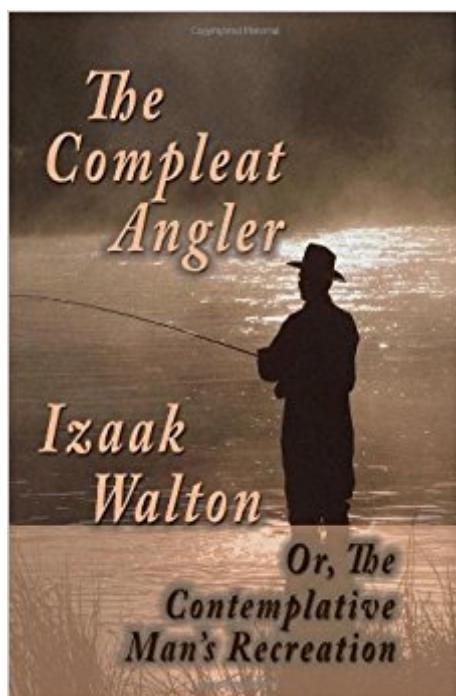


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# The Compleat Angler; Or, The Contemplative Man's Recreation



## **Synopsis**

First published in 1653, Izaak Walton's *The Compleat Angler* celebrates the art and spirit of fishing in prose and verse. Walton infused his work with anecdotes and commentaries on catching and preparing everything from carp to trout, chub to pike. *The Compleat Angler* is as fresh and relevant today as it was two and a half centuries ago. *The Compleat Angler* continues to be "must" reading for every new generation of fishermen (and fisher women!) who have ever picked up a pole, line and lure to set forth on one of human kind's oldest pastimes -- fishing. Undoubtedly, its most enduring distinction--what's raised an essential sporting how-to to the level of literary classic--is the one cast off by its subtitle *The Contemplative Man's Recreation* with its graceful evocations of a life free from hurly-burly in the company of friends intent on physical and moral sustenance.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

For a book to stay in print for nearly 350 years, its merits must continually entice and allure. *The Compleat Angler* satisfies that on two counts. On the most obvious level, it remains as good a primer on fishing as any angler would want. But its most enduring distinction--what's raised an essential sporting how-to to the level of literary classic--is the one cast off by its subtitle; Izaak Walton's sometimes convoluted 17th-century grammar can still reel in our imaginations with his graceful evocations of a life free from hurly-burly in the company of friends intent on physical and moral sustenance. "He that hopes to be a good Angler must not only bring an inquiring, searching, observing wit," suggests the master, "but he must bring a large measure of hope and patience.... Doubt not but Angling will prove to be so pleasant, that it will prove to be like a virtue, a reward to

itself." Just like Walton's magnificent literary catch. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

First published in 1653, Izaak Walton's *The Compleat Angler* celebrates the art and spirit of fishing in prose and verse. Walton infused his work with anecdotes and commentaries on catching and preparing everything from carp to trout, chub to pike. This modern Ecco Press edition is enhanced with a new introduction by Thomas McGuane and illustrations by Arthur Rackham. *The Compleat Angler* is as fresh and relevant today as it was two and a half centuries ago. *The Compleat Angler* continues to be "must" reading for every new generation of fishermen (and fisher women!) who have ever picked up a pole, line and lure to set forth on one of human kind's oldest pastimes -- fishing. -- Midwest Book Review --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Being an avid angler, and having heard of this book in passing before, I downloaded this free copy. Though this book is very old, there are timeless nuggets of wisdom that make this an invaluable read to the thoughtful fisherman. First, the reason I gave it four stars out of five is because there are several portions of the book that focused more on fishing tactics, which to me seemed dated and obsolete (plus it was in England, so there were different fish species). However when the discussion turned towards the joys of fishing and how it benefits the soul this book shined. Along with sharing poetry, the book discussed how fishing has emotional and even spiritual benefits (something I fully believe). Though the language is a bit archaic it still is easy to read for the most part, so give this book a read before you go out fishing next time!

Thank you.

This is the famous treatise on fly fishing. This was written along time ago so has "flowery" language so not an easy book to read. Don't expect it to read like a Fish and Game magazine ;-) It celebrates the "art" of fly fishing.

This is a pretty good recording to listen to in the car on a long trip by yourself if you like it. It's pretty interesting and put you back in a simpler time of the world.

interesting to see that people were basicly the same then,as now

A classic book by a survivor of the English Civil War who was trying to find a way to peace and a better world through love of nature and humanity. Couldn't be more relevant.

As a member of the IWLA, I thought I should read this classic. It is almost to fishing what "Toxophilus" is to Archery. GREAT!!!

An unusual read due to the language of the 1600's. I would recommend it to any angler or anyone considering fishing. It can be a very peaceful pastime and one with the potential for considerable rewards as described by Mr. Walton.

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