

## Bartleby and Benito Cereno (Paperback)

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### Reviews

*Certainly, this is the very best work by any writer. It is loaded with knowledge and wisdom I am just quickly will get a satisfaction of reading through a created publication. (Donavon Okuneva)* 

#### **BARTLEBY AND BENITO CERENO (PAPERBACK)**



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Readaclassic.com, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 224 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Two memorable and stirring works-first written as magazine pieces and later published in The Piazza Tales. Bartleby, (also called Bartleby the Scrivener ) is a haunting moral allegory set in the business world of 19th-century New York. Benito Cereno, a harrowing tale of slavery and revolt aboard a Spanish ship, is regarded by many as Melville s finest short story. While the tales of Bartleby and Benito Cereno are very different, they share something (besides authorship) in common: both are deep and acute penetrations into the human psyche. In Benito Cereno, Melville told his story through Captain Delano. Readers, who know only what Delano knows, soon find themselves sharing his confusion and amazement at the strange facts he observes, not to mention his vacillations, speculations and changes of opinion about the disconcerting behavior of Captain Benito Cereno. Bartleby the scrivener follows a technique similar to that of Benito Cereno, but within a very different context and plot. Narrated by a good-hearted and charitable Wall Street lawyer who hires a young and silent man as a copyist (that is, before Xerox, the guy who made manual copies of legal documents), Bartleby sets to do his work, copying page after page, but he refuses to do anything else, with the words: I would rather not as an answer to every order, instruction or request to do something. Tenaciously, Bartleby resists any action. It s a pathological portrait of indifference and apathy, taken to the extreme. As in Benito Cereno, readers receive no additional explanations or background to his behavior and find themselves, like Bartleby s boss, confounded. Melville invites us to witness a unique unique form of behavior and attitude...

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