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The Iliad: The Fitzgerald Translation

By Homer



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The Iliad: The Fitzgerald Translation By Homer

Anger be now your song, immortal one,
Akhilleus' anger, doomed and ruinous,
that caused the Akhaians loss on bitter loss
and crowded brave souls into the undergloom,
leaving so many dead men-carrion
for dogs and birds; and the will of Zeus was done.
-Lines 1-6

Since it was first published more than twenty-five years ago, Robert Fitzgerald's prizewinning translation of Homer's battle epic has become a classic in its own right: a standard against which all other versions of *The Iliad* are compared. Fitzgerald's work is accessible, ironic, faithful, written in a swift vernacular blank verse that "makes Homer live as never before" (*Library Journal*).

This edition includes a new foreword by Andrew Ford.



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Editorial Review

Review

"Fitzgerald has solved virtually every problem that has plagued translators of Homer. The narrative runs, the dialogue speaks, the military action is clear, and the repetitive epithets become useful text rather than exotic relics." –*Atlantic Monthly*

"Fitzgerald's swift rhythms, bright images, and superb English make Homer live as never before...This is for every reader in our time and possibly for all time." –*Library Journal*

"[Fitzgerald's *Odyssey* and *Iliad*] open up once more the unique greatness of Homer's art at the level above the formula; yet at the same time they do not neglect the brilliant texture of Homeric verse at the level of the line and the phrase." –*The Yale Review*

"What an age can read in Homer, what its translators can manage to say in his presence, is one gauge of its morale, one index to its system of exultations and reticences. The supple, the iridescent, the ironic, these modes are among our strengths, and among Mr. Fitzgerald's." –*National Review*

With an Introduction by Gregory Nagy

From the Hardcover edition.

Review

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Language Notes

Text: English, Greek (translation)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Vicky Bowman:

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