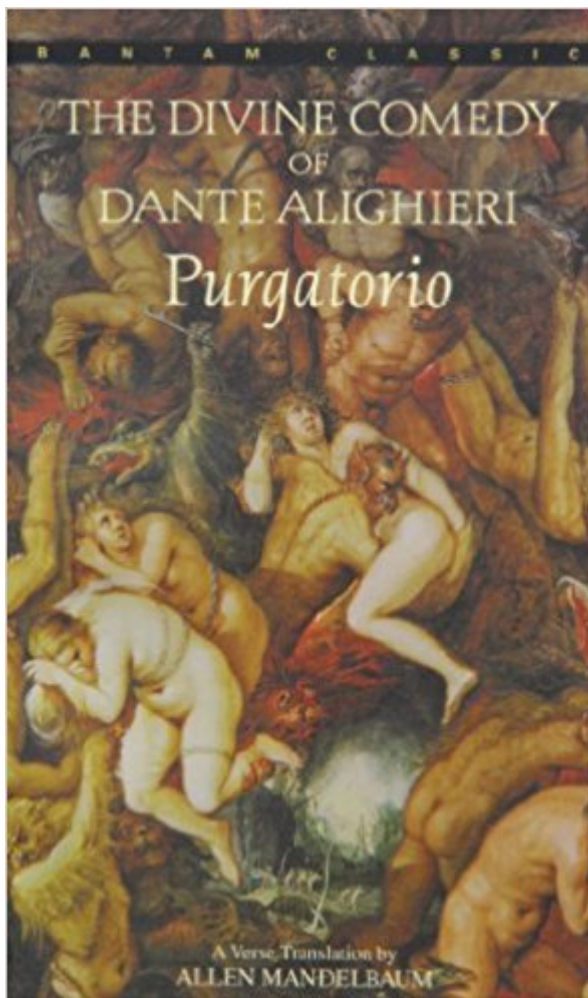


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Purgatorio (Bantam Classics)



Synopsis

This splendid verse translation by Allen Mandelbaum provides an entirely fresh experience of Dante's great poem of penance and hope. As Dante ascends the Mount of Purgatory toward the Earthly Paradise and his beloved Beatrice, through "that second kingdom in which the human soul is cleansed of sin," all the passion and suffering, poetry and philosophy are rendered with the immediacy of a poet of our own age. With extensive notes and commentary prepared especially for this edition.

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"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"Lovers of the English language will be delighted by this eloquently accomplished enterprise."--Book Review Digest

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I am not a catholic. I do not believe in purgatory, & I'm not sure I believe in hell. I've already paid for my mistakes in this life several lifetimes over. I am not Italian either, so I have to take it on faith that this translation is true to the original manuscript. In case I don't want to, the original is printed alongside it, which is a mark of confidence on someone's part. Anyway, who cannot enjoy magnificence, & an act of supreme imagination? It is fabulous poetry inviting you to a realm of experience impossible to reach otherwise - unless you are dead & Catholic!

The second of three books that compose the Divine Comedy, Dante Alighieri's "Purgatorio" is a continuation of his epic Cantos. Having seen Satan with their own eyes, Dante and Virgil once again breathe fresh air as they surface through an opening in a cliff. Their adventure then carries them to the mountain island of Purgatory where Dante hears tales of woe and sees some familiar faces, all the while drawing nearer to his beloved Beatrice. Often overlooked as the middle story, Purgatorio is, in its own rights, a classic. It would be my recommendation, however, to read it in order so as not to confuse yourself and to miss out on any of the important events that occur. What makes this edition so special is the wonderful translation done by Allen Mandelbaum. The notes that are provided make understanding not only the language but the plot and its nuances much easier and consequently much more enjoyable. This is easily the best version on the market today for the casual reader.

I lived in Italy 19 years and can read Italian easily (even Dante). I like to compare the translation to the original, and can say it is not only accurate but brilliant! The art work also communicates the deeper sense of the text. Two years ago I read the Inferno also translated by Mandelbaum and illustrated by Moser, and I look forward to the Paradiso.

I am certain this is the best translation however It felt like being in an advanced language class as a beginner.

Great book. Love this translation. Also in joy the Italian. Great notes.

Loved the book

Very complex, but rewarding. A classic and a must read for all who love literature.

Not as fun as hell, but the translation is perfect and the Italian on one side and English on the other is really cool.

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