

Henry David Thoreau

Walden

Civil Disobedience

Read by **Rupert Degas**

*'If a man does not keep pace with his companions,
perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer.'*

In 1845 Henry David Thoreau, one of the principal New England Transcendentalists, left the small town of Concord for the country. Beside the lake of Walden he built himself a log cabin and returned to nature, to observe and reflect – while surviving on eight dollars a year. From this experience emerged *Walden*, one of the great classics of American literature, and a deeply personal reaction against the commercialism and materialism that Thoreau saw as the main impulses of mid-19th-century America.

Here also is *Civil Disobedience*, Thoreau's essay on just resistance to government which not only challenged the establishment of his day but has been used as a flag for later campaigners from Mahatma Ghandi to Dr Martin Luther King.



Rupert Degas has read a substantial list of books for Naxos AudioBooks, notably Murakami's *A Wild Sheep Chase* and *The Wind-up Bird Chronicle*, Kafka's *The Trial*, Cormac McCarthy's *The Road* and Tom McNab's *Flanagan's Run*.

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