic, the most pious moments can fall a little flat. Love the rose/bees and some other imagery; less sold on the medieval astronomy and doctrine.

I love pleasure reading and while reading one of those books it was quoted in that book about Dante Alighieri, so I thought we would try it out. Love the thinking involved in this book, the amazing way you dig deep into your being to relate, because we all can relate. Nice to be able to read literature and share with you.

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