



# The Divine Comedy (The Inferno, The Purgatorio, and The Paradiso)

By Dante Alighieri

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**The authoritative translations of *The Inferno*, *The Purgatorio*, and *The Paradiso*—together in one volume.**

Belonging in the immortal company of the great works of literature, Dante Alighieri's poetic masterpiece, *The Divine Comedy*, is a moving human drama, an unforgettable visionary journey through the infinite torment of Hell, up the arduous slopes of Purgatory, and on to the glorious realm of Paradise—the sphere of universal harmony and eternal salvation.

Now, for the first time, John Ciardi's brilliant and authoritative translations of Dante's three soaring canticles—*The Inferno*, *The Purgatorio*, and *The Paradiso*—have been gathered together in a single volume. Crystallizing the power and beauty inherent in the great poet's immortal conception of the aspiring soul, *The Divine Comedy* is a dazzling work of sublime truth and mystical intensity.

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## **The Divine Comedy (The Inferno, The Purgatorio, and The Paradiso) By Dante Alighieri Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

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Critic extraordinaire James (Cultural Amnesia, 2007) is also a poet (Opal Sunset: Selected Poems, 2008), and he has been working his way to this daring project ever since he was in Florence in the mid-1960s while studying at Cambridge, as he explains in his rousing introduction. His companion, whom he would soon marry, the future Dante scholar Prudence Shaw, revealed to him the “great secret of Dante’s masterpiece,” the fact that it possesses both “interior intensity” and propulsion. How, James wondered, could a translator re-create this dynamic? Deciding that Dante’s terza rima is too strained in English, he uses robust, rollicking quatrains. He also avoids footnotes, which so rudely interrupt the flow and drama of this defining classic, by working necessary explanations into the poem itself. James’ revitalizing translation allows this endlessly analyzed, epic, archetypal “journey to salvation” to once again stride, whirl, blaze, and sing. Anyone heretofore reluctant to pick up The Divine Comedy will discover that James’ bold, earthy, rhythmic and rhyming, all-the-way live English translation fulsomely and brilliantly liberates the profound humanity of Dante’s timeless masterpiece. --Donna Seaman

### Review

“Dante and Shakespeare divide the world between them—there is no third.”—T.S. Eliot

“Ciardi has given us...a credible, passionate persona of the poet, stripped of the customary gauds of rhetoric and false decoration, strong and noble in utterance.”—Dudley Fitts

“A sensitive and perceptive translation...a spectacular achievement.”—Archibald MacLeish

“I think [Ciardi’s] version of Dante will be in many respects the best we have seen.”—John Crowe Ransom

### Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: Italian

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#### Grace McClellan:

Do you have favorite book? For those who have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to understand everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim or maybe goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. They may be reading whatever they consider because their hobby will be reading a book. How about the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, man or woman feel need book once they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you will want this The Divine Comedy (The Inferno, The Purgatorio, and The Paradiso).

**Karen Lheureux:**

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