

# Paradise Lost

## Book I

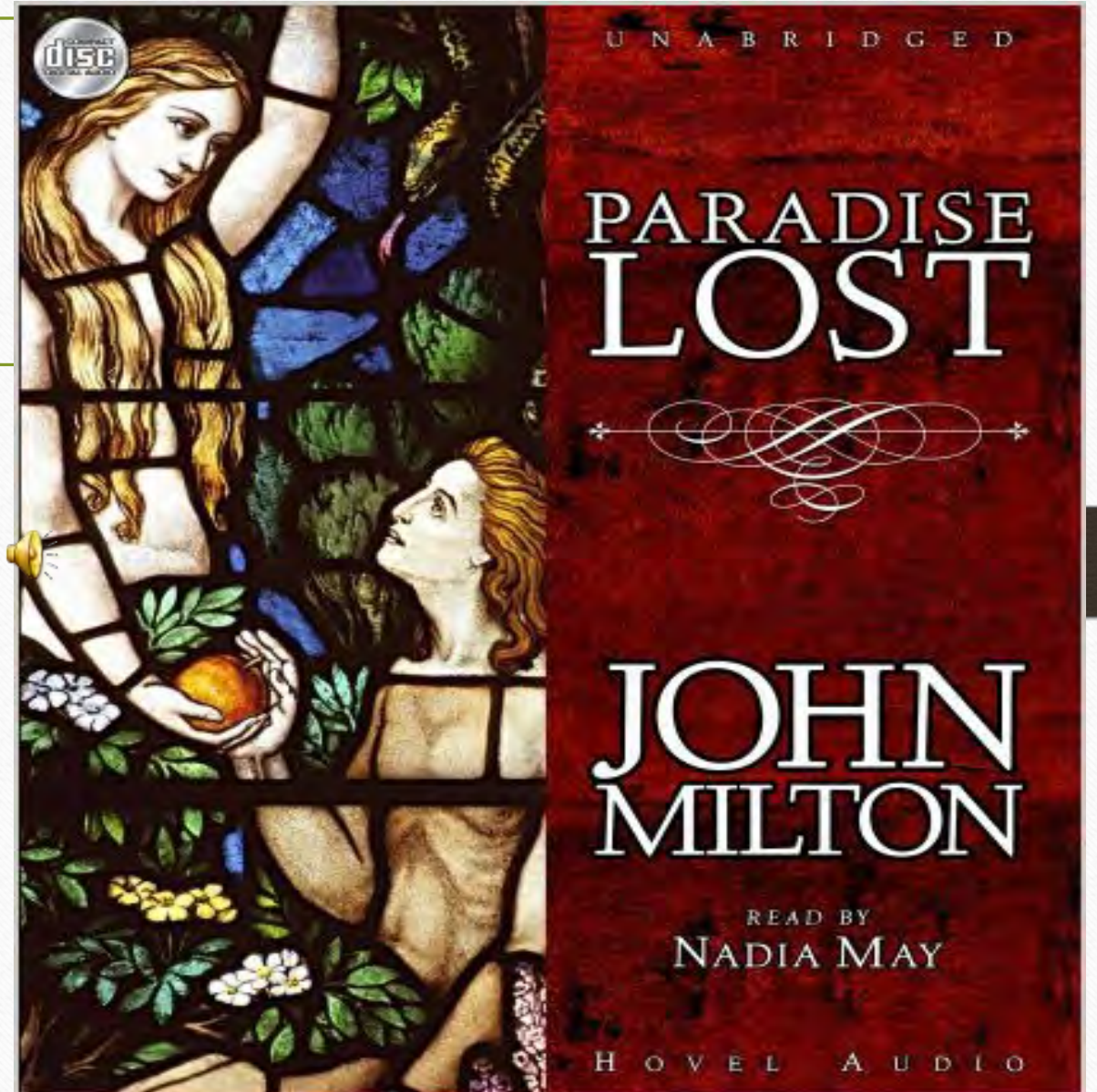
---

E-Content submitted by:

Mrs. Angeline Sorna,  
Asst. Prof. of English, JAC

This lesson focusses on epics and particularly on John Milton's Paradise Lost.

First let us know more about Epic as a literary form.



Epic is a long narrative poem on a great and serious subject.

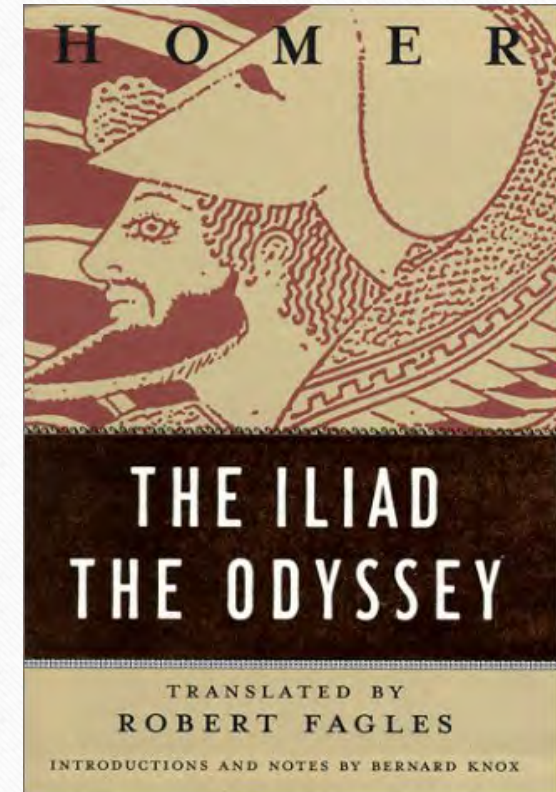
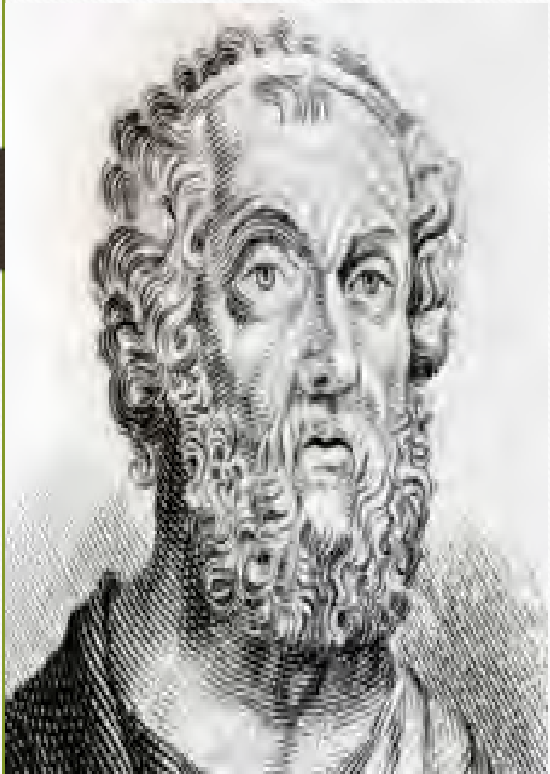
---



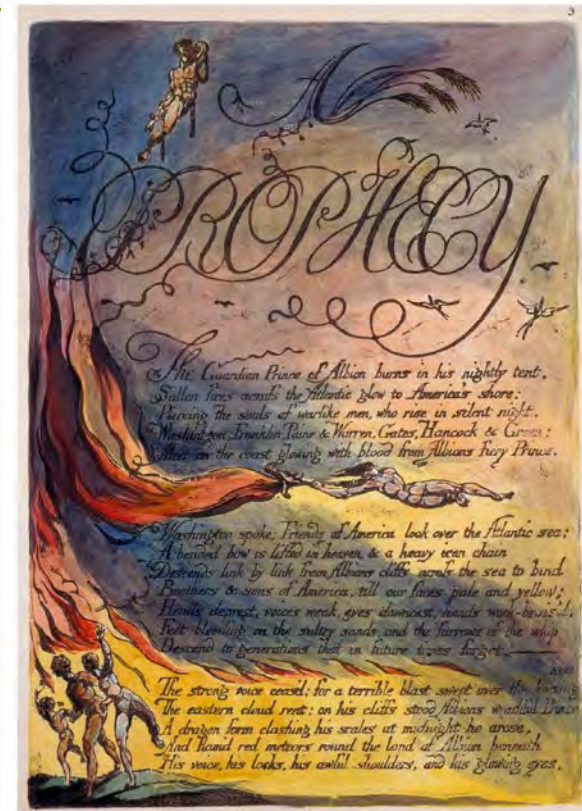
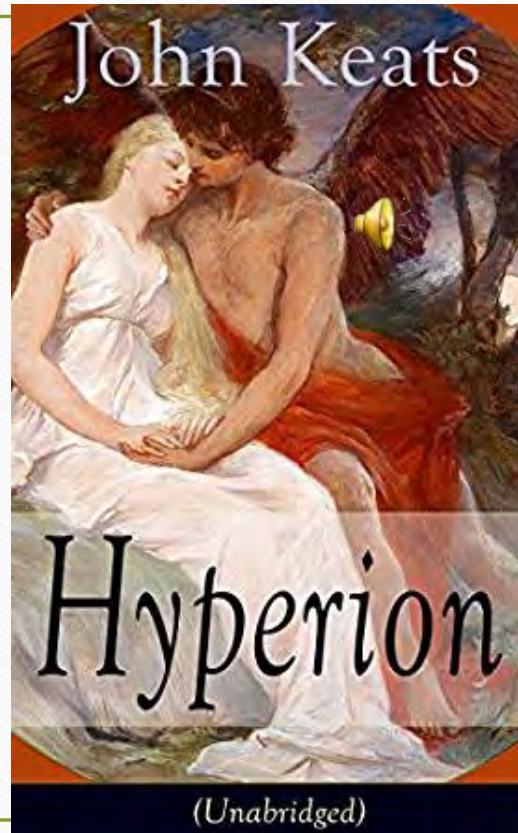
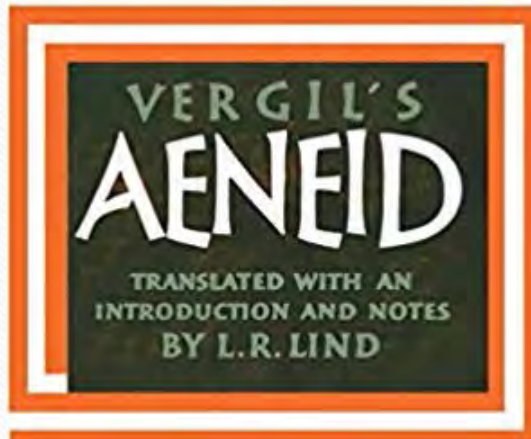
- Long narrative poem
- Great and serious subject
- Elevated style
- Centred on a heroic figure
- Grand action

# Types of Epics:

## Traditional Epics and Literary Epics



# Literary Epics



# CONVENTIONS

- \* *In media res*
- \* Argument
- \* Invocation
- \* Epic question
- \* Catalogs
- \* Formal - *aristoi*







---

His natural genius,  
scholarship, lofty  
thoughts and  
sublime style made  
Milton the right  
person to write an  
epic.







SIMPLYKNOWLEDGE

copyright simplyknowledge.com

SIMPLYKNOWLEDGE

copyright simplyknowledge.com

KNOWLEDGE

copyright simplyknowledge.com

SIMPLYKNOWLEDGE

copyright simplyknowledge.com

SIMPLYKNOWLEDGE





---

**Milton  
dictating to  
his daughters**







# Paradise Lost John Milton

Sing Heavenly Muse, that on the secret top  
Of Oreb, or of Sinai, didst inspire  
That shepherd, who first taught the chosen seed,  
In the beginning how the Heavens and Earth  
Rose out of Chaos: or if Sion hill  
Delight thee more, and Siloa's brook that flowed  
Fast by the oracle of God, I thence  
Invoke thy aid to my adventurous song...



# Fable



Fable is the story an epic is based on.

The story should have:

- One action
- Entire action
- Great action

# Theme of an Epic

The theme should be  
Probable and  
Marvellous.

- Grand
- Elevated
- Not unconvincing or improbable.







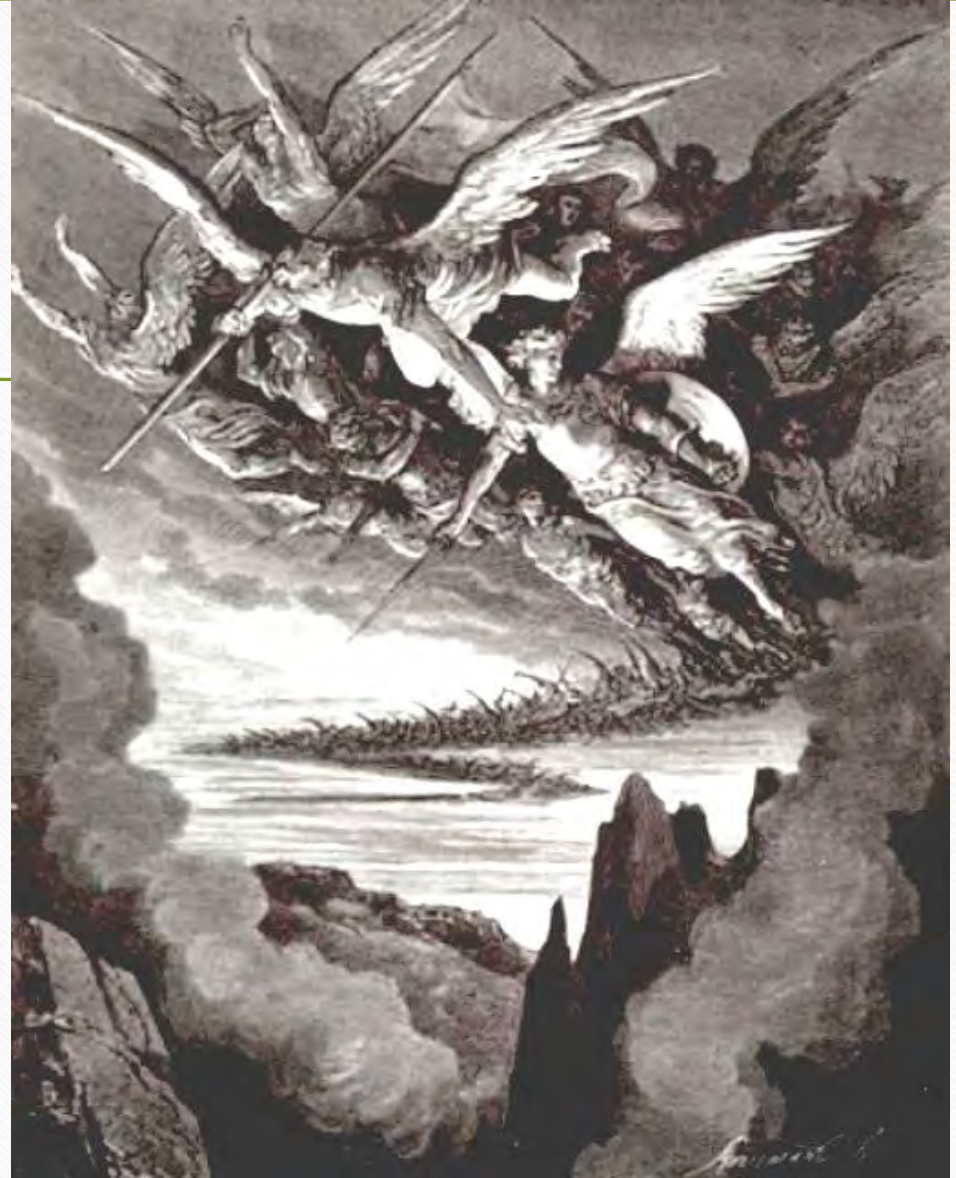
# Supernatural machinery and Episodes

THE DOWNFALL OF THE REBEL ANGELS

*Headlong themselves they threw  
Down from the verge of heaven: eternal wrath  
Burnt after them to the bottomless pit.*

---

**Integrity of Plot**  
**Sentiments**  
**Grand style**





Thank you

---

