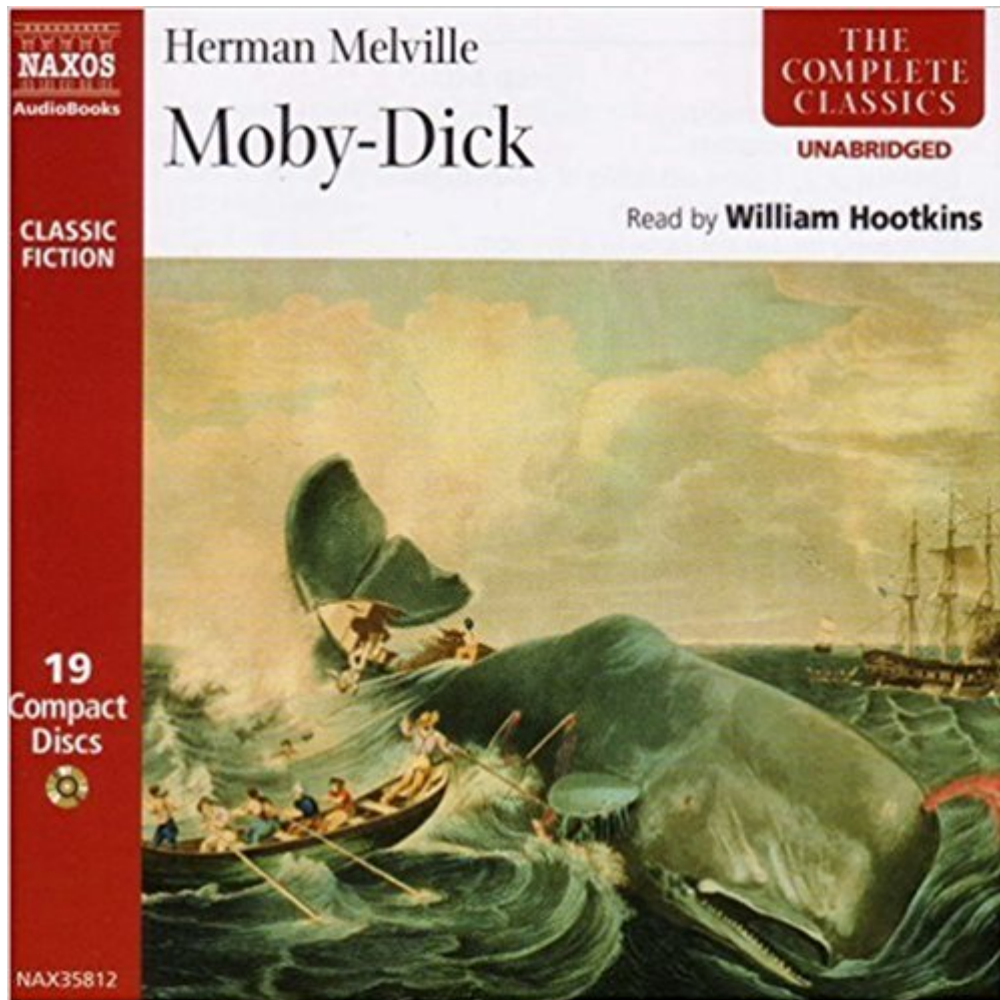


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Moby Dick (Naxos AudioBooks)



Synopsis

'Call me Ishmael'. Thus starts the greatest American novel. Melville said himself that he wanted to write 'a mighty book about a mighty theme' and so he did. It is a story of one man's obsessive revenge-journey against the white whale, Moby-Dick, who injured him in an earlier meeting. Woven into the story of the last journey of The Pequod is a mesh of philosophy, rumination, religion, history and a mass of information about whaling through the ages. This epic story, here presented in unabridged form, receives an equally epic reading from the outstanding American actor William Hootkins.

Book Information

Audio CD

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (14 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

You know that thin, sixtyish, balding guy at the gym who still uses a disc-man? Well, since late April, he has been listening to the estimable William Hootkins read MOBY-DICK. And guess what? Thirty minutes on the treadmill, twenty-five minutes on the treadmill, a day-off, and then repeat the three-day cycle and that persistent old guy has powered through all nineteen discs in the Naxos Audio Book. While this old buzzard doesn't claim to have actually read MOBY-DICK, he has heard Hootkins read it--every word. And the Hoot brings this masterpiece--which, let's face it, needed a stronger editor--to life. Any of you out there who have started and then put aside this great book might consider this same expedient approach, thereby ticking off another must-do on your bucket list. In his attempts to read Moby-Dick, this wizened gym rat never overcame a huge obstacle--namely, the voice of Ishmael. Certainly, even the defeated reader will recognize that Ishmael is a brilliant person who makes profound and insightful associations. And when he's talking

about the universe, his thoughts haven't dated. But there is also something about his manner of speaking, the rhetoric of his language, that invites the mind to wander. But when Hootkins channels Ishmael? Well, the Hoot takes Ishmael's voice--he's the guy at the dinner party who isn't as charming or as wry as he thinks--and gives it focus and conviction. Then add to the mix Hootkins's orotund baritone, which is like the second-coming of Orson Welles. What you get is a prolix but plausible character and communicator. And while he has no sense of humor, he can hold the stage. Anyway... Call me Ishmael. Some of the chapters of MOBY-DICK are painfully boring.

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