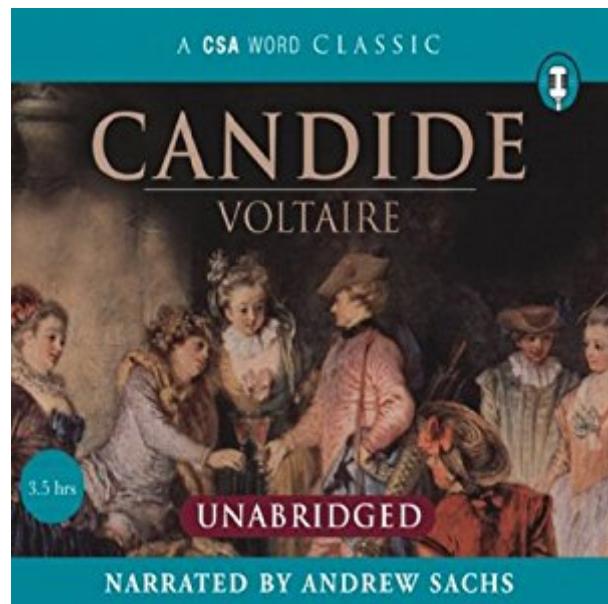


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# Candide



## **Synopsis**

From the landscapes of El Dorado to Constantinople, this is a tale of unending adventures and escapades. That optimism is not always the key to life's problems is elucidated. A tale of love amalgamated with suffering, sacrifice and pain. Captivating! --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 3 hours and 38 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: CSA Word

Audible.com Release Date: January 29, 2008

Language: English

ASIN: B0013BZXS4

Best Sellers Rank: #183 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > European > French #266 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Literary Collections #289 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Literary Criticism

## **Customer Reviews**

Ever since philosophers began thinking about the meaning of life, a favorite question has been "Why do bad things happen to good people?". In Voltaire's day, this issue was primarily pursued either from the perspective of faith (everything that happens is God's will and must be for Divine purpose) or of reason (What do these events mean to you, as you interpret them subjectively?). Infuriated by the reaction by some members of the church to a horrible loss of life from an earthquake in Lisbon, Voltaire wrote this hard-biting satire of the human condition to explore these questions. Before reading further, let me share a word of caution. This book is filled with human atrocities of the most gruesome sort. Anything that you can imagine could occur in war, an Inquisition, or during piracy happens in this book. If you find such matters distressing (as many will, and more should), this book will be unpleasant reading. You should find another book to read. The book begins as Candide is raised in the household of a minor noble family in Westphalia, where he is educated by Dr. Pangloss, a student of metaphysical questions. Pangloss believes that this is the best of all possible worlds and deeply ingrains that view into his pupil. Candide is buoyed by that

thought as he encounters many setbacks in the course of the book as he travels through many parts of Europe, Turkey, and South America. All is well for Candide until he falls in love with the Baron's daughter and is caught kissing her hand by the Baron. The Baron immediately kicks Candide out of the castle (literally on the backside), and Candide's wanderings begin. Think of this as being like expulsion from the Garden of Eden for Adam.

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