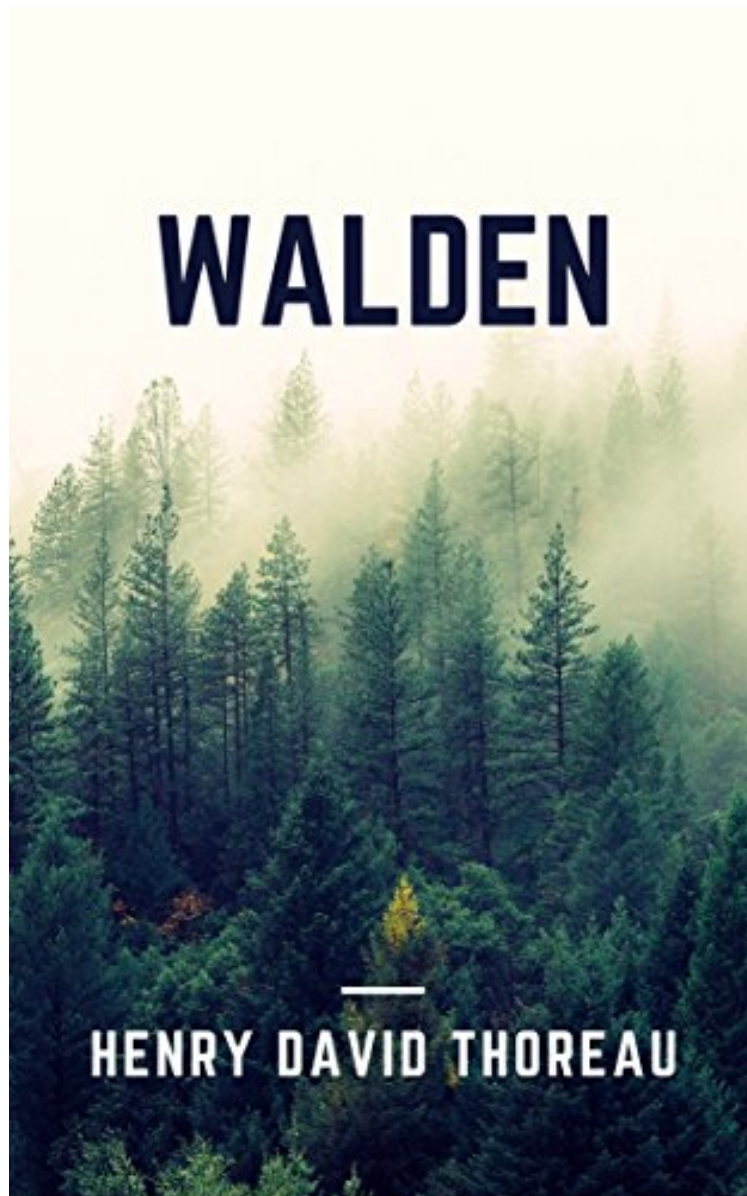


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Walden

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Henry David Thoreau : Walden before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Walden:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. "Voting for the right is doing nothing for it"By Hailey McPhersonThough written 150 years ago, this civics lesson is as timely today as it was then. His concerns about slavery and the Mexican-American War aren't all that relevant anymore, but Thoreau says a lot of things that today's

Republicans and Democrats argue about all day. Republicans will agree with how much he hates paying taxes, though few would stick to their guns as much as Thoreau did. "When I meet a government which says to me, 'Your money of your life,' why should I be in haste to give it my money?" Democrats will agree with how he wants the government to help people even when they talk more than act. "He who gives himself entirely to his fellow men appears to them useless and selfish; but he who gives himself partially to them is pronounced a benefactor and philanthropist." 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Inner and Outer Observations By Jerry McWilliams Thoreau knew himself and nature in intimate and spiritual terms in his writing of WALDEN. I, consequently know myself and nature better through my many readings of WALDEN. Every time is like a first time, but with a greater bundle of observations and thoughts to touch into my thinking and living. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. It goes deep. Inspirational. By Christopher Valle Very inspirational and a huge eye opener. This book inspired me to find myself. As soon as I finished reading it I booked a room and flight to Ireland. I've always wanted to go but have been holding back. I've yet to find what I'm looking for, I leave in two weeks. I have a good feeling I will come back a different man... That's my Thorean action thanks to this book.

Walden, by noted transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau, is a reflection upon simple living in natural surroundings. The work is part personal declaration of independence, social experiment, voyage of spiritual discovery, satire, and (to some degree) manual for self-reliance. Thoreau also used this time to write his first book, *A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers*. First published in 1854, Walden details Thoreau's experiences over the course of two years, two months, and two days in a cabin he built near Walden Pond, amidst woodland owned by his friend and mentor Ralph Waldo Emerson, near Concord, Massachusetts. The book compresses the time into a single calendar year and uses passages of four seasons to symbolize human development. By immersing himself in nature, Thoreau hoped to gain a more objective understanding of society through personal introspection. Simple living and self-sufficiency were Thoreau's other goals, and the whole project was inspired by transcendentalist philosophy, a central theme of the American Romantic Period (font: Wikipedia)

From School Library Journal YA An unintended effect of the cultural diversity curriculum is that we lose touch with seminal works such as Walden. Written for an audience thoroughly versed in Western tradition, many of Thoreau's metaphors and references are unrecognizable to today's students. Though some references were intended to prove his erudition, one is chagrined at the number of necessary explications of standard classical concepts. Though some annotations are noisy comments upon Thoreau's life, most are informative and enhance the work. Many YAs will view Thoreau's natural essays as he intended, thanks to Harding's efforts. A must for libraries. ?Hugh McAloon, Prince William County Public Library, VA Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Walden's original publisher releases an annotated edition to celebrate the book's 150th anniversary. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. "A handsome 'all-things-Walden' edition, copiously annotated by Jeffrey S. Cramer, curator of collections at the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods." —Michael Kenney, Boston Sunday Globe "Cramer's side notes are like short, illuminating conversations." —Jacqueline Blais, USA Today "Meticulous and often fascinating annotations. . . . It is the paradox of Walden, and of all great literature that seeks to represent the real world, that by rooting his narrative so firmly in actualities of his own time and place, Thoreau created a work that remains vitally relevant to our own." —Robert Finch, Los Angeles Times "A definitive text. . . . With Cramer's notes, readers and rereaders will find the text both deeper and more accessible." —Julie Dunlap, Audubon Naturalist News "The most authoritative edition of Walden yet to appear, an edition supported by the most extensive and useful annotations ever offered. Presenting the text and annotations in a side-by-side format, this is the best edition of the book for scholars because it not only includes annotations of just about everything in the text but also presents the most perfect text of Walden. Essential. All collections; all levels." —Choice "[An] authoritative text with generous annotations." —Forecast "Cramer's [book] not only cleans up errors that have crept into previous texts but also adds biographical and historical context to Thoreau's life." —Julia Keller, Greensboro News Record "For those who aspire to a deeper understanding of the man and his milieu, the annotated Walden, edited by Jeffrey S. Cramer, is the edition to choose." —Allan D. Smith, Trenton Times "Readers will be intrigued by Cramer's wide-ranging commentary and new bibliographical and historical background including stunning passages from Thoreau's Journal and letters." —Richard Higgins, UU World "Thoreau's masterpiece—here freshly refurbished by Jeffrey S. Cramer—speaks to our material and spiritual condition as powerfully as on the day it first appeared. Now, more than ever, Walden is our indispensable American book." —Alan D. Hodder, professor of comparative religion, Hampshire College "Cramer's notes are immensely useful. His edition of Walden will be a boon to ordinary readers and scholars alike." —Denis Donoghue, author of *Speaking of Beauty* "Jeffrey Cramer's Walden is the most accurate and readable text of Thoreau's masterpiece. Cramer's version now replaces all other available editions of Walden as the most attractive and reliable way to approach this great American book." —Joel Porte, author of *Consciousness and Culture: Emerson and Thoreau* ed "Anyone who reads Thoreau in editions annotated by the great Jeffrey S. Cramer . . . will know everything

there is to know about Thoreau and (amazingly) have a fun time learning it."mdash;Sarah Payne Stuart, author of Perfectly Miserable: Guilt, God, and Real Estate in a Small Town