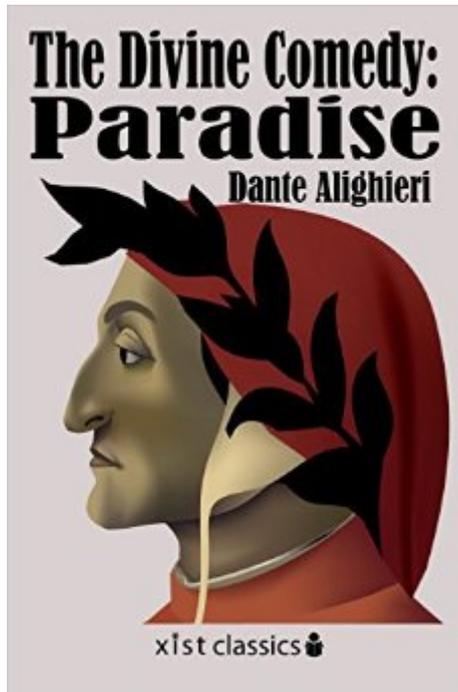


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The Divine Comedy: Paradise: 003 (Xist Classics)



Synopsis

The third and final section of Dante's Divine Comedy. "Do not be afraid; our fate cannot be taken from us; it is a gift." -Dante Alighieri, The Divine Comedy: Paradise
In this volume, Dante presents a vision of Paradise relying on suggestion rather than concrete description. A journey through the realms of Paradise culminating in a vision of God. This poem also portrays the individual's struggle to attain spiritual illumination. This Xist Classics edition has been professionally formatted for e-readers with a linked table of contents. This ebook also contains a bonus book club leadership guide and discussion questions. We hope you'll share this book with your friends, neighbors and colleagues and can't wait to hear what you have to say about it. Xist Publishing is a digital-first publisher. Xist Publishing creates books for the touchscreen generation and is dedicated to helping everyone develop a lifetime love of reading, no matter what form it takes. Get your next Xist Classic title for Kindle here: <http://amzn.to/1A7cKKI> Find all our books for Kindle here: <http://amzn.to/1PooxLI> Sign up for the Xist Publishing Newsletter here. Find more great titles on our website.

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Customer Reviews

Having ascended to the top of Mount Purgatory, Dante the Pilgrim is ready to leave Virgil behind and be led by the love of his life, Beatrice, through Heaven. Heaven is divided into concentric spheres, one each for the moon, the five known planets (Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn), the Sun (in between Venus and Mars in this schema), the fixed stars, the Primum Mobile, and the Empyrean. As Dante and Beatrice move upwards, they meet holier and ever holier people. The journey ends with Dante beholding the Beatific Vision, i.e. God Himself as He is. Which is not to say that all the human souls and angels in the lower spheres do not have the Beatific Vision. They are less close in a spatial way but they still have supreme happiness and a full share in the infinite wonder. The souls repeatedly tell Dante that they are content with the level they are at, for they know that it is their proper place and they have complete fulfillment. Dante also learns quite a bit of theology along the way. Jupiter is the sphere of the righteous rulers, including six exceptional rulers: King David, Hezekiah, Trajan, Rhipeus of Troy, Constantine, and William II of Sicily. That's two Jews from the Old Testament, two pagans, and two Christians. Their presence sparks a discussion about how they all are in Heaven even though it is only through Christ's redemptive suffering that anyone can make it there. Later on, Dante is questioned about the three theological virtues (Faith, Hope, and Charity) before he enters the final sphere, making clear points about theology and his personal acceptance of those virtues. The text, like in previous volumes, is clear and straightforward. The notes are thorough and very helpful to understand the points Dante is making.

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