The Betrothed from the Italian of Alessandro Manzoni

The Betrothed (orig. Italian: I promessi sposi) is an Italian historical novel by Alessandro Manzoni, first published in 1827, in three volumes. It has been called the most famous and widely read novel of the Italian language.

Alessandro Francesco Tommaso Manzoni (7 March 1785 - 22 May 1873) was an Italian poet and novelist. He is famous for the novel The Betrothed (orig. Italian: I Promessi Sposi) (1827), generally ranked among the masterpieces of world literature. The novel is also a symbol of the Italian Risorgimento, both for its patriotic message and because it was a fundamental milestone in the development of the modern, unified Italian language.

I Promessi Sposi the Betrothed V1 (1844)

Winner of the Bagutta Prize, The Manzoni Family set in ducal Italy and post-revolutionary France, captures the story of Alessandro Manzoni—celebrated Milanese nobleman, man of letters, and author of the masterpiece of nineteenth-century Italian literature, I promessi sposi (The Betrothed); and the women of his life. The dynastic tale begins with the matriarchal figure of Giulia, the mother whom the young Alessandro Manzoni found in Paris after she had abandoned him as an infant. Following her, there is Enrichetta, the woman he and his mother chose to be his wife, and the many children she had by him until her death; literary friends from the beau monde in Italy and Paris; and Alessandro's second wife, Teresa, and her children. Against the background of Napoleonic occupation, the reestablishment of Austrian hegemony, and the stirrings of the revolutionary urge for unification and independence, Ginzburg gracefully weaves the story of the Manzoni dynasty, a family that seems to grow autonomously around the life of the writer, effortlessly incorporating the epic tumult and emotion of the age. Ginzburg explores this fascinating true story and celebrated author with the elegance that has assured her rightful place among history's acclaimed literary titans.

Lucia, the Betrothed

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The Betrothed by Alessandro Manzoni

Picture of life in Milan in the 17th century, under Spanish domination, with descriptions of famine, pestilence, and revolt.

The Novelist and the Archivist

The Manzoni Family

The Literature of Italy, 1265-1907: The Betrothed

The Betrothed Lovers (I Promessi Sposi)

Lucia, the betrothed

This historical romance of seventeenth-century Milan, first published in 1827, is the most famous of Italian novels. It has great breadth and depth--indeed its moral, religious, and political themes are as applicable to the problems of our own day as they were to the Napoleonic times when it was written, or the period of the Thirty Years War in which it is set.

The Betrothed

Promised

The Betrothed Translated from the Italian of Alessandro Manzoni

Alessandro Manzoni was a giant of nineteenth-century European literature whose I promessi sposi (The Betrothed, 1928) is ranked with War and Peace as marking the summit of the historical novel. Manzoni wrote: Del romanzo storico: (On the Historical Novel) during the twenty years he spent revising I promessi sposi. This first English translation of On the Historical Novel reflects the insights of a great craftsman and the misgivings of a profound thinker. It brings up to the nineteenth century the long war between poetry and history, tracing the idea of the historical novel from its origins in classical antiquity. It declares the historical novel--and presumably I promessi sposi itself--dead as a genre. Or perhaps it justifies I promessi sposi as the climax of a genre and the end of a stage of human consciousness. Its importance lies both in its prospective and in its retrospective contributions to literary debate.

The Betrothed (I Promessi Sposi)

The title of this book refers to two personages who, though belonging to very different cultural worlds, were secretly in contact in the second decade of the 19th century. What united them was their shared interest in the history of the judicial institutions of the Ancien Régime and especially the records of a trial which had been housed for two centuries in the Venetian Ducal Palace before passing, along with other precious documents of the Serenissima, to the provisional seat of San Teodoro in Venice where, along with others, worked the archivist Agostino Carli Rubbi. Alessandro Manzoni became famous for his novel, I promessi sposi (The Betrothed), which he claimed was inspired by an anonymous manuscript of the 1600s and which became the Italian national novel. Indeed, both the characters and the complicated plot that unites them can be found in a file of a trial from the early 17th century. This book reconstructs the engrossing story of this unknown secret relationship between the novelist and the archivist, which in the end inspired Manzoni's great historical novel.

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Renzo and Lucia are separated as they escape from the evil Don Rodrigo and face the dangers of plague, famine, and the Thirty Years War.

Manzoni's "The Betrothed" is indeed "The Great Italian Novel." It is the story of the love and separation a young peasant boy and girl in northern Italy, during the seventeenth century plague, in a world of foreign domination, church power, and feudalism. It is also a profound insight into the creation of modern Italy.

The novel is the story of two young lovers, forced to flee their village after a dangerous and powerful man threatens their marriage and their lives. But Manzoni draws on historical events to weave a much wider tapestry: He brings to vivid life Spanish occupation during the Thirty Years' War, the bubonic plague, famine, politics, religion, poverty, class tensions, and a colorful cast of characters, all of which provide an unforgettable portrait of Italian life and society. But within Manzoni's epic tale of seventeenth-century Italy, readers will spot powerful echoes of our modern day: the consequences of government negligence, entrenched divisions of wealth and privilege, a country gripped by panic as an unstoppable illness spreads. Michael F. Moore's superb new translation turns a welcome, accessible, and engaging spotlight onto Manzoni's enduring legacy and his timeless literary masterpiece.

The Waverley Novels: Redgauntlet. The betrothed. The talisman

A Classic Italian Historical Novel COMPLETE CLASSICS I Promessi Sposi The Betrothed Alessandro Manzoni The Betrothed is an Italian historical novel by Alessandro Manzoni, first published in 1827, in three volumes. It has been called the most famous and widely read novel of the Italian language. Set in northern Italy in 1628, during the supposed oppressive years of direct Spanish rule, it is sometimes seen as a veiled attack on the Austrian Empire, which controlled the region at the time the novel was written. (The definitive version was published in 1842). It is also noted for the extraordinary description of the plague that struck Milan around 1630. It deals with a variety of themes, from the cowardly, hypocritical nature of one prelate (Don Abbondio) and the heroic sainthood of other priests (Padre Cristoforo, Federico Borromeo), to the unwavering strength of love (the relationship between Renzo and Lucia, and their struggle to finally meet again and be married), and offers some keen insights into the meanderings of the human mind. I promessi sposi was made into an opera of the same name by Amilcare Ponchielli in 1856 and by Errico Petrella in 1869. There have been many film versions of I promessi sposi, including I Promessi Sposi, 1908, The Betrothed 1941, The Betrothed, 1990, and Renzo and Lucia, made for television in 2004. In May 2015, at a weekly general audience at St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis asked engaged couples to read the novel for edification before marriage.

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I Promessi Sposi. The Betrothed

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The Betrothed Lovers

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**The Betrothed (I Promessi Sposi). From the Italian**

1. **I Promessi Sposi**