

# The Anabasis And The Indica Oxford World Classics - Discover the Epic Tales of Ancient Explorations

Have you ever wondered what it was like to embark on daring expeditions in ancient times? The Anabasis and The Indica, both part of the Oxford World Classics collection, offer a glimpse into the captivating adventures of historical figures who explored uncharted territories. Join us as we delve into these incredible narratives that shed light on the courage and curiosity of our ancestors.

## Ancient Texts That Transcend Time

The Anabasis, written by Xenophon in the 4th century BCE, recounts the incredible journey of Greek soldiers who found themselves stranded in Persia after the death of their leader, Cyrus the Younger. This firsthand account presents readers with a unique perspective of an army forced to navigate hostile lands and treacherous conditions in their quest to return home.

In contrast, The Indica, written by the ancient historian Ctesias, provides an intriguing insight into the explorations of India by Greek travelers. Ctesias, who served as a physician in the Persian court, gathered information from fellow travelers and woven together a tapestry of mythical creatures, exotic landscapes, and cultural marvels that greatly influenced the Western perception of India.

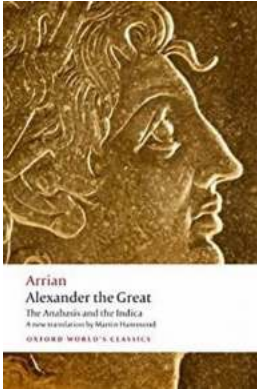
## Alexander the Great: The Anabasis and the Indica (Oxford World's Classics)

by Arrian (Illustrated Edition, Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 6459 KB



Screen Reader : Supported  
Print length : 416 pages  
Lending : Enabled  
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



## A Window into Ancient Cultures

These ancient texts offer us a remarkable opportunity to explore the customs, traditions, and beliefs of civilizations long gone. From the strategies employed by Greek soldiers to survive the harsh conditions of the Persian Empire in *The Anabasis* to the vivid descriptions of Indian society in *The Indica*, these texts serve as windows to understand the historical and cultural contexts that shaped ancient civilizations.

Through the lens of these remarkable narratives, readers can gain a deeper appreciation of the challenges our ancestors faced, the triumphs they achieved, and the encounters they had with unfamiliar cultures and landscapes.

## The Legacy of Xenophon and Ctesias

Xenophon's *The Anabasis* has not only captivated readers throughout the centuries but has also been praised as a valuable historical source. This remarkable account reveals the character and leadership skills of Cyrus the Younger, providing historians with invaluable insights into the politics and warfare of ancient Persia.

Similarly, Ctesias' *The Indica* has left a lasting impact on the Western understanding of ancient India. Although contemporary scholars may criticize his work for its inclusion of fables, Ctesias' vivid descriptions of India's flora, fauna, and intriguing customs have undoubtedly influenced subsequent writers and explorers.

## **Why Oxford World Classics?**

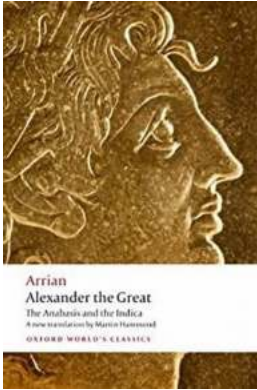
The *Anabasis* and *The Indica*, both part of the Oxford World Classics series, have been meticulously edited and translated by experts in ancient history and literature. Their passion for preserving and sharing these remarkable texts ensures that readers can immerse themselves in the authentic and unadulterated stories of our ancestors.

With the Oxford World Classics collection, readers can explore the depths of human history, uncovering narratives that have shaped our understanding of the world we live in today. Each page turns into a portal, transporting you to a different time and place, offering a fascinating journey you won't want to miss.

## **In**

The *Anabasis* and *The Indica*, part of the Oxford World Classics collection, are an invitation to travel back in time and experience the adventures, trials, and triumphs of ancient explorers. These texts open the doors to ancient cultures, shedding light on the history and customs of civilizations long gone. Through the legacy left behind by Xenophon and Ctesias, we can gain a deeper understanding of our collective past and appreciate the human spirit's unwavering curiosity and ambition.

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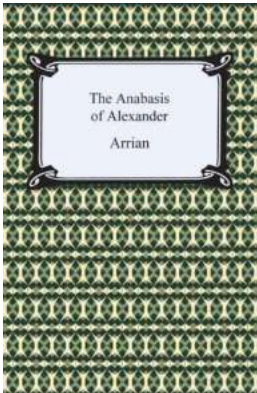
'He was a man like no other man has ever been'

So Arrian sums up the career of Alexander the Great of Macedon (356-323 BC), who in twelve years that changed the world led his army in conquest of a vast empire extending from the Danube to the rivers of the Punjab, from Egypt to Uzbekistan, and died in Babylon at the age of 32 with further ambitions unfulfilled.

Arrian (c. 86-161 AD), a Greek man of letters who had experience of military command and of the highest political office in both Rome and Athens, set out to write the definitive account of Alexander's life and campaigns, published as the *Anabasis* and its later companion piece the *Indica*. His work is now our prime and most detailed extant source for the history of Alexander, and it is a dramatic story, fast-moving like its main subject, and told with great narrative skill. Arrian admired Alexander and was fascinated by him, but was also alive to his faults: he presents a compelling account of an exceptional leader, brilliant, ruthless, passionate, and complex.

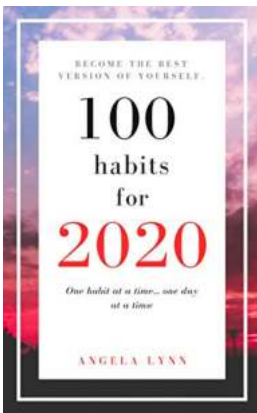
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authorities, helpful notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.



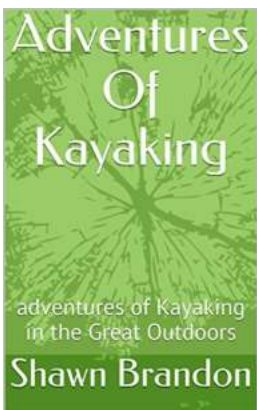
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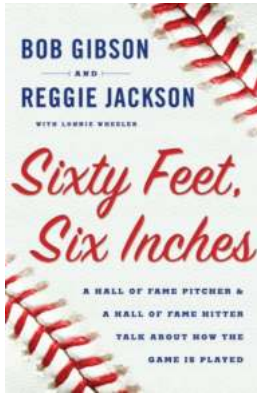
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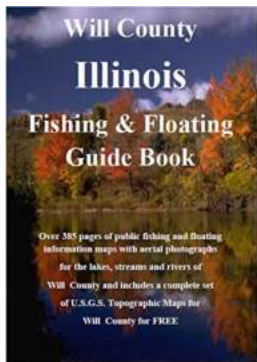
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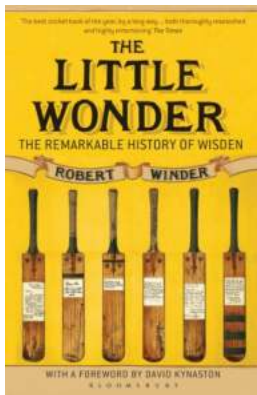
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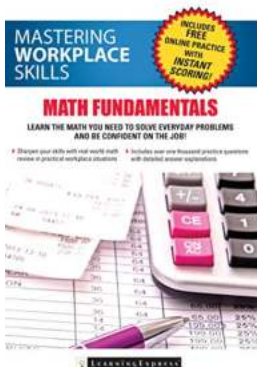
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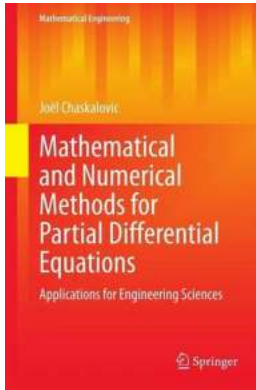
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