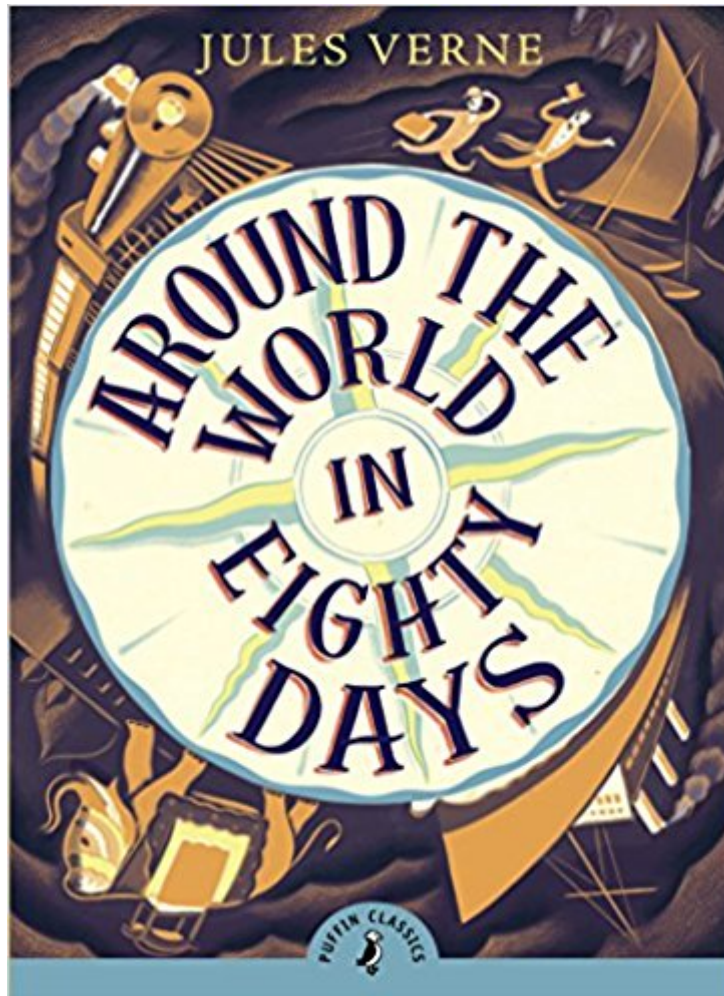




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Around The World In Eighty Days (Puffin Classics)



Synopsis

Shocking his stodgy colleagues at the exclusive Reform Club, enigmatic Englishman Phileas Fogg wagers his fortune, undertaking an extraordinary and daring enterprise: to circumnavigate the globe in eighty days. With his French valet Passepartout in tow, Verne's hero traverses the far reaches of the earth, all the while tracked by the intrepid Detective Fix, a bounty hunter certain he is on the trail of a notorious bank robber. Set from the text of George M. Towle's original 1873 translation, this Modern Library Paperback Classic of Verne's adventure novel comes vividly alive, brilliantly reflecting on time, space, and one man's struggle to reach beyond the bounds of both science and society.

Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #31,885 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Classics #52 in Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Trains #504 in Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 6 Up?To most modern kids, classics may be great, worthy, even exciting stories, but they were written in and for their own times and the context can sometimes be obscure. Using the visually irresistible printing techniques popularized by the "Eyewitness" series, these two books, when prominently displayed, will probably attract more impulse readers than some of the dustier editions. But do they accomplish their stated aim? Direct textual illustration is plentiful, lively, and useful. The reproductions of prints, photographs, and maps that pepper each page and are intended

to enhance readers' grasp of the times, however, are a mixed success. There is a sameness to them and an arbitrary feel to their use. Pirate buffs will find *Treasure Island's* variety of ship drawings, details of sailing minutiae, and photographs of pieces of eight or guns and swords quite satisfying. Verne's work is less enhanced by its graphics. This episodic travelogue would be best served by lots of clear maps with the route well marked. But the few maps shown are so small that the legends are unreadable and country and city names are blurred. Limitations aside, the initial appeal of this fresh approach may serve to attract some new readers to these enduring stories that have managed without any help for this long. ?Sally Margolis, formerly at Deerfield Public Library, IL Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Around The World In Eighty Days (\$23.99; \$15.99 paper; May 1996; 296 pp.; 0- 670-86917-1; paper 0-670-86793-4): An entry in The Whole Story series, this is an annotated edition of the 1873 classic, printed on coated stock and enhanced by both atmospheric new paintings and hundreds of postage-stamp-sized 19th-century photos and prints. The explanatory captions (credited to Jean-Pierre Verdet only on the copyright page) accompanying the latter are largely superfluous, although they do add random snippets of historical background to the journey. It's the views of old ships and trains, of costumed natives, and distant ports of call--from Port Said to San Francisco--that evoke the tale's panorama of the exotic, just as the many lurid Verne trading cards and other spinoffs capture the plot's melodramatic highlights. A good way to put both book and story in context for young armchair travelers. (Fiction. 11-15) -- Copyright ©1996, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I see now why this is a classic! This was my first time reading this spectacular novel, and having not seen the film, I was thrilled with Mr. Doug's journey around the world. Verne gives painstakingly historically and geographically accurate details throughout the novel, which gives the reader the sense that they are making this famous journey around the world within the hours it takes them to read about it. If you are one for adventure, travel, history, or simply a good read, you will be more than satisfied to procure a copy of *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

Well I must say that the movie *Around the World in 80 Days* was a outstanding movie and I have seen it more than five times! However, until recently, I had never read the book. So I decided to turn off the computer, turn off the TV etc, relax with lots of fluffy pillows and read this book. And every

page I thoroughly enjoyed, it was so well described that I felt like I was on a trip around the world with them. This timeless book is still wonderful, maybe more so in today's hurry up and tech times! What a way to relax and unwind after a stressful day. This book I found more detailed than the movie and I found myself bookmarking passages to refer to as I will be reading this book from time to time, again and again and again... Highly recommend this book!

I really enjoyed this adventure story. The characters are interesting, there are plenty of adventures and mishaps and it all happens as they travel East around the world on a bet. (view spoiler) I thought it was hilarious that Americans are portrayed as foolhardy, obnoxious and wild. It seemed more dangerous to travel by train across the US than any other country, and in fact this would have been the time of the wild west. I also enjoyed the descriptions of San Francisco, being that it's one of my favorite cities. They take many forms of transportation including a elephant and a sledge with sail that slides across the frozen prairie. However no balloon, as someone mentioned. Passepartout is easily my favorite character with his brave, honorable but fairly foolish ways.

Around the World in 80 Days, the classic travel adventure story by Jules Verne, is just plain fun. The mysterious Phileas Fogg, so phlegmatic as to be eccentric, sets out to win a bet against fellow members of his club, who believe it is impossible to circle the globe in just 80 days. Accompanying him is his French valet Passpartout, who had only begun his employment that very day, and who was looking forward to a calm life of predictability. This tongue-in-cheek humor sets the tone for the entire story, which is filled with adventure, mishaps, and humorous irony. Fogg is beset by one obstacle after another, not the least of which is Inspector Fix, who doggedly follows Fogg believing he is the notorious criminal who robbed a London bank on the very day that Phileas Fogg set out on his adventure (all of which Fogg is totally unaware). Will Phileas Fogg be able to overcome it all in time to make it back to London by 8:45 pm on December 21, the precise time at which he must appear in his club in order to win his bet? Although the characters are little more than caricatures who always show the same mood, still they are fun characters. And the reader soon becomes so swept up in Verne's highly imaginative tale that it is easy to forgive him for the lack of character development. Verne's depiction of non-English cultures will strike the modern reader as stereotypic and bigoted; still, one must consider the prevailing opinions of the times in which Verne wrote, and remember that this is, above all, a fantastic adventure story meant to be purely entertaining. Jim Dale is a fabulous narrator, giving each character a distinct voice which lends even more color to this already colorful story. He does an excellent job with the couple of American characters,

something which almost no British narrator is able to do. This is one I will listen to again, and I recommend it as enjoyable, lighthearted entertainment

I cannot emphasize enough how delightful Frederick Davidson's reading of this magnificent, ingenious, hilarious, divine book is! This book is everything! The father of steam punk places machines on every page. No one who loves great literature can possibly fail to be amused by this one.

My twelve year old son and I read this book concurrently, and we both enjoyed it very much. Fogg's travels provide a wonderful world geography lesson, especially if locations of his travels are mapped during the reading. Not only did we learn about geography, Fogg models a superb example of many virtuous characteristics not found in any form of media today. He exhibits self-control, patience, love and self-sacrifice, generosity, gentleness, determination, and even grit! I wish there were authors around today such as Jules Verne. Although this book was read primarily for academic reasons, we gained so much more from it than expected!

A great Verne classic! In particular this edition is worth every penny! The pages are of thick cardstock and the dust jacket is just fantastic! The illustrations really bring the story to life. And the story is of course riveting. A GREAT classic!! This edition is one of those books that will be an heirloom. It is hardy enough in construction (includes a bright satin ribbon as a bookmark!) to endure and the story will be relevant forever. Again a wonderful classic presented in such a way to rival the characters and plot. I would gladly recommend this book and the others in the series to others, and as a mom of five and a nanny to many this book can be appreciated and enjoyed for many, many years. A great investment to encourage reading, creative writing and most especially time with your children reading together!! The other books in this series (Sterling Illustrated Classics) are also of great quality.

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