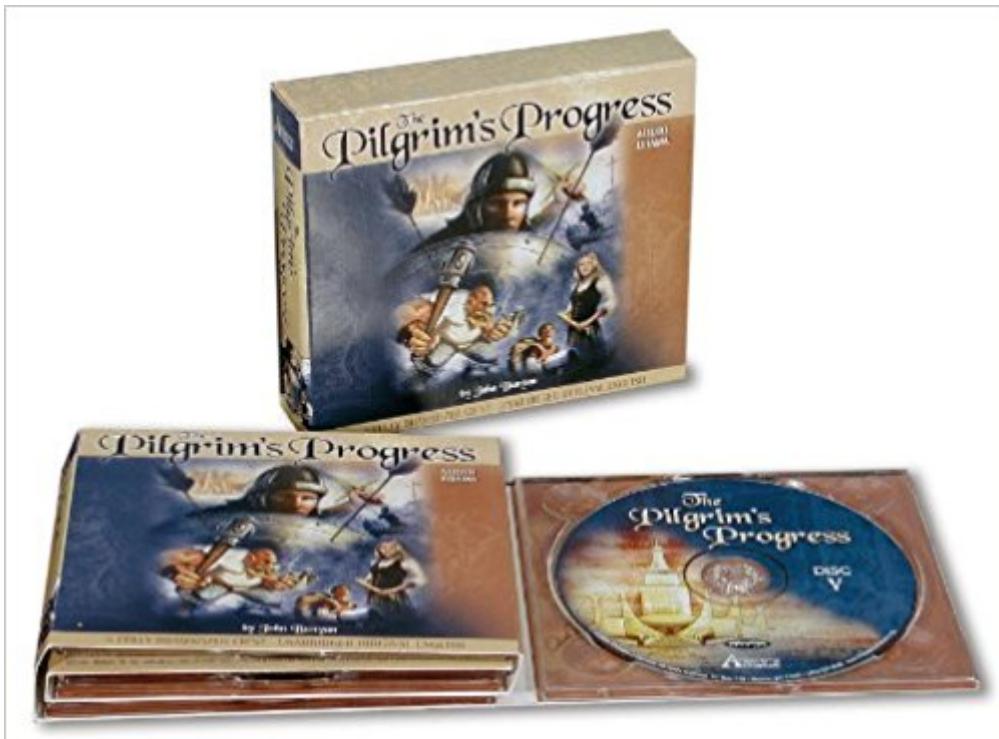


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The Pilgrim's Progress



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Synopsis

Excerpt from The Pilgrim's Progress: With Original NotesThat mingles all my brown with sober grey,
Revere the man, whole Pr LC R 1m marks the road And guides the prog R ass of the foul to
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Customer Reviews

Grade 5 Up "McCaughrean is known for her ability to make classic literature accessible and appealing to young readers. Here, her attempt to bring this religious allegory to contemporary readers is only partially successful, due in large part to the symbolic nature of the work. As in her earlier books, she retains the story's narrative framework and drama with a careful choice of events and use of rich, powerful language. She has eliminated much of the detail and lengthy philosophizing found in the original, presenting the story as a grand adventure. She has also toned down some of the most violent episodes such as Faithful's death. Unfortunately, Christian's dangerous journey may not be enough to attract and hold children's interest. Pilgrim's Progress is

essentially a complex allegory. Understanding the symbolism is key to appreciating the drama. Most children will not have the biblical knowledge or the maturity to understand and interpret the allegorical levels. Without that foundation, Christian's episodic adventures may seem too disconnected for them "despite McCaughean's lively retelling. Cockcroft's illustrations, softly rendered drawings interspersed with dramatic double-page paintings, emphasize Christian's struggles. This is a limited purchase for libraries in need of a children's edition of this classic. John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress (Eerdmans, 1994), retold by Gary Schmidt and illustrated by Barry Moser, is a slightly more modernized version and features a multiethnic cast of characters."Heide Piehler, Shorewood Public Library, WI Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

John Bunyan was born in 1628. In 1644 he was caught up in the Civil War and drafted into the Parliamentary army. Four years later he entered a period of intense spiritual struggle (chronicled in Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners), after which he emerged a new man. He joined a Nonconformist church and began to preach. Bunyan spent many years in prison because of his faith and during this time began writing The Pilgrim's Progress. The first part was published in 1678 and the second part, together with the whole work, was published in 1684. Bunyan died in 1688. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

I love this book, it is a classic and well worth the read whether you consider yourself a "christian" or not, so when I saw this version for 99\$, including the audio narration, I was thrilled and purchased it right away. Then I started to read it, in the prologue there is a note from some priest who has taken it upon himself to pare down the book by removing all of the "sermons" that he believes slow the story down. While that is fine for some people who may prefer this pared down version, it should be advertised up front as "abridged", which it is not. Had I known I was getting a much less meaningful version of the book, I would never have purchased it, which is why I rated it as 1 star.

This classic allegory by John Bunyan is well worth reading with the original spelling, and Scriptures in the margins. Modern editions tend to omit the Biblical citations originally written by Bunyan in the margins, by which you lose a lot of spiritual nourishment, and of course, updating the spelling never doeth any favours. A true classic, second only of course to The Holy Bible. Christian and Christiana's journeys make you ponder the meaning of the Scriptures, and if thou hast a willing spirit, to give thy

life unto the only begotten Son of God. Only by accepting Christ as Lord and Saviour canst thou be saved from eternal damnation in the fires of Hell, where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.'For God so loveth the world, that He hath given His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.'-The Holy Gospel Of Jesus Christ According To Saint John 3:16.

The book is used, but in very good to excellent shape. It is a hardbound edition with a leather appearing cover (I haven't tested it). The book seems to be intact and not torn or disfigured. The text appears to be the original text in late 17th Century English. Some of the words and phrases are 'curious' compared to current English, but largely is not impossible or deceptive to read. (The same difficulty applies to the King James version of the Bible and the works of Shakespeare; probably other works as well.) The story is an allegory of a Christian's life, encountering the distractions and perils of life in a hostile, or at least non-sympathetic world. All in all a solid work. John Bunyan wrote this book while in prison for the crime of 'preaching without a license'. In England at the time, a 'preaching license' was issued by the Church of England - under authority of the Monarch of England. Issuance was predicated on agreement with and adherence to the then current teaching and doctrine of the Church of England. John Bunyan didn't agree or adhere. Instead, Bunyan was part of the Reformation movement, leading to what is now known as the 'evangelistic' theory of Christianity; and incidentally to the concept of religious freedom in the sense no one (quasi-political) group could control religious expression in a nation. One notes the text and story line is fairly obvious. John Bunyan was not given to subtlety in either. Recommended to all Christian believers, but probably not those who might consider Christianity as a way of life. It can be a bit daunting.

Best copy of The Pilgrim's Progress in modern English. The others are large books that are too expensive. I got one copy for me and one for my teenage daughter. We read it together with pauses in between in order to teach her about the Faith.

I have read a lot of books to grow in my faith and to help keep me on the narrow path that leads to eternal life with Jesus and this book really shows you how to do it. Any Christian who is really serious about their salvation should read this book. It encourages, comforts and protects you by giving the truth on what you need to know when you decide to pick up your cross and follow Jesus. We tend to forget how easily it is to be pulled from the narrow road we are on when following Jesus. We also sometimes do not understand the severity on how being obedient is what The Lord

requires. This book reminds us how to stay on the narrow road and to not be deceived by things of this world. This was a joy to read and it was so comforting knowing what God has in store for the faithful that choose to follow Him. :)

This is a great Christian classic! It is a straightforward allegory of the perils of the Christian life. The main protagonist is literally named Christian, and he is on a literal journey to heaven. But it is also a great portrait of the struggles of the human spirit individually and the human condition collectively. I would put it with such favorite reads of mine as 'The Hobbit' and 'Watership Down'. Struggle and hope, faith versus adversity, any athlete and/or person struggling with their faith and looking for inspiration can take this book to their favorite quiet spot, and not be disappointed. Any business person looking for motivation: ditto. It deals with virtually every type of struggle known to man. It deals with rejection, physical adversity, hopelessness, doubt, temptations to comfort and ease, guilt, and so on, and does so very creatively. And if you ever wondered where the term "vanity fair" came from, I think this book must be its origin. Vanity fair is an interesting place to visit, but you don't want to live there! It is a must read, and not just for Christians. Look, just read it, okay?

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