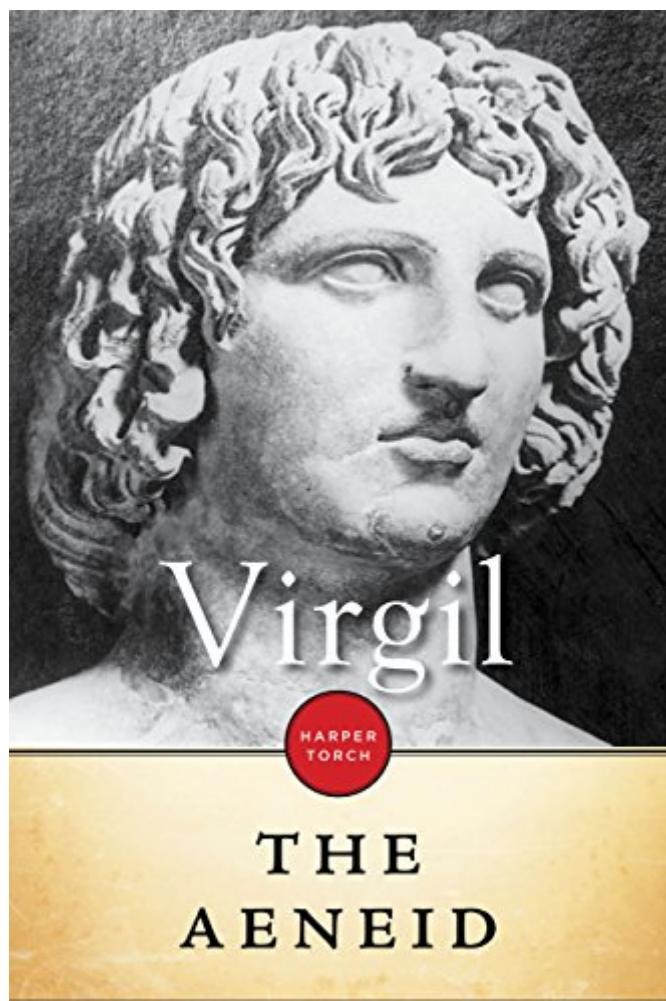


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Aeneid



Synopsis

When Troy falls at the end of the Trojan War, the Trojan hero Aeneas and his followers embark on a journey to find a new home. After recounting the disastrous end of the war and the Greek ruse of the Trojan Horse, Aeneas and his men struggle against the scheming gods to make their way to Latium, where they intend to build a new home by any means necessary. Although Virgil died before he could fully complete his epic poem, the first Emperor of Rome, Augustus Caesar, insisted that Aeneid be published. The story of the conquer of Latium, a city-state close to where Rome would one day be founded, served as an important work of propaganda about the heroic origins of the Roman Empire. The Aeneid is often compared to the Greek epic poems Iliad and Odyssey by Homer, as they are written in the same rhyme scheme and cover the same events and themes as Homer's works. HarperTorch brings great works of non-fiction and the dramatic arts to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperTorch collection to build your digital library.

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Customer Reviews

Publius Vergilius Maro was commissioned by Caesar Augustus to author a national epic for Rome. The work which Virgil composed for this purpose was the Aeneid. It is an epic poem that tells the story of a minor character from Homer's Iliad who leads a rag-tag band from the smouldering ruins of Troy in order to found a "New Troy" to the west: Rome. It is in the Aeneid, not the Iliad (as most people who have not read the works tend to believe) that we see the spectacle of the Trojan Horse & the famous line "I do not trust Greeks bearing gifts." The Iliad ends with the death of Hektor - before the plan of the Trojan Horse is devised by Odysseus. The Odyssey picks up after the sack of Troy. The Aeneid fills in the gaps & narrates the story of the few Trojans who escape the wrath of the Greeks. According to legend, Romulus & Remes (the two brothers who eventually founded the city itself) were descendants of Aeneas. As is usual, Fitzgerald's translation is top notch. I have read Mandelbaum's rendition as well & much prefer Mr. Fitzgerald. The book also contains a useful glossary & postscript which help elucidate the allusions to Hannibal & Cleopatra which the Romans of Virgil's day would have picked up right away, but which might be unfamiliar to modern day readers. Also, it is HIGHLY recommended that one read the Iliad & the Odyssey before embarking on Virgil's work. [...] But, for a quick answer: the reason that Juno (Hera in the Greek) has a vendetta against Aeneas is due to the fact that he is Trojan. This all derives from the judgment of Paris when Juno was "jilted" by the bribe that Aphrodite offered Paris (also a Trojan).

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