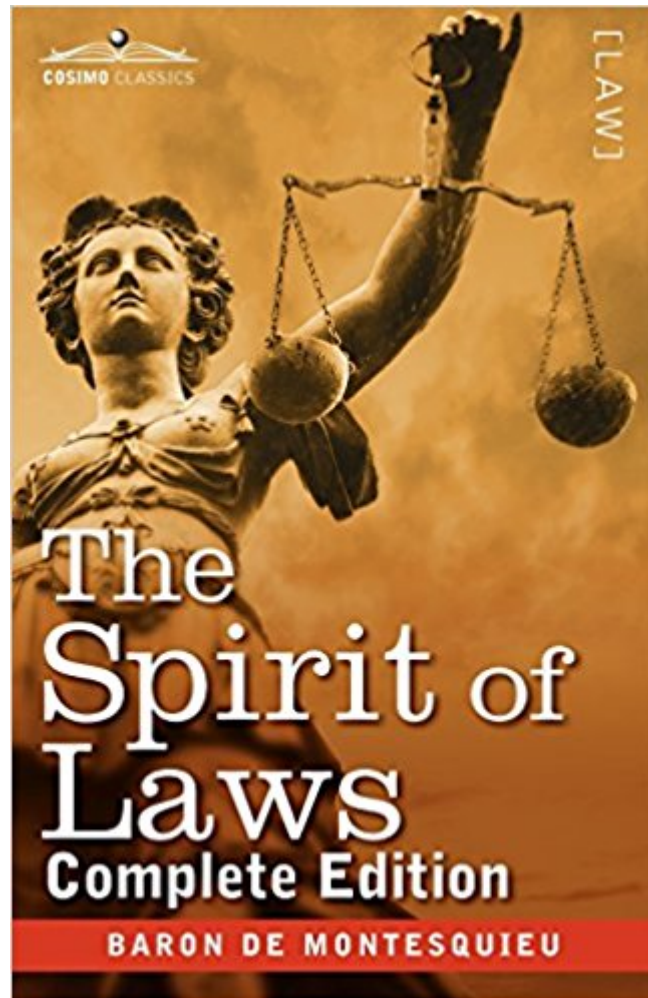




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The Spirit Of Laws



Synopsis

The Spirit of Laws, first published in 1750, is a detailed treatise on the structures and theory of government by French political philosopher Baron de Montesquieu. Unlike his well-loved Persian Letters, The Spirit of Laws scandalized the French—it was even banned by the Roman Catholic Church. The fact that it is hardly dated to modern readers is a testament to how revolutionary it must have seemed 250 years ago. Among its comparisons of different forms of governments, such as monarchies, despotic regimes, and republics, is the now-famous section on Montesquieu's concept of the separation of powers, dividing the ruling body into legislative, executive, and judicial branches. Also included is the author's thinking on slavery, religion in government, families and censuses, the influence of climate on politics and culture, and the making of laws. A powerful influence on the framers of the U.S. Constitution, this classic work will appeal to history buffs and anyone interested in the roots of modern political theory and government. CHARLES-LOUIS DE SECONDAT, BARON DE MONTESQUIEU (1689-1755), born in the South of France and often known simply as Montesquieu, was a political philosopher and social commentator known for his influential political views, especially for his "separation of power" theory, still used today in constitutions around the world. Some of his best-known work, the satirical Persian Letters, which made fun of life in Paris under Louis XIV, delighted France in the 1720s.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: French --This text refers to an alternate Paperback

edition.

Baron de Montesquieu (1689-1755) was a French jurist, satirist, and political and social philosopher during the Enlightenment. His most well-known work, *The Spirit of Laws*, profoundly influenced European and American political thought and was relied on by the framers of the US Constitution. Wanda McCaddon (a.k.a. Nadia May or Donada Peters) has narrated well over six hundred titles for major audiobook publishers, has earned numerous Earphones Awards, and was named a Golden Voice by AudioFile magazine. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

I purchased this very important book as an MP3 audiobook and I can honestly say that on such an important book as this the choice of Wanda McCaddon to narrate this book was a very big mistake. I am not alone in my views when I say that this woman has been the most difficult narrator I have ever had to listen to. Her voice is whining, irritating and penetrating and I was astonished to read that she has narrated well over six hundred titles for major book audio publishers. I so wish to continue listening to this MP3 audiobook, but the narrator is making it extremely difficult for me to achieve this, more than five minutes at a time make this listening project very painful. Tragically this set contains two MP3's which means one has to listen to this terrible narrator for at least 22 and half hours. I contacted Blackstone audio with regards to this issue, advising them to listen and at least provide their opinion, but I have had no response. Guess they do not care. It would have been much better read by a man, or anybody other than Wanda. Very disappointing. Wanda obviously can pronounce the most difficult of names easily but her narration sends one into insanity.

Montesquieu was one of the great philosophers who impacted the writings of the US Constitution and bill of rights for separation of powers; without separation of powers there would be tyranny. Really love this book...great for research and better understanding of Montesquieu.

I hadn't realized that this was a facsimile of the original (not sure if that was posted or not). Regardless, this is a beautiful book and the old English print is something that takes some time to get used to, but well worth it in the end. Seems more original and "pure" without some academic bloviating with his introduction.

Montesquieu give a decent view of the law that many of the founding fathers would have been familiar with. Therefore, I find it to be good reference material.

This was a gift for a friend. They enjoyed it very much.

everyone needs to read this book.

I am only using this publication for research and find it most helpful.

A have-to-read classic.

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