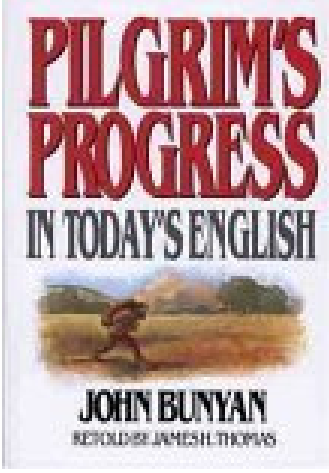


## The Pilgrim's Progress

Recommended by Ms Priscilla Ng

	<p>Author: John Bunyan</p> <p>Publisher: Oxford University Press</p> <p>Classification: Fiction</p>
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If translated into Chinese, this book title means “Journey along the Heavenly Road”. The story starts off with a dilemma the protagonist comes across, as one day he is awakened to the fact that he has been blindly leading a way to destruction all his life. He struggles to flee from his miserable destiny, but to no avail. Then there is suddenly a new way open up for him to be saved – to leave his homeland, treasures and even beloved ones behind and set out on a lifelong journey to an imperishable kingdom. *The Pilgrim's Progress* is very much about choosing the right way in the first place and persisting throughout the way by faith. As this journey is so characterized by difficulties, trials, dangers, and attacks, the story is also about making sacrifices in exchange for glory and peace eternal. The different ‘stops’, exciting encounters, and obstacles such as steep mountains, dark valleys, hidden pits and deep river all add a lot of spice to the story.

The author, John Bunyan, wrote this book while being kept in prison for his religious beliefs in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. He stayed in prison for 12 years. He stressed on the invisible reality versus the visible fade-aways. And as you read his work, you don't feel a single bit of sadness or complaints; it's full of life and hope and victory. *The Pilgrim's Progress* is famous worldwide for its allegory of life. Bunyan tells us that everyone is actually leading their life journeys forward. And he appeals to us to wake up to the two definite endings of mankind, and make a wise choice of way today.