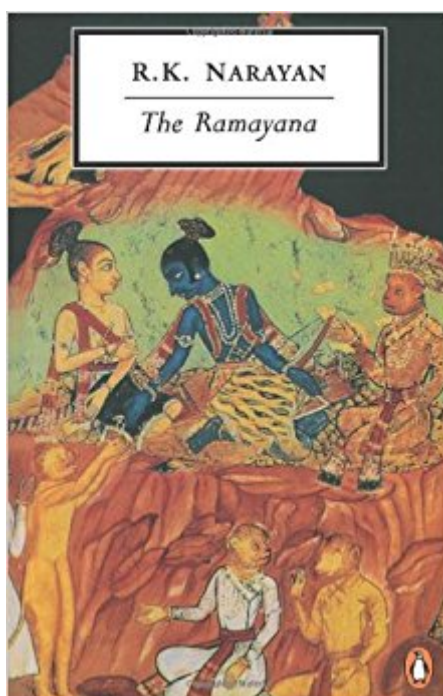


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The Ramayana: A Shortened Modern Prose Version Of The Indian Epic (Classic, 20th-Century, Penguin)



Synopsis

"The Ramayana" is, quite simply, the greatest of Indian epics - and one of the world's supreme masterpieces of storytelling. Here, drawing his inspiration from the work of an eleventh-century Tamil poet called Kamban, Narayan has used the talents of a master novelist to recreate the excitement and joy he has found in the original. It can be enjoyed and appreciated, he suggests, for its psychological insight, its spiritual depth and its practical wisdom - or just as a thrilling tale of abduction, battle and courtship played out in a universe thronged with heroes, deities and demons.

Book Information

Series: Classic, 20th-Century, Penguin

Mass Market Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Penguin Classics; Classic, 20th-Century, Penguin edition (September 3, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140187006

ISBN-13: 978-0140187007

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.5 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 76 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #245,978 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #92 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Religious & Inspirational > Science Fiction & Fantasy](#) #209 in [Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends > Asian](#) #515 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Religious & Inspirational > Historical](#)

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. October 10, 2006, is the centennial of Narayan's birth.

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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