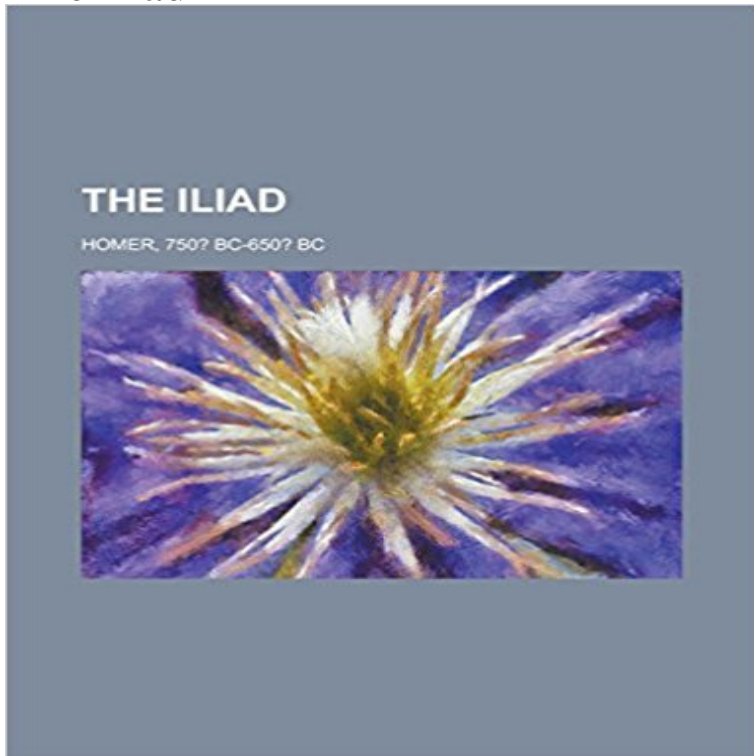


# The Iliad



Excerpt: ...spear; Himself he reachd not, all in dazzling brass Encas'd; but pressing on his bossy shield Drove by main force beyond where lay the dead: Them both the Greeks withdrew; th Athenian chiefs Stychius and brave Menestheus, bore away Amid the ranks of Greece Amphimachus; While, as two lions high above the ground Bear through the brushwood in their jaws a goat, Snatchd from the sharp-fangd dogs protecting care: So, filld with warlike rage, th Ajaces twain Lifted on high, and of its armour strippd The corpse of Imbrius; and Oileus son, Grievd at Amphimachus, his comrades death, Cut from the tender neck, and like a ball Sent whirling through the crowd the severd head; And in the dust at Hectors feet it fell. Then, for his grandson slain, fierce anger filld The breast of Neptune; through the tents of Greece And ships he passd, the Greeks encouraging, And ills preparing for the sons of Troy. Him met Idomeneus, the warrior King, Leaving a comrade, from the battle field, Wounded behind the knee, but newly brought; Borne by his comrades, to the leechs care He left him, eager to rejoin the fray; Whom by his tent th Earth-shaking God addressd, The voice assuming of Andraemons son, Who oer th AEtolians, as a God reverd, In Pleuron reignd, and lofty Calydon: Where now, Idomeneus, sage Cretan chief, Are all the vaunting threats, so freely pourd Against the Trojans by the sons of Greece? To whom the Cretan King, Idomeneus: Thoas, on none, so far as I may judge, May blame be cast; we all our duties know; Nor see I one by heartless fear restraind, Nor hanging back, and flinching from the war: Yet by th oerruling will of Saturns son It seems decreed that here the Greeks should fall, And far from Argos lie in nameless graves. But, Thoas, as thyself art ever staunch, Nor slow the laggards to reprove, thy work Remit not now; but rouse each sevrall man. To whom Earth-shaking Neptune thus replied:

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