



Rimbaud Complete (Modern Library Classics)

By Arthur Rimbaud

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Enduring icon of creativity, authenticity, and rebellion, and the subject of numerous new biographies, Arthur Rimbaud is one of the most repeatedly scrutinized literary figures of the last half-century. Yet almost thirty years have elapsed without a major new translation of his writings. Remediating this state of affairs is **Rimbaud Complete**, the first and only truly complete edition of Rimbaud's work in English, translated, edited, and introduced by Wyatt Mason.

Mason draws on a century of Rimbaud scholarship to choreograph a superbly clear-eyed presentation of the poet's works. He arranges Rimbaud's writing chronologically, based on the latest manuscript evidence, so readers can experience the famously teenaged poet's rapid evolution, from the lyricism of "*Sensation*" to the groundbreaking early modernism of *A Season in Hell*.

In fifty pages of previously untranslated material, including award-winning early verses, all the fragmentary poems, a fascinating early draft of *A Season in Hell*, a school notebook, and multiple manuscript versions of the important poem "*O saisons, ô châteaux*," **Rimbaud Complete** displays facets of the poet unknown to American readers. And in his Introduction, Mason revisits the Rimbaud myth, addresses the state of disarray in which the poet left his work, and illuminates the intricacies of the translator's art.

Mason has harnessed the precision and power of the poet's rapidly changing voice: from the delicate music of a poem such as "*Crows*" to the mature dissonance of the *Illuminations*, **Rimbaud Complete** unveils this essential poet for a new generation of readers.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

A brand-new translation and the only complete one.

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From [Booklist](#)

Rimbaud, the almost unbelievably gifted enfant terrible of nineteenth-century French poetry, goes in and out of poetic fashion regularly. Often his biography overwhelms his poems: stealing the older poet Paul Verlaine from his wife for a drug-and-drink-addled affair, all the while creating poems that would alter the course of French literature, only to give up literature at 19 and become a commercial traveler and gunrunner (see Graham Robb's excellent *Rimbaud*, 2000). He would be merely an oddity were it not that his poems are indeed splendid, including such nonpareil prose poems as the great sequences *Illuminations* and *A Season in Hell*. This useful volume includes all of the poetry as well as various letters that spell out Rimbaud's aesthetic. The translation is literal, to a fault when, too often, it becomes wooden. Furthermore, Mason generally keeps Rimbaud's rhyme schemes and other poetic devices but, inexplicably, not always. Still, the French originals appear in a big appendix, assuring that, despite its shortcomings, this is an important introduction of Rimbaud to another generation of readers. *Patricia Monaghan*
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Review

"The definitive translation for our time." —Edward Hirsch

"Wyatt Mason has located and tapped into Rimbaud's voice as it swings from gnarled to straight-ahead to mystic to raucous." —Roger Shattuck

"An important introduction of Rimbaud to another generation of readers." —*Booklist*

"The best opportunity thus far to experience Rimbaud as fully as possible in English. Here is Rimbaud uncensored: the savage maker, the scathing satirist, the rigorous Alchemist of the Word, the master of metrics and innovator of the prose poem, the figure who made himself absolutely modern, the poetic visionary whose work systematically disorders the senses and resonates with a strange beauty, an exultant splendor." —Edward Hirsch

"A welcome addition to the shelf of Rimbaud in English. Mason's tireless zeal and endless inventiveness compel unfailing admiration." —Arthur Goldhammer

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joey Leigh:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Rimbaud Complete (Modern Library

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