

THOMAS HOBBES LEVIATHAN

Read by **Peter Wickham**

Born out of the political turmoil of the English Civil War, *Leviathan* stands out as one of the most influential political and philosophical texts of the 17th century. It argues for the restoration of the monarchy, in light of the Republic, and calls for a commonwealth ruled by an authoritative, autocratic figure with absolute sovereignty. This would put an end to all controversy, war and fear, and establish peace via social contract. Over the course of the book Hobbes targets Christianity and contemporary philosophic methods, rejecting the idea of spirits and souls, and arguing for a philosophy to end divisiveness and provide indisputable conclusions. These highly controversial theses led to book burnings in 1666 and Hobbes being dubbed the 'Monster of Malmsbury'.



Peter Wickham has worked as an actor in the West End, and in theatres all over the UK and abroad. He has performed in television and film, and has written a successful series of introductions to Shakespeare for the BBC World Service. He was a member of the BBC Radio Drama Company, where reading short stories and serials started his audiobook career.

To download the accompanying booklet, please visit this url: n-ab.com/leviathan

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