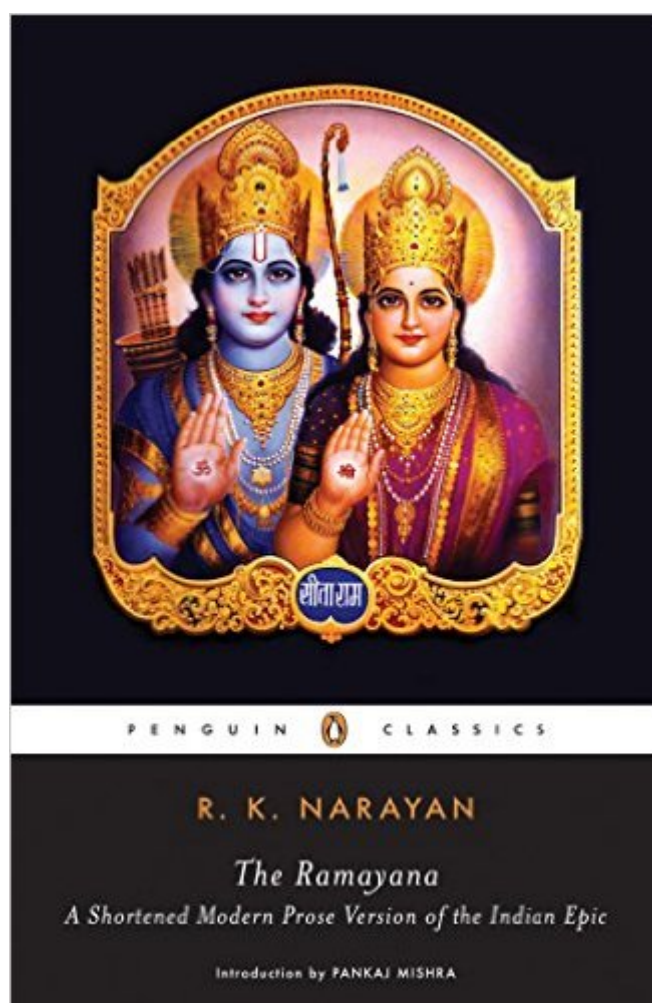


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The Ramayana: A Shortened Modern Prose Version Of The Indian Epic (Penguin Classics)



Synopsis

The greatest Indian epic, one of the world's supreme masterpieces of storytelling. A sweeping tale of abduction, battle, and courtship played out in a universe of deities and demons, The Ramayana is familiar to virtually every Indian. Although the Sanskrit original was composed by Valmiki around the fourth century BC, poets have produced countless versions in different languages. Here, drawing on the work of an eleventh-century poet called Kamban, Narayan employs the skills of a master novelist to re-create the excitement he found in the original. A luminous saga made accessible to new generations of readers, The Ramayana can be enjoyed for its spiritual wisdom, or as a thrilling tale of ancient conflict. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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

R. K. Narayan (1906–2001), born and educated in India, was the author of fourteen

novels, numerous short stories and essays, a memoir, and three retold myths. His work, championed by Graham Greene, who became a close friend, was often compared to that of Dickens, Chekhov, Faulkner, and Flannery O'Connor, among others.

You may think from the words I have chosen to describe the book that I don't like it nothing could be further from the truth. For all intents and purposes this book is a fairy tale and not in a demeaning or condescending way. In a book like this you want the hero to be too good to be true. You want the villain to be beyond evil and impossible to defeat except by superhuman means. The plot may be predictable but that doesn't mean that you don't want to see how the hero overcomes the obstacles in his way. That is why I called it nostalgic because it takes you to the mind set of being a small child hearing or reading other tales of this kind. The plot is basically this: stepmother gets elder more loved prince banished so her son can rule; prince goes slays demon and returns to rule the kingdom. You have heard, read, and seen this plot a thousand times. It doesn't mean that it is uninteresting or boring. The reason you read a story like this is to be nostalgic for your childish wonder at a story like this.

Great book to read and understand the Bhagavad Gita principles of man's nature with the universe and his karmatic manifestations of our reincarnations.

Purchased this for a college class and it came in looking brand new. The class ended up getting cancelled so I have yet to read this.

Easy to follow and very entertaining.

Gift

Good read

Classic.

An old story made very accessible to someone who doesn't want to read gobs of poetry, yet get the feel and inspiration of an amazing tale from ancient days that is still very much relevant today in the realm of character, integrity, confrontation, choices, and thoughtfulness.

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