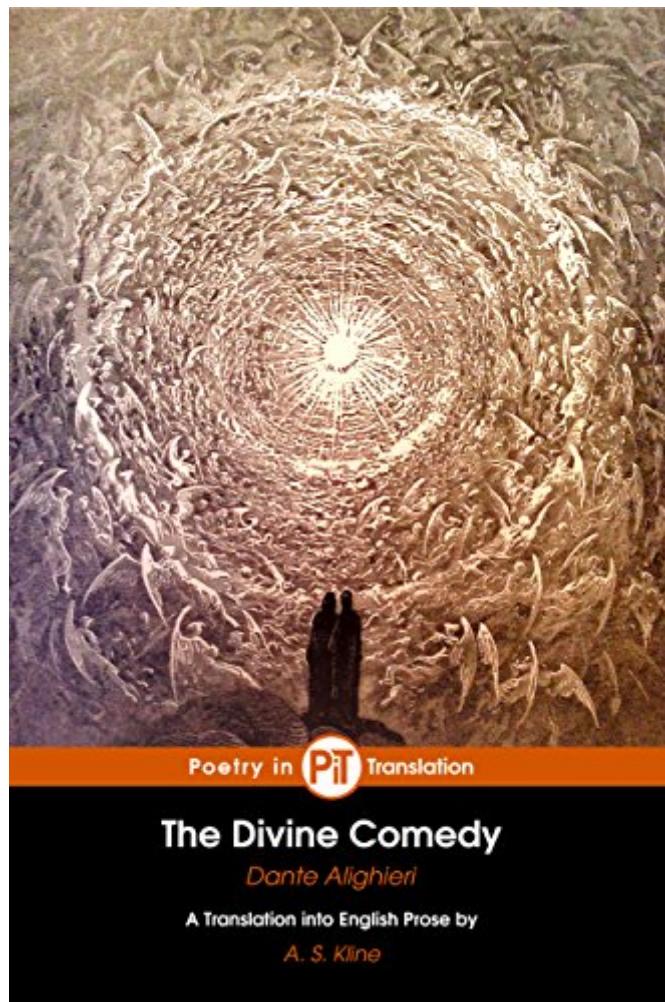


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The Divine Comedy (Translated, Annotated, Illustrated)



Synopsis

A translation into English prose with fully hyper-linked mythological index by A. S. Kline. Published in entirety with index, notes and illustrations by Gustave Doré (France, 1832-1883). The Divine Comedy is Dante's record of his visionary journey through the triple realms of Hell, Purgatory and Paradise. This, the first 'epic' of which its author is the protagonist and his individual imaginings the content, weaves together the three threads of Classical and Christian history; contemporary Medieval politics and religion; and Dante's own inner life including his love for Beatrice, to create the most complex and highly structured long poem extant. Through the depths of Hell in the Inferno, and upwards along the mountain of Purgatory in the Purgatorio, Dante is guided by Virgil, the great poet of the Classical Roman Empire, exploring, as he does so, the political, ethical and religious issues of his time. Dante in his own life, and in this epic, represents a 'party of one', desirous of purifying the Church on the one hand, and the Holy Roman Empire on the other, yet caught between those two great worldly powers, and turning to literature to make his voice heard. From the summit of Purgatory, Dante ascends in the Paradiso, guided by Beatrice, into the celestial Paradise, where love, truth and beauty intertwine in his great vision of the Christian revelation. Yet the Commedia is essential reading not merely for Christians, poets, and historians, but for anyone struggling with issues of morality, the ethical framework of society, and the challenge of living the true life. This and other texts available from Poetry in Translation (www.poetryintranslation.com).

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Customer Reviews

I've always wanted to read Dante's Divine Comedy but felt intimidated by its large cast of characters. This version is great with its easily accessed footnotes that describe them. The book has lots of beautiful illustrations too. A great read and a great value.

I just finished Inferno out of the trilogy. I am so happy that I found Kline's prose translation! I have tried to read Dante previously but never got very far because I would get lost in the poetry (glazed eye syndrome, lol). But this version was so accessible that I couldn't stop reading :). I have the Kindle and paperback versions and both are excellent. The Kindle version has clickable links to the extensive footnotes and the paperback conveniently lists the page with the footnotes. Both have Dore's incredible illustrations, which enhance the story nicely. I plan on buying more books translated by Kline as it is such an enjoyable experience.

The Anthony S. Kline edition is written as prose instead of poetry and for that reason is more easily accessible to the modern reader. Having previously read the Cary and Longfellow translations, I really appreciate this edition.

Many religion use this book to explain God's gift. A frightening look into dogma.

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