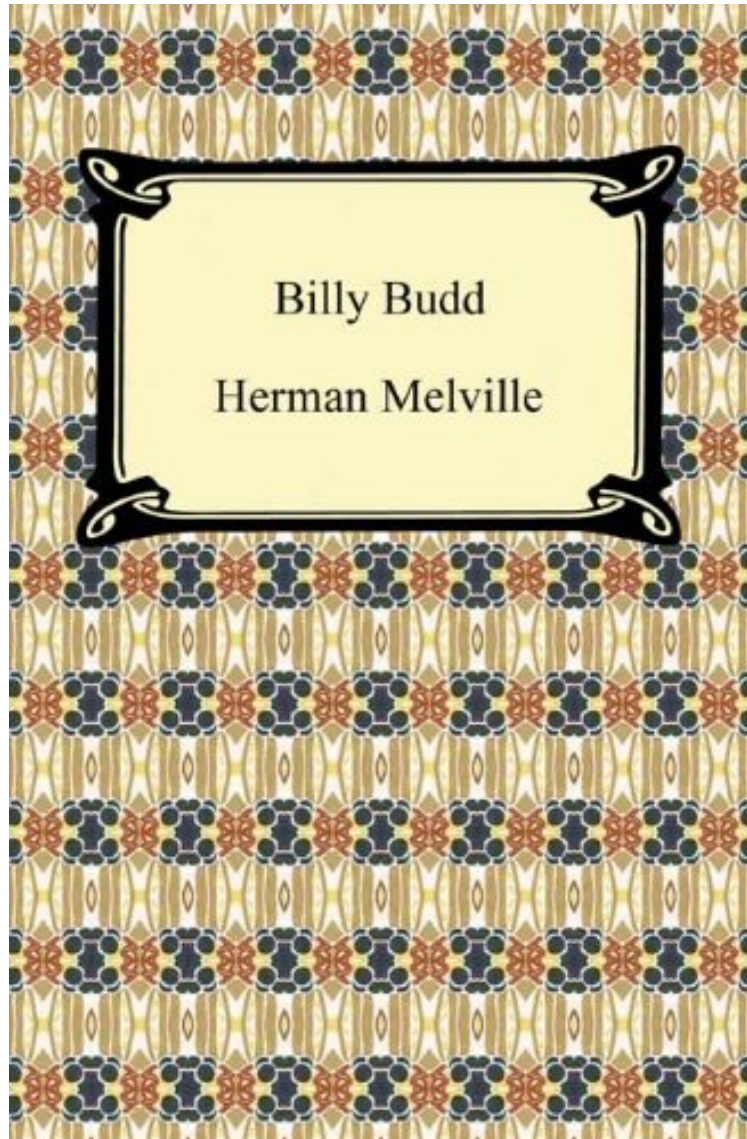


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Billy Budd [with Biographical Introduction] (Digireads.com Classic)

Von Herman Melville

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Von Herman Melville : Billy Budd [with Biographical Introduction] (Digireads.com Classic) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Billy Budd [with Biographical Introduction] (Digireads.com Classic):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Melville's style is beautiful!Von Ein KundeIn Billy Budd, it is a time of war between the nations, but on one ship, a smaller battle is being fought between two men: John Claggart and William Budd. Claggart, jealous of Bill's Budd

and the destruction of himself. This story is recommended greatly because the reader clearly sees the parallel between the innocent and the evil. In *Bartleby*, Melville wrote during a time his life was at ruins, and this story reflects his pessimism. The narrator, a successful Wall Street Lawyer, hires a scrivener, named Bartleby, to copy legal documents. One day, when asked to proofread, he responds, "I would prefer not to." As time progresses, Bartleby repeatedly "would prefer not to" do anything asked of him. He dies in jail, being there for vagrancy, of self-neglect. IT SHOWS society's views on people who are segregated and discriminated. In *Benito Cereno*, the story is about a slave vessel taken over by the Negroes. The co-captain of the ship is Benito Cereno, who is secretly blackmailed by the head Negro ringleader, Babo (also known as Benito's "close companion"). Fortunately, another ship was there with another Captain named Amasa Delano, who feels suspicious and frightened of his own life and his own ship because of this new and strange unity between the Spaniards and the Negroes. The author gives the reader hidden clues foreshadowing what is really happening. The story is mysterious and cunningly written by Herman Melville. All three stories are greatly recommended. email: EJDVS98@aol.com

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. *Billy Budd* is an historic event. Von adamf@writeme.com While much has been said about the value of the work itself, *Billy Budd* is important not only as an allegory, but as a fictionalized account of an actual event in the 1840s. The real *Billy Budd* was Philip Spencer, the son of the Secretary of War at the time. Spencer left Union College after founding the first social Greek letter society, Chi Psi. He signed on with a training ship, the Brig of War *Somers*. The *Somers* was overcrowded with young recruits and captained by a paranoid zealot. Midshipman Spencer was falsely accused of fomenting mutiny and ultimately hung from the yard arm rather than betray the fact that he was recruiting for his fraternity. The need for secrecy was particularly keen, since his own father was famous for his prosecution of the Masons based on alleged murder to prevent the Masonic secrets from being disseminated. His hanging was not only against the law at the time, but also offended all sense of fairness. Following the investigation of his murder, it became emphatically clear that it was necessary to change the way the United States was to train its navy. The direct result was the founding of the United States Naval Academy, in whose museum Midshipman Spencer's sword is on display.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Excellent Student Edition of Melville's *Tragedy*. Von Roger Lakins Before asking students to tackle "*Moby Dick*," I have them read "*Billy Budd*" as part of the freshman high school curriculum. This novella is true to Melville's style: not always easy reading, but enormously rewarding. The drama unfolds with the digressions and character analysis which those who love Melville relish and those who do not find annoying. I am in the former group. This edition has much to recommend it. There is an extended reader's supplement which contains biographical information, explanations of the nautical and naval terms and clarification of the biblical, mythological and historical allusions which fill its few pages. A good follow-up to the novella is viewing the film with Peter Ustinov as Captain Vere and Terence Stamp as the title character. The opera by Benjamin Britten also follows the book very closely and is available on CD and in video. This book makes a good first introduction to Melville, and this edition is excellent.

Kurzbeschreibung This is the final work of American author Herman Melville (1819-1891), discovered amongst his papers three decades after his death and published in Raymond Weaver's 1924 edition of "*The Collected Works of Melville*." The emergence of what some consider to be Melville's masterpiece sparked a revived interest in the forgotten writer, despite the complex and incomplete nature of the manuscript. This is the first of many attempts to piece together and refine the sometimes illegible text, which included questionable additions and omissions made by Melville's wife after his death. The story stemmed from Melville's interest in an 1888 article called "*The Mutiny on the Somers*," concerning three sailors who in 1842 had been convicted of mutiny. *Billy Budd* is a navy sailor accused of mutiny by a fellow officer, and immediately strikes his accuser dead, followed quickly by a trial, conviction and execution. The novel presents several different versions of the events, organized by Weaver into twenty-six chapters including the omitted "Daniel Orme" chapter.

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Synopsis Melville's last work, it is a brilliant study of conflicts between social authority and individual freedom, human righteousness and evil. It is the story of a naive young man who is accused of a crime he has not committed. Melville has wonderfully portrayed the agony and helplessness of a young spirit against social injustice.

Noteworthy for its infinite interpretations it arrests the reader's interest.