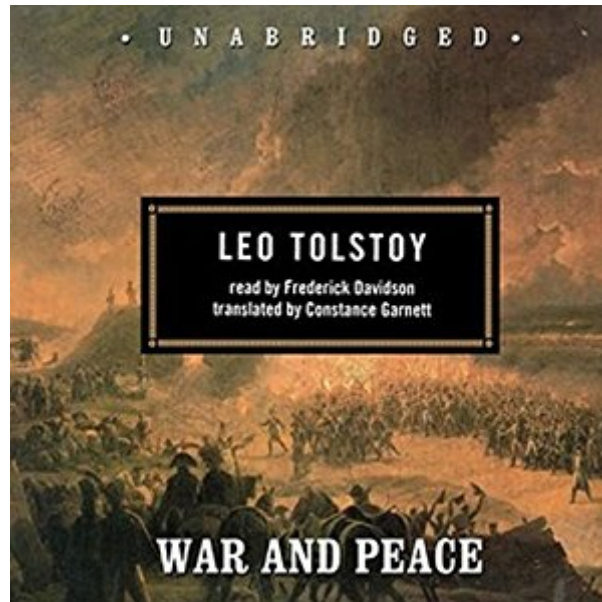




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War And Peace



Synopsis

[This is Part 1 of a 2-part Audiobook CD Library Edition in vinyl case.][Library Edition Audiobook CD Part 2 has ISBN: 9780786160570] [Read by Frederick Davidson] Often called the greatest novel ever written, War and Peace is at once a historical war epic, a philosophical study, and a celebration of the Russian spirit. Noted for its mastery of realistic detail and psychological analysis, it follows the metamorphosis of five aristocratic families against the backdrop of the Napoleonic wars. Individual stories interweave as each of Tolstoy's memorable characters seek fulfillment, fall in love, make mistakes, and become scarred by war in different ways. Out of this complex narrative emerges a profound examination of the individual's place in the historical process. -- Thomas Mann praised Tolstoy for his Homeric powers: "To be played upon by the animal keenness of this eye, the sheer power of this creative attack, the entirely clear and true greatness . . . of this epic, is to find one's way home . . . to everything within us that is fundamental and sane." --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Leo Tolstoy is one of my all-time favorite authors. This was my first time reading this book. I became immediately engrossed in the main characters and their lives. He always gives such a clear picture of day to day life in Russia. Also, I found his assessment of the reasons behind the war, historians reasons for depicting the war as they did, and his philosophical perspective of war in general quite enlightening! A must read for not only history buffs, but for anyone interested in the complex study of human nature.

I like this book because it is a complex panoramic of life. The characters are real, multi-dimensional thinking sentient beings. War and Peace delves into the secret places of the soul where men and women live and struggle. Questions remain questions as we strive to make sense of our lives and put purpose to our desires but what is it we are really looking for? Meaning and redemption, forgiveness and love. This is what I love about this book.

Any book that involves tying a police officer to a bear has my attention. But seriously... I probably don't have to say much about the book. It's considered one of the greatest novels of all time, and there are good reasons for that. You should read it. It is easier to read than you might think; most of the chapters are about 10 pages long.

It takes a whole lot of time to read Tolstoy (took me over a year to finish this). But it is worth it! I feel so accomplished and the book really has much depth to it. However, be forewarn you are dealing with an unconventional novel. In fact, it wasn't considered a novel to Tolstoy himself. It is more of a chronicle told with fictional characters to make history personally.

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Although I have read this book 4 or 5 times, it never gets old, but from the first time I read it, I thought the plot dragged from time to time. Needless to say, no author exceeds Tolstoy's remarkable use of playing characters with and against each other in perfect, well-developed simplicity. Whereas some world famous works have caused me to have to stop for a minute, look back a few pages, and then say to myself, "Oh, that's what he meant", What more can be said about this masterpiece that others with a far better grasp of language and vocabulary have not said better.

Finest piece of literature in the past 200 years. Pre dates Twain naturalism in literature, chaos theory, Freud yet forecasts advances in each. Also great historical novel.

...is how my mother, a great reader all her life (86 years, 82 reading) described War and Peace when she saw me with it. And that is exactly what it is. Don't be put off by the length, it's quite possible to pick up and put down. It maintains its power and vividness of scene and character

however long you leave it alone. The war scenes are as gripping as the peace scenes, and there is a great deal to learn from Tolstoy, even us, even now. Constance Garnett's translation is a lovely one, into easy English, modern but not too modern. Final suggestion: I got a paperback version first and - it - will - show - the - wear - before you're done, no matter what. I am getting a hardcover to keep around.

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