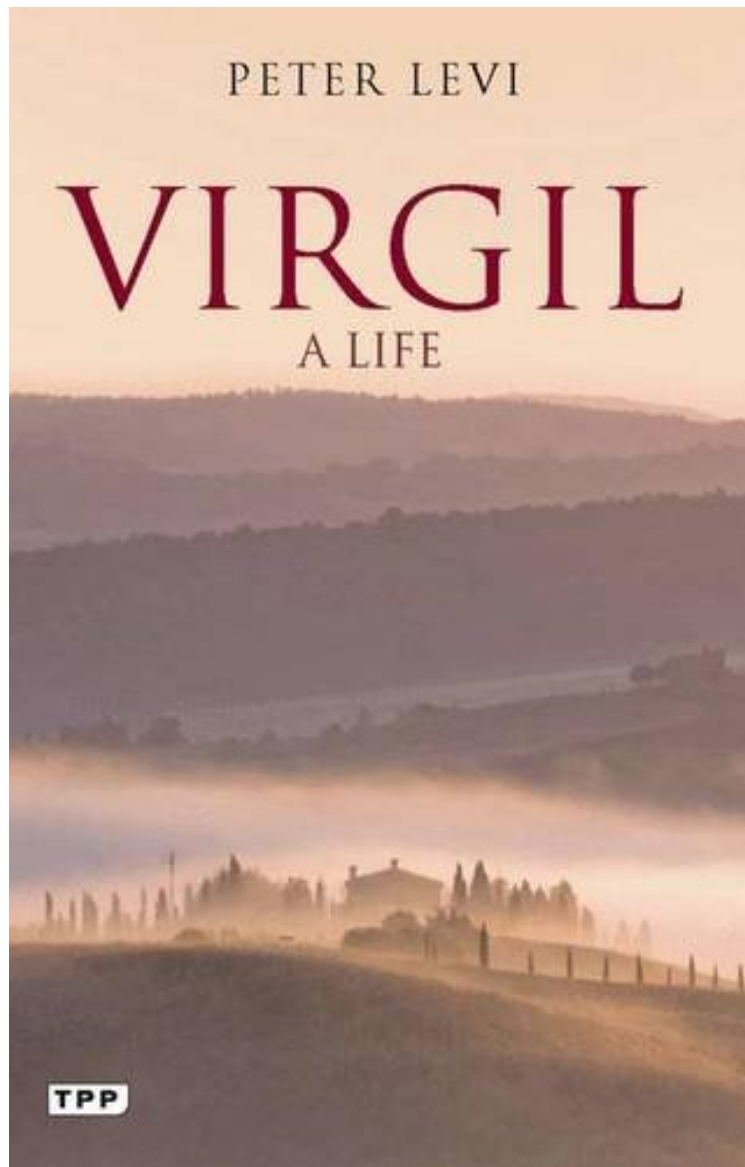


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Virgil: A Life (Understanding Classics)

Peter Levi

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Peter Levi : Virgil: A Life (Understanding Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Virgil: A Life (Understanding Classics):

Born in 70 BC, in a small village near Mantua, Publius Vergilius Maro Virgil grew up to be hailed as the greatest Roman poet. And although his work has influenced Western literature for two millennia, little is known about the man

himself. Who was the man who created the Aeneid one of the most important poems in Western literature and such universal phrases as love conquers all and fortune favors the bold? Peter Levi here reconstructs the poet's life, from a childhood largely shrouded in mystery to his work as a great literary genius and revolutionary poet, by examining archaeological and historical evidence from Augustan Rome, as well as through close readings of the poet's own work. Virgil is an intensely personal poet, yet he is anonymous . . . My aim is not so ambitious as to try and restore his prestige single-handed. It has simply been to try to understand him in his original context. In this highly acclaimed, now classic biography, Peter Levi discards the myths and brilliantly reveals the life of Virgil and the extraordinary times during which he lived.

'the lightness of touch Levi adds to his scholarship makes for a genial read"--Financial Times About the Author Peter Levi, FSA, FRSL, (1931-2000) was a poet, archaeologist, Jesuit priest, travel writer, scholar, biographer, and critic. Professor of Poetry at Oxford from 1984-89, Levi also worked for The Times (London), traveled with Bruce Chatwin in Afghanistan, and Leigh Fermor in Greece, and wrote over 60 highly acclaimed biographies and works of travel, including *The Light Garden of the Angel King*.