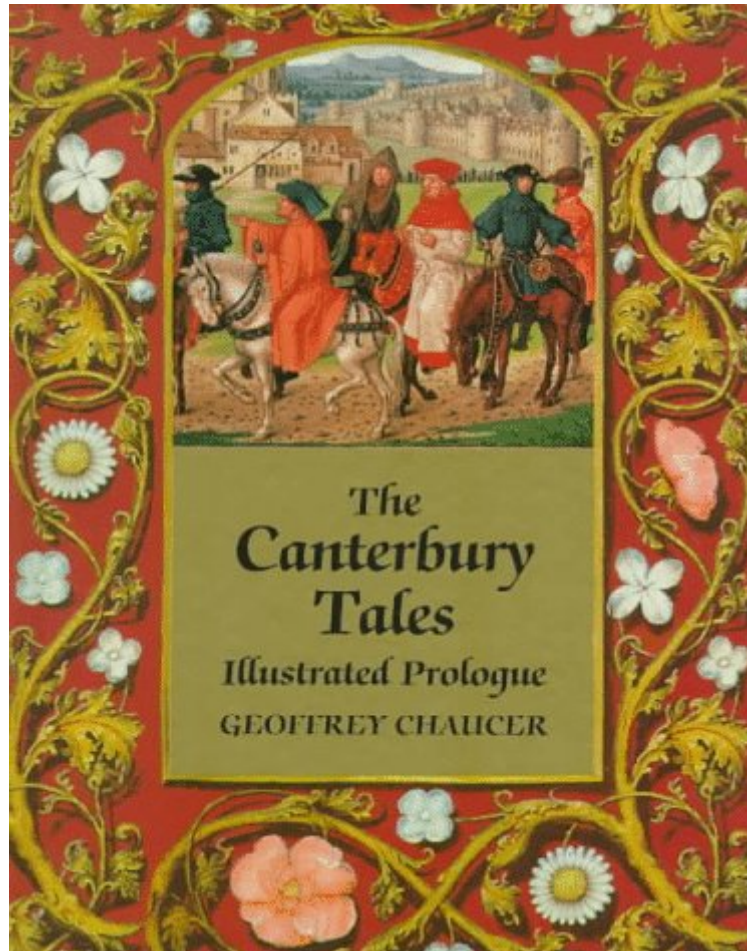


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7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. OBG CLASSICS EDITION is in Chaucer's Middle English -- so what's new?By LibrarianThe OBG Classics edition published September 11, 2017, claims to be "the new translation." But IF it is somehow new -- and, by the way, no translator is identified -- what exactly has been translated? What is new about it? It is still written in the difficult-to-understand Middle English Chaucer used, and apart from spelling (or misspelling?) "his" as "hise" in line-1 [see NOTE at end] and throwing in some extra commas, this is pretty much the standard version. It is handsomely formatted and has an active TOC, but no introduction, no clarifications of archaic words, nothing but the seemingly original Middle English text. Calling itself "the new translation" strongly suggests this has been translated into easier-to-understand Modern English, but such is not the case here. Chaucer certainly rates 5-stars, but I have deducted one for the misrepresentation.FYI: An excellent Modern English version will be found in the Kindle Store for \$.99 by A. S. Kline.NOTE: The first line normally reads: "Whan that Aprill with his

shoures soote...." The words "shoures" and "soote" are each two syllables in Middle English pronunciation; thus the entire line rightly has the number of accented syllables Chaucer intended. If "his" (a one-syllable word) were improperly changed to "hise" (a two-syllable word, pronounced his-uh) -- as is done here -- that adds an unintended and, therefore, unacceptable extra syllable. I have to assume this is merely a typo; but how many other such errors are contained herein?

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. good contents, poor binding
By Andrea Parmentier
This version of The Canterbury Tales is fantastic. It is in the original Middle English so it is mostly understandable. For words that are significantly different from their Modern English counterparts, it contains not only a glossary in the back, but also picks out some of the more challenging words to gloss as footnotes. It contains extensive notes in the back that help you understand the references the text makes and the world in which the book was written.

The reason this book is a 4 and not a 5 is because of the physicality of the book. It is the size of a small brick, which is fine, but it is not made out of materials that are particularly durable. I am careful with my possessions, but ripped the cover on the first day. I am afraid that since it has so many pages but is not bound well or with a more durable softcover that it will get really beaten up. Still, the pages are thicker than ultra thin "Bible pages" so I am at least not worried about ripping them.

I would highly recommend purchasing this edition over other versions of Canterbury Tales, but be aware that it is a particularly fragile softcover.
54 of 56 people found the following review helpful. Wary, Kindle readers!
By J. BARTLETT
(Please note that I've given this book 5 stars because of the star rating system forces a star rating for reviews, and David Wright's translation itself deserves no fewer than 5 stars.)
Warning, would-be Kindle readers of the David Wright translation (Oxford World Classics): after the translator's introduction, the majority of the text in this book is stored as images, scanned from the print version! This causes several problems:
* The Kindle's dictionary can't be used.
* Text-to-speech can't be used.
* Text can't be annotated.
* Alternative text sizes can't be selected.
* Text size varies wildly as larger images are resized to fit my Kindle's 6" screen.
* Some of the image resizing renders text too small to be read comfortably on my Kindle's 6" screen.
* The book is a whopping 4.2 Mb for a mere 412 pages! That's more than ten times the size it would be if the text were stored properly in the Kindle's text format.
* The obscene file size, and constantly having to render images, are a drain on Kindle's battery.
It's disappointing and baffling that OUP chose not to produce a proper Kindle version of this excellent translation.

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