

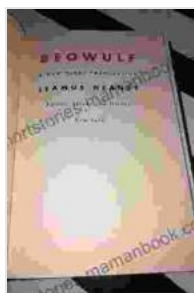
# The Selected Canterbury Tales: A New Verse Translation

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Geoffrey Chaucer's "The Canterbury Tales" is a timeless masterpiece that has captivated readers for centuries. Its rich tapestry of characters, vivid storytelling, and satirical wit have ensured its enduring legacy as a cornerstone of English literature. Now, award-winning poet Lawrence Besserman presents a stunning new verse translation of this beloved classic.

## A Journey of Language and Culture

Besserman's translation is not merely a mechanical recreation but a transformative endeavor that breathes new life into Chaucer's medieval masterpiece. Utilizing modern English while preserving the essence of the original text, Besserman transports readers to 14th-century England, immersing them in the vibrant language, culture, and society that inspired Chaucer's work.



## The Selected Canterbury Tales: A New Verse

**Translation** by Geoffrey Chaucer

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 794 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 800 pages



## **Characters Come Alive in Verse**

Besserman's masterful use of verse brings Chaucer's characters to life with unparalleled authenticity. From the roguish Pardoner to the pious Knight, each pilgrim on the journey to Canterbury is rendered with their own distinct voice, motivations, and quirks. Through their tales, we encounter a panorama of medieval life, from the lofty courts to the bustling streets.

## **Imagery and Atmosphere**

Besserman's translation is a feast for the senses, capturing the vivid imagery and atmospheric descriptions that characterize Chaucer's original. The earthy smells of the countryside, the raucous laughter of the tavern, the gentle murmur of a springtime day—these sensations are brought to life through Besserman's lyrical language.

## **Social Commentary and Humor**

"The Canterbury Tales" is not only a delightful literary experience but also a sharp indictment of medieval society. Chaucer's biting humor and keen observations on human nature shine through in Besserman's translation. From the corrupt clergy to the power-hungry nobility, no one is spared from Chaucer's satirical gaze.

## **Modern Accessibility and Enjoyment**

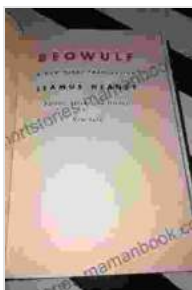
Despite its medieval setting, "The Selected Canterbury Tales" remains remarkably accessible to modern readers. Besserman's translation smooths out the linguistic barriers and cultural references, making it possible for contemporary audiences to fully appreciate the timeless themes and artistry of Chaucer's work.

## A Poetic Achievement

Besserman's translation is not only a literary triumph but also a work of art in its own right. His lyrical language, dynamic rhythms, and skilled handling of rhyme create a captivating reading experience that transcends the boundaries of time.

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"The Selected Canterbury Tales: A New Verse Translation" is a remarkable work that brings the medieval masterpiece to life for a new generation of readers. Lawrence Besserman's masterful use of language and poetic sensibilities have created a translation that is both faithful to the original and a work of art in its own right. Whether you are a seasoned Chaucer enthusiast or a newcomer to his timeless tales, this new verse translation is an essential addition to your literary library.



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