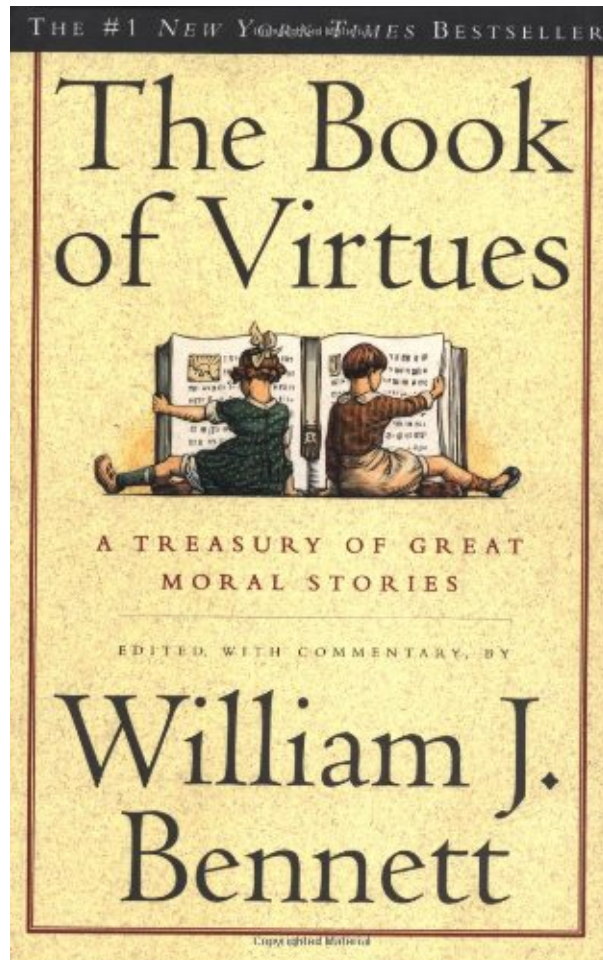


THE BOOK OF VIRTUES BY WILLIAM J. BENNETT



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The Book of Virtues



A TREASURY OF GREAT
MORAL STORIES

EDITED, WITH COMMENTARY, BY

William J.
Bennett

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From Library Journal

Believing with Plato that "tales which the young first hear should be models of virtuous thought," former Secretary of Education Bennett (*The De-Valuing of America* , LJ 4/1/92) has produced a McGuffey's Reader for the Nineties. The author draws upon a variety of literature ranging from biblical stories to political legends and speeches to illustrate the catalog of virtues--self-discipline, compassion, work, responsibility, friendship, courage, perseverance, honesty, loyalty, faith--that he believes are foundational to strong moral character. Most selections are introduced by a short thematic note, e.g., "an honest heart will always find friends." Bennett's elevation of these virtues to moral absolutes renders the book's view of morality rather simplistic. In addition, the collection's lack of attention to women's and non-Western voices encourages the view that the experience of virtue belongs primarily to Western males. Still, this anthology will prove popular with some readers. Recommended for public libraries.

- Henry L. Carrigan Jr., Westerville P.L., Ohio

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Responsibility. Courage. Compassion. Honesty. Friendship. Persistence. Faith. Everyone recognizes these traits as essentials of good character. In order for our children to develop such traits, we have to offer them examples of good and bad, right and wrong. And the best places to find them are in great works of literature and exemplary stories from history.

William J. Bennett has collected hundreds of stories in *The Book of Virtues*, an instructive and inspiring anthology that will help children understand and develop character -- and help adults teach them. From the Bible to American history, from Greek mythology to English poetry, from fairy tales to modern fiction, these stories are a rich mine of moral literacy, a reliable moral reference point that will help anchor our children and ourselves in our culture, our history, and our traditions -- the sources of the ideals by which we wish to live our lives. Complete with instructive introductions and notes, *The Book of Virtues* is a book the whole family can read and enjoy -- and learn from -- together.

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- Original language: English
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- Binding: Paperback
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Features

- Great product!

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Newsweek Maybe it's just what the country needs.

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63 of 67 people found the following review helpful.

Proof is in the pudding

By Amazon Customer

After a long week of bike riding practice without the training wheels which culminated in a solo trip down the street, my 6 year old daughter made a proud, smiling request on the way up to bed. "Can we read 'Try try again' in the big green book?" She asked. The big green book is of course the Book of Virtues, and "Try try again" is one of the many poems and short stories that we read from it before bed each night. This book is full of life stories that kids can remember and apply as they grow. On several other occasions those stories have come into conversation as a reference point with my kids when facing life's experiences. Highly recommended.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Bennett pulled together a wonderful collections of stories and classic examples through which important ...

By Devon Rohlf

I grew up reading this anthology of virtues as a child. Bennett pulled together a wonderful collections of stories and classic examples through which important morals are illustrated for the reader. This book made such an impression on me that I have bought copies for each of my nephews and neices so that they too can read and learn what it means to be a person of strong moral character.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

it would be a good reading for them

By C. Richmond

I have some of his smaller books for children on virtues, so ordered this one, Found this one to be overpowering, but suppose if I had small children, it would be a good reading for them.

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