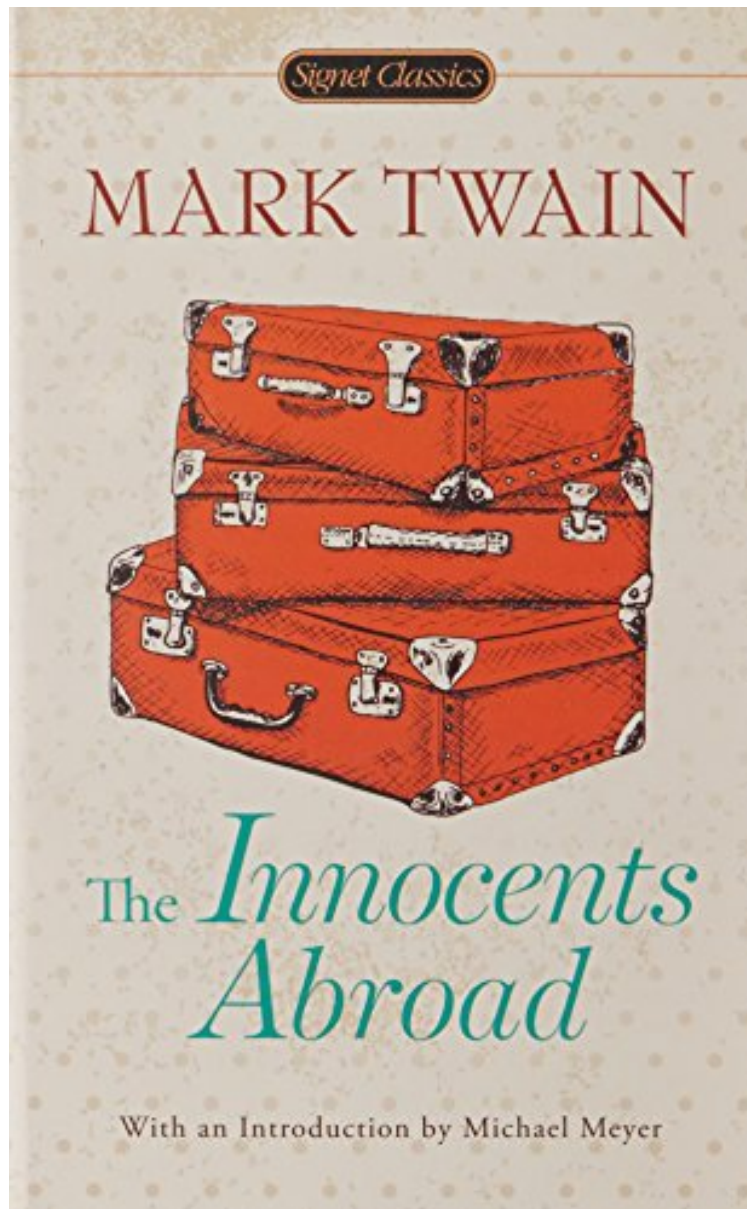


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The Innocents Abroad (Signet Classics)

Mark Twain

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Binding: Mass Market Paperback 560 pages | File size: 45.Mb

Mark Twain : The Innocents Abroad (Signet Classics) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Innocents Abroad (Signet Classics):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Twain's humor on world wide travels. Get out your atlas and your magnifying glass. Be prepared to be entertained. By JT Hokie Interesting variation on Twain's normal humor. Get out

your maps and your magnifying glass as he travels around 19th century Europe, the Med, and the Holy Land. You've heard of large print editions? This is a microscopic print edition...like 6 pt type, but I forgive it because the book is really cheap. Twain pulls no punches, does not suffer fools gladly. The contrast of many places with today's conditions in that part of the world is interesting. Of course some places and some people really haven't changed that much...I don't pull many punches either. 13 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Careful...this book causes seizures of laughter

By The Wolf Twain accompanies and makes humor of a group of wealthy folks who charter a ship and travel thousands of miles from New York to Europe and the Holy Land...and other places. It is a true story of a trip that really happened...it was Twain's first book and it made him wealthy. It sold more than any other of his books in his lifetime. An example of the humor: Twain was at the Sea of Galilee and wanted to ride in one of the boats some Arab fellows rented out there. The price was high...so high that Twain said now he knew why Jesus had walked across the water.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A fun read that gives insight into Twain's times

By Semi-Avid Reader As other reviewers have said, a very funny and entertaining read, though you have to allow for the social climate of the day in his views of non-Whites, Catholics (who he probably saw as non-White as well), and Muslims. Both as a travel tale and as a window into the world as it was 150 years ago, a book I'm glad I read. It was fun to read about some of the places where we had just been in Italy and France. Hard to imagine such a trip in a world without phones (mobile or otherwise) or automobiles. Twain has much hilarious commentary on the sites, people, and his fellow travelers. And he isn't afraid to call it like he sees it. He also says many howlingly awful things, particularly about the impoverished Arabs he encountered along the way.

One of the most famous travel books ever written by an American, *The Innocents Abroad* is Mark Twain's irreverent and incisive commentary on nineteenth century Americans encountering the Old World. Come along for the ride as Twain and his unsuspecting travel companions visit the Azores, Tangiers, Paris, Rome, the Vatican, Genoa, Gibraltar, Odessa, Constantinople, Cairo, the Holy Land and other locales renowned in history. No person or place is safe from Twain's sharp wit as it impales both the conservative and the liberal, the Old World and the New. He uses these contrasts to "find out who we as Americans are," notes Leslie A. Fiedler. But his travelogue demonstrates that, in our attempt to understand ourselves, we must first find out what we are not. With an Introduction by Michael Meyer and an Afterword by Leslie A. Fiedler

"There was never anybody like him; there never will be."—William Dean Howells

From the Back Cover This book offers a glimpse of a major writer when he was and just beginning to flex his muscles, and also serves as an enduring no-nonsense guide for the first-time traveler of Europe and the Holy Land.

About the Author In his person and in his pursuits, Mark Twain (1835-1910) was a man of extraordinary contrasts. Although he left school at twelve, when his father died, he was eventually awarded honorary degrees from Yale University, the University of Missouri, and Oxford University. His career encompassed such varied occupations as printer, Mississippi riverboat pilot, journalist, travel writer, and publisher. He made fortunes from his writing, but toward the end of his life he had to resort to lecture tours to pay his debts. He was hot-tempered, profane, and sentimental—and also pessimistic, cynical, and tortured by self-doubt. His nostalgia for the past helped produce some of his best books. He lives in American letters as a great artist, the writer whom William Dean Howells called "the Lincoln of our literature." Michael Meyer, Ph.D., professor emeritus of English at the University of Connecticut, is a former president of the Thoreau Society and the coauthor of *The New Thoreau Handbook*, a standard reference. His first book, *Several More Lives to Live: Thoreau's Political Reputation in America*, was awarded the Ralph Henry Gabriel Prize by the American Studies Association. In addition to *The Bedford Introduction to Literature*, his edited volumes include *Frederick Douglas: The Narrative and Selected Writings*. Leslie A. Fiedler (1917-2003) was a longtime professor of English at Montana State University and then the Samuel Langhorne Clemens Professor of Literature at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He was the author of four novels, as well as many influential works of criticism including *Life and Death in the American Novel* and *What Was Literature? Class Culture and Mass Society*. Among his many awards is the Modern Language Association's Hubbell Medal for lifetime contribution to the study of American literature.