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# Paradise Lost: An Annotated Bibliography (Paradise Series Book 1)



## Synopsis

In *Paradise Lost* Milton tells the story of the fall of man, which encompasses a battle that rages across Heaven between God and Satan. Here are passion and innocence, victory and defeat, hope and despair. This is without a doubt the greatest epic poem ever written in the English language.

## Book Information

File Size: 953 KB

Print Length: 406 pages

Publisher: Start Publishing LLC; annotated edition edition (March 25, 2013)

Publication Date: March 25, 2013

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00CBDC5SO

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #449,176 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #109

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## Customer Reviews

*Paradise Lost* was not part of my core curriculum in science and mathematics. I was of course aware that scholars considered it a great work, a classic. But it seemed a bit daunting - long, difficult, dated, and possibly no longer relevant. A few years ago I made two fortunate decisions. I elected to read Milton's *Paradise Lost* and I bought the Norton Critical Edition (edited by Scott Elledge). I read and reread *Paradise Lost* over a period of three months as well as the 300 pages of the Norton critical commentary. I was stunned by the beauty and power of Milton. Why had I waited so long to even approach such a literary masterpiece? Make no mistake. I had been right in several ways. *Paradise Lost* is difficult, it is long, and full appreciation requires an understanding of the historical and religious context. But *Paradise Lost* is a remarkable achievement. It explores

questions regarding man and God that are as relevant today as in the 17th century. And the genius of Milton has never been surpassed. I found the Norton footnotes extremely helpful - definitions for rare or archaic words and expressions, explanations of the historical context, and links to the critical commentary section. The footnotes are at the page bottom, making them readily accessible. The Norton biographical, historical, and literary commentaries were fascinating in their own right. I may well as spent as many hours reading commentary as with Paradise Lost itself. John Milton led a remarkable life. His enthusiastic eulogy on Shakespeare was included in the second folio edition of Shakespeare in 1632. This was Milton's first public appearance as an author!

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