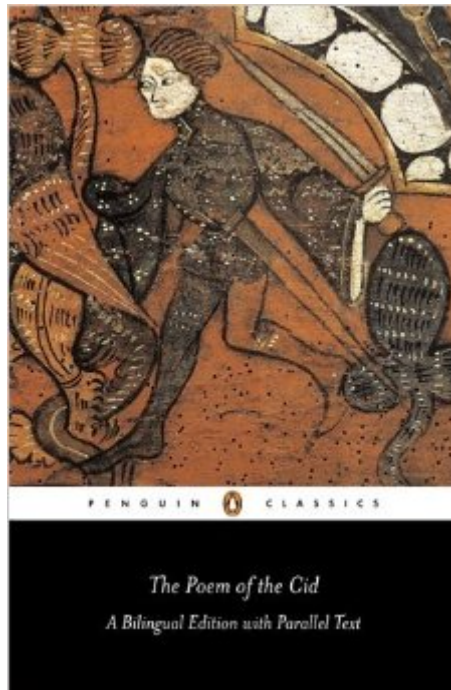


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The Poem Of The Cid: Dual Language Edition (Penguin Classics) (Spanish Edition)



Synopsis

One of the finest of epic poems, and the only one to have survived from medieval Spain, The Poem of the Cid recounts the adventures of the warlord and nobleman Rodrigo D'Alvarez de Vivar - 'Mio Cid'. A forceful combination of heroic fiction and historical fact, the tale seethes with the restless, adventurous spirit of Castille, telling of the Cid's unjust banishment from the court of King Alfonso, his victorious campaigns in Valencia, and the crowning of his daughters as queens of Aragon and Navarre - the high point of his career as a warmonger. An epic that sings of universal human values, this is one of the greatest of all works of Spanish literature. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This edition of The Poem of the Cid is truly wonderful. For starters, it is a bilingual edition, presenting the reader with the original medieval Spanish text. The translation itself is highly readable. The humour and tension in particular scenes shine in this translation. The story itself is also marvelous. We get a wonderful sense of the confusion and ambiguities of the feudal society.

The uniqueness of the Spanish feudal experience comes through brilliantly. The Muslims are dealt with with more accuracy and tolerance than in any other work of medieval literature. The two Jewish characters in the poem -- moneylenders -- are presented without scorn. Indeed, it is the Frankish (probably Norman) count of Barcelona who is portrayed as the moronic outsider. There is much excellent description of medieval warfare, clothing, homage ceremonies, and use of money, but most enlightening part of the story is the long trial scene. The poem is short, with a fast-paced and coherent plot. It is very easy to read this in one sitting because it is so gripping.

This dual language book is excellent for teaching the Cid to English speaking students, providing the necessary back up to the medieval Castilian that is difficult for undergraduates. The introductory materials provide all the necessary background from a literary, historical and linguistic perspective.

This is a wonderful book! I have never read *El poema de mÃ- o Cid* but have always wanted to, and this book made it possible. The translation is close enough to the original that one can easily go back and forth to clear up any doubts, but English enough to be read fluently. The introduction and notes are both scholarly and well-written. I found them extremely informative.

I bought this book because I am planning a trip to Spain this summer and because I have always wanted to read "The Poem of the Cid". As a bonus, there are several maps and notes included to help the reader. On the whole, I enjoyed reading the poem and the translation appears to be very good. I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested in Spain or medieval Europe .

Classic poem in a nice edition. The parallel translations is nice.

When I was hiking in northern Spain, I kept seeing references to the Cid. This made me want to give *The Poem of the Cid* a try. Unfortunately, at least for me, this bilingual edition of the poem did not feel as though it could possibly have done justice to the work. I have the feeling that the English translation was largely written to support students who are reading the Spanish version. I am sure that it is technically quite competent. As a reader who was not interested in the Spanish, I found that the translation lacked all poetry. It was spare to the point of plain and not particularly easy to read. Although I got the bare bones of the material, I had no feeling for the work as a reading experience. I do not speak Spanish well enough to have any idea whether or not the translated is to be recommended for its faithfulness to the original text. I can say that if, like me, you are a more casual

reader who is looking for the story I would not recommend this version. If I had to do it over again, I would pick up any of the many other versions that are available.

I had to purchase this for a class I was taking on Medieval Europe. I will confess, I usually never read any of the assigned texts for classes i take, preferring to take notes from lecture (I find textbooks boring but enjoy learning from the Professor's lecture). I thought I would give this short tale a try, since it was so short. I was pleasantly surprised at how good the story was. I was amazed at how old this story was and at how well it held my interest. Well worth the read - after all, it's a short book.

Yes, buy this! The Spanish was too difficult but the English made it such an enjoyable story

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