



## The New Lifetime Reading Plan: The Classical Guide to World Literature, Revised and Expanded

By Clifton Fadiman, John S. Major

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Now in print for the first time in almost 40 years, *The New Lifetime Reading Plan* provides readers with brief, informative and entertaining introductions to more than 130 classics of world literature. From Homer to Hawthorne, Plato to Pascal, and Shakespeare to Solzhenitsyn, the great writers of Western civilization can be found in its pages. In addition, this new edition offers a much broader representation of women authors, such as Charlotte Brontë, Emily Dickinson and Edith Wharton, as well as non-Western writers such as Confucius, Sun-Tzu, Chinua Achebe, Mishima Yukio and many others.

This fourth edition also features a simpler format that arranges the works chronologically in five sections (The Ancient World; 300-1600; 1600-1800; and The 20th Century), making them easier to look up than ever before. It deserves a place in the libraries of all lovers of literature.

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- Published on: 1999-06-02
- Released on: 1999-06-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .90" w x 5.31" l, .65 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 400 pages

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### **Editorial Review**

#### Amazon.com Review

In print for almost 40 years, *The Lifetime Reading Plan* has long been a worthy addition to any serious reader's bookshelf, providing entertaining and informative introductions to the great works of Western civilization. Now, this "classic about classics" has been updated to reflect more diverse traditions. *The New Lifetime Reading Plan* recommends great literature from around the globe, including writers and works from Confucius to Chinua Achebe, Gabriel García Márquez to the Koran. Also new is an appendix profiling books by 100 important 20th-century authors--or "temporary classics," as coauthor John S. Major calls them.

Readers may argue with some of the selections (or, more likely, the omissions). Others may quarrel with the editors' opinions; they routinely analyze artists' "characters," with occasionally prissy or patronizing results. (Of Walt Whitman, for instance, coauthor Clifton Fadiman declares that "He had an original temperament, a certain peasant shrewdness, but only a moderate amount of brains.") But no one can argue with the book's mission: promoting the classics as "life companions." "Once part of you, they work in and on and with you until you die," Fadiman writes in the introduction. Anyone seeking a guide to the vast riches of world literature need look no further than the *The New Lifetime Reading Plan*; it provides a gateway to the greatest achievements of the human mind.

#### About the Author

Clifton Fadiman (1904-1999) was a well-known American author, editor, public intellectual, and radio and television personality.

### **Users Review**

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