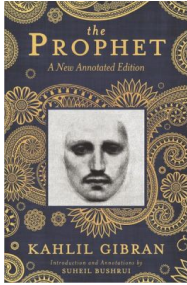


# Books by the Stack



## **The Prophet by Kahlil Gibran**

A collection of poetic essays that are philosophical, spiritual, and above all, inspirational. Gibran's musings cover such sprawling topics as love, marriage, children, giving, eating and drinking, work, joy and sorrow, housing, crime and punishment, laws, freedom, reason and passion, pain, self-knowledge, teaching, talking, time, good and evil, prayer, pleasure, beauty, religion, and death. [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

**Why you'll like it:** *Mystical. Christian. Profound. Subjective.*

**About the Author:** The Lebanese-American artist, poet, and author Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931) combined beauty and spirituality in philosophy. His best-known work, *The Prophet*, achieved a lasting popularity in the 1960s as countercultural guide, and his writings remain a staple of wedding and graduation rituals.

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. Is Lebanese or Arab patriotism discernable? What is Gibran's view of America? Is there a political dimension to his work?
2. Can you identify with any of the characters? Does Gibran want you to identify with them? Do you think somebody in Lebanon would feel closer or less close to them? Why?
3. What is the prophet's message? What is his vision of human relationships in society?
4. How, overall, does Almustafa rate his ministry to Orphalese?
5. Can Gibran's writing be classified as immigration literature or are there more universal themes at work here? Could it just be romantic idealism?
6. How does Almitra figure in *The Prophet*?
7. How does Almustafa view nudity?
8. How does Almustafa relate to cities?

9. What is the function of human labor?

10. What is God's function in *The Prophet*? Is God a creator, provider, or savior, or does God serve some other function?

11. Does Almustafa's enigmatic promise to return through reincarnation fit in with his teachings on human nature?



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