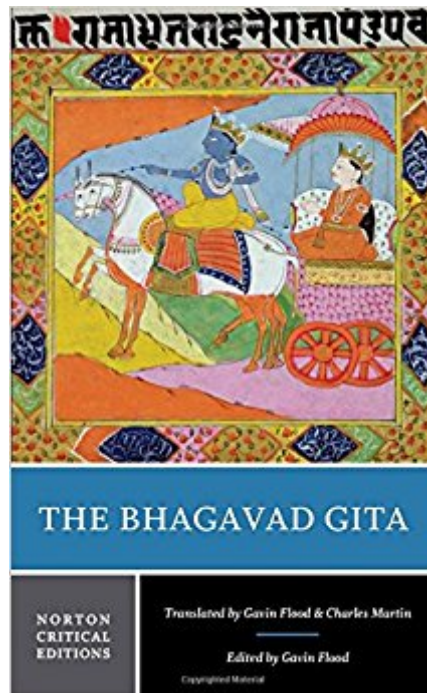


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# The Bhagavad Gita (Norton Critical Editions)



## Synopsis

“A true translation whose literary qualities make it stand out from the rest.”  
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“Here is a chance to rediscover The Bhagavad Gita in a translation that blends true scholarship with artistry.”  
—Library Journal  
The Bhagavad Gita, the “Song of the Lord,” is an ancient Hindu scripture about virtue presented as a dialogue between Krishna, an incarnation of God, and the warrior Arjuna on the eve of a great battle over succession to the throne. This new verse translation of the classic Sanskrit text combines the skills of leading Hinduist Gavin Flood with the stylistic verve of award-winning poet and translator Charles Martin. The result is a living text that remains true to the extraordinarily influential original. A devotional, literary, and philosophical work of unsurpassed beauty and relevance, The Bhagavad Gita has inspired, among others, Mahatma Gandhi, J. Robert Oppenheimer, T. S. Eliot, Christopher Isherwood, and Aldous Huxley. Its universal themes of life and death, war and peace, and sacrifice resonate in a West increasingly interested in Eastern religious experiences and the Hindu diaspora. The text is accompanied by a full introduction and by explanatory annotations. The volume presents seminal analogues and commentaries on The Bhagavad Gita, including central passages from The Shvetashvatara Upanishad as well as commentary spanning eleven centuries by Shankara and Ramanuja (in new translations by Gavin Flood) in addition to the writings of Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Sri Aurobindo. Five essays by leading Hinduists discuss a wide range of issues related to The Bhagavad Gita from its roots as a religious text to its influence on the practices of yoga and transcendentalism through its ongoing global impact. Contributors include John L. Brockington, Arvind Sharma, Rudolf Otto, Eric J. Sharpe, and C. A. Bayly. A selected bibliography is included.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The well-balanced synergy between Professor Flood's impeccable scholarship and the literary sensitivity of award-winning poet/translator Charles Martin delivers us a remarkable new verse translation of the ancient Hindu Scripture." -- The Bookseller

Gavin Flood is Professor of Hindu Studies and Comparative Religion and Academic Director of the Centre for Hindu Studies at Oxford University. He is the author of *An Introduction to Hinduism*; *The Ascetic Self: Subjectivity, Memory, and Tradition*; and *The Tantric Body: The Secret Tradition of Hindu Religion*. Gavin Flood is Professor of Hindu Studies and Comparative Religion and Academic Director of the Centre for Hindu Studies at Oxford University. He is the author of *An Introduction to Hinduism*; *The Ascetic Self: Subjectivity, Memory, and Tradition*; and *The Tantric Body: The Secret Tradition of Hindu Religion*. Charles Martin is a poet, critic, and translator. His translation of *Ovid's Metamorphoses* received the Harold Morton Landon Award from the Academy of American Poets in 2004. In 2005, he received an Award for Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He is the author of *Signs & Wonders* and *Starting from Sleep: New and Selected Poems*.

This is a MUST read whether you are an expat in Ecuador, thinking of retiring in Ecuador, or simply like to read something that is well written, enjoyable and full of good humor. I imagine the author sitting with me - telling the stories! Absolutely loved this book. I hope one day I can sit with this magnificent story teller and here more.....

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