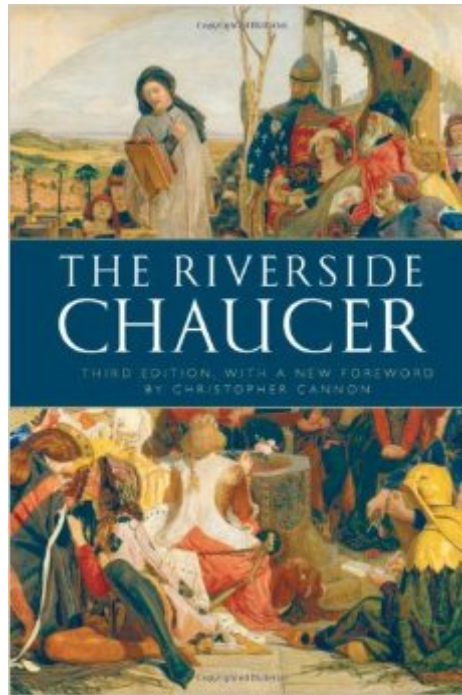


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# The Riverside Chaucer



## Synopsis

The third edition of the definitive collection of Chaucer's Complete Works, reissued with a new foreword by Christopher Cannon. Since F. N. Robinson's second edition of the *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer* was published in 1957, there has been a dramatic increase in Chaucer scholarship. This has not only enriched our understanding of Chaucer's art, but has also enabled scholars, working for the first time with all the source-material, to recreate Chaucer's authentic texts. For the third edition, an international team of experts completely re-edited all the works, added glosses to appear on the page with the text, and greatly expanded the introductory material, explanatory notes, textual notes, bibliography, and glossary. In short, the *Riverside Chaucer* is the fruit of many years' study - the most authentic and exciting edition available of Chaucer's Complete Works.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I bought this for a class that required the *Riverside Chaucer*, and I took a gamble hoping that the pages would be relatively the same. Turns out they are. All of the notes, introductory material, index are there. The pages are the same as the larger, hard cover copy. The only problem I have with this edition is that the binding does not look very long-lasting, and the ink on the pages smudges. Seems cheaply put together. I like to own good books, and the *Riverside Chaucer* is definitely worth having as a student of literature. I wish I had spent a little more money and purchased the hard cover edition which is so much better made (I've compared this one with the hard cover copies my fellow students have). You get what you pay for with this copy. If you want to keep an edition of

Chaucer for a long time, get the hard cover edition and your money will be well spent.

This edition is the same edition that was published in 1985. It is, of course, the authoritative edition of Chaucer, an essential for any serious Chaucer scholar. As the glosses are insufficient for non-experts, beginning students would do much better with readerly editions such as Cowley's edition of *The Canterbury Tales* or Kolve's selected volume of *The Canterbury Tales* and/or Lynch's *Dream Visions* volume. It is unfortunate that, with the exception of a new foreword, this volume is no different than the 1985 edition: though certain elements are as solid as they will ever need to be, other elements, such as the bibliographic introductions to the individual works are now well outdated. I agree with the earlier review here that the hardcover is well worth the investment: I have worked my 1985 volume hard for the past twenty-seven years, and it is in better condition than my 2008 paperback copy of the Riverside.

The paperback immediately appealed to me because of its size and weight; the hardcover is just way too much and heavy to lug around all day on campus. The pagination was the same, and it's essentially the same thing. The pages are a bit thin, so be careful when turning. Also the print is in very small text, so those with bad eyes should consider buying the bigger hardcover version, but if you can read small print this is the version you want.

I'm not really here to review Chaucer. If you're reading him, you know what you're dealing with. I do wish, however, that they put the additional information all in one place, instead of having notes before the section, at the back of the book (in addition to the glossary), and footnotes. The page numbering matches the hardcover exactly, which was much appreciated during tests. As for the quality of the book itself, it's all right. I bought this because my class is a half hour walk away from my apartment, and is uphill, too. The hardcover would have been terrible to bring. The paper is thin and the print is small, but the upside is that it's a whole lot lighter. The binding hasn't failed despite a semester of fairly heavy abuse, so it's done its job. My professor said the older paperback edition used to be notorious for how quickly the binding split, so I appreciated that my book is still in pretty good shape, 4 months later.

I bought this for a graduate level waste studies class. It is a great Chaucer resource and has some fantastic extras. Bottom line: perfect for both students and literature enthusiasts alike.

The book is a good reference but the binding is questionable and after 15 weeks it will show the wear. I should have gotten this in hardcover.

Just what I needed! Thanks!

I liked it, but half of the book were annotations and research.

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