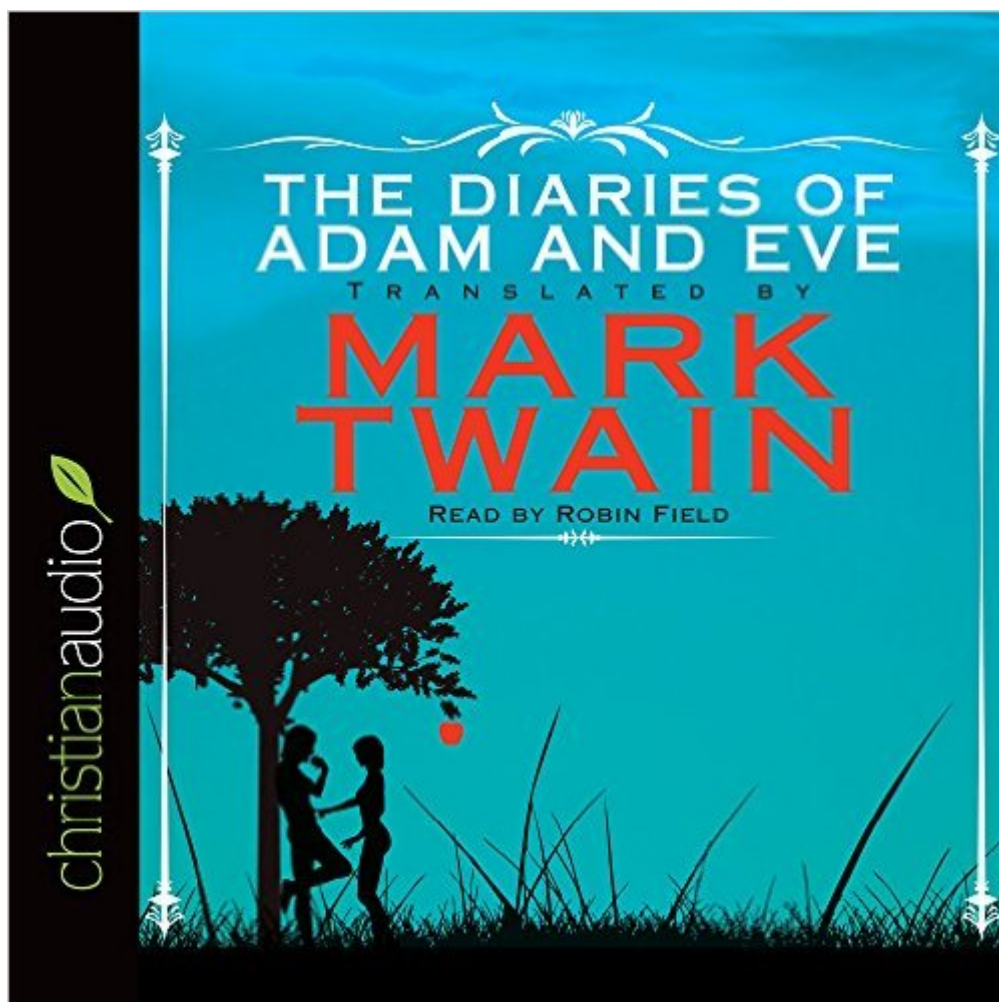


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The Diaries Of Adam And Eve



Synopsis

Mark Twain spills his wit and whimsical sense of humor onto the pages of his novel *The Diaries of Adam and Eve*. The story tells of the events that took place in the Garden of Eden prior to the entrance of the deceitful serpent. Adam and Eve are not exactly getting along. Through the struggles listed in their diaries, one can safely assume that these two very different human beings are each other's greatest source of frustration. Intended as a comical insight into the complex relations between men and women, *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* displays a progression from continual annoyance to a perfect partnership.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I recently bought this "Literary Classics" edition of "The Diaries of Adam & Eve" expecting it to be the text of the wonderful audiobook version of Twain's stories, as read by Betty Buckley and Mandy Patinkin, only to find that it is not the same at all. This version is just a replica of the original books and does not include the full text as heard on the audiobook. Then I found the version I wanted, subtitled "Translated by Mark Twain" and it, like the audiobook version, is really something special. To anyone interested in these wonderful "first family" stories, I recommend searching for the Fair Oaks Press edition.

Apparently this version of the text is not the expanded version. I recommend getting the expanded edition ('translated' by Mark Twain). But if you get this one, here's what I think: Retelling the famous story of Adam and Eve is always an exciting venture. There are so many cultural, religious and

political overtones to the original story (or stories?) in the Bible that any retelling is bound to spark contention. Milton's *Paradise Lost* is a great example of this. Even better are the stories by the long forgotten Gnostic Christians (See Elaine Pagels) who thought that the serpent was the hero of the story. Twain has his own take on the matter. Adam is a boring, conceited man (at first) who is annoyed by Eve and her curiosity about everything. Eve is wonderful; she names everything (like Adam in the original story) and has an abundance of scientific wonder of the world. The only thing odd in this story was its avoidance of the temptation of Eve by the serpent--it was only mentioned in passing. Personally, I find that the most interesting part (see Milton) and I would have loved to see Twain's thoughts on it. Nevertheless, this is a short, funny (isn't Twain always?) and lively book that you can get through in an hour. If for no other reason, read it for its redemption of Eve from the sexist (and confusing) story of the OT.

If there is a shorter, funnier, more delightful book on the planet, I have yet to find it. The genius that was Twain's is in abundant evidence here. And there is no longer version, this is it. Twain only wrote "extracts from" to make it seem more believable. Notice the "translated" also? I own the PBS version with David and Meredith Baxter Birney and have watched it many times, but I still laughed out loud when I finally got around to reading this short little gem. And the illustrations are at least half of the fun. I suspect this can be re-read many times, especially when one is in need of a pick-me-up. Because, as always with Twain, much wisdom is interspersed with the humor. And beautifully written passages as well. **DON'T MISS THIS ONE!!!**

This is a wonderfully funny book. Mark Twain brings out the difference between men and women in the best, wittiest way. Adam especially is hilarious and you fall in love with him despite him taking up only 10% of the book and despite you being a woman and feeling like you really shouldn't like this hopeless oaf. I found myself wishing there was a hardcover of this book available at the local bookstore so that I could buy five of them and lend them all over the land. Read it- its short and it will make your day.

This book is so funny! Put yourself in Adam's shoes: you have been alone on Paradise for some time, and suddenly appears this talking creature that follows you around. Adam's thoughts on Eve and the world are hilarious. And then comes the tale from Eve - who loves Adam very much-, which is tender and still fun. I read this book with my wife and she was laughing too. Then I lent it to a friend. He read it and passed it on to his wife. I read Mark Twain on high school, and time only

makes it better. Now I'm after "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn".

This little book manages to evoke more passionate emotions, word for word, than anything else you'll find. You'll be confused, frustrated, awed, elated, broken, and hopeful as Adam and Eve (and Twain) pull you into their thoughts and interpretations of life. This is a great little valentine for your sweetheart or yourself, and has been a very good gift for newlyweds who would like something short and sentimental and a little thought-provoking to read while honeymooning.

What if Adam and Eve had kept diaries? What would this have told us of their characters? Mark Twain, in his brilliance, shows what the possible result may have been in these two diaries. Adam is a clumsy oaf, and rather stupid and economical with his words. He thinks that Eve is a pain in the neck, always naming things, always in his way. When Cain makes his appearance, at first Adam thinks that Cain is a fish out of water, then perhaps a monkey, maybe a bear, and so forth. Sundays are a torture to be endured and survived. Eve is poetic, a dreamer. She cries when she sees her first dawn, thinking that the stars have gone away forever. She befriends the animals, naming them. She grieves over Adam's stupidity and tries to 'help' him through it. Somehow, the two become reconciled to each other and build a life of love and experience. It is a wonderful tale, at once funny and sad, blunt and poetic, practical and dreamy. Perhaps the best way to describe this book is with a couple of quotes from it, the final quotes from each of the major characters: Eve: It is my prayer, it is my longing, that we may pass from this life together--a longing which shall never perish from the earth, but shall have a place in the heart of every wife that loves, until the end of time; and it shall be called by my name. But if one of us must go first, it is my prayer that it shall be I; for he is strong, I am weak, I am not so necessary to him as he is to me--life without him would not be life; how could I endure it? This prayer is also immortal, and will not cease from being offered up while my race continues. I am the first wife, and in the last wife I shall be repeated. Adam (at Eve's graveside): Wheresoever she was, THERE was Eden.

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