

## What happens in *Paradise Lost*

**Note:** square brackets indicate that events are narrated *retrospectively* in this book although they have happened at some other time.

<b>Book</b>	<b>Chronology of Events</b>
[V]	1. God announces that the Son will be head of all the Angels.
[V]	2. Satan leads his angels into rebellion.
[VI]	3. War in Heaven; the rebel angels are cast down into hell.
[VII, VIII, IV]	4. God creates the world, Adam, and Eve; humans are intended eventually to replace the lost Angels.
I-II	5. The rebel angels plot their next move; Satan leaves hell.
III	6. God sees Satan, and foretells that he will successfully tempt Adam and Eve; the Son offers to save humanity.
IV	7. Satan reconnoiters Eden; Eve tells Adam about her creation (4); Satan tempts Eve in a dream.
V	8. Eve tells her dream to Adam; Raphael is sent by God to warn Adam and Eve, and relates the events of 1 and 2.
VI	Raphael relates the events of 3.
VII	Raphael relates the creation of the world in 4.
VIII	Raphael and Adam discuss planetary motion and marriage; Adam describes his own creation (4).
IX	9. Satan enters the body of a serpent and tempts Eve; first she, then Adam succumb.
X	10. The effects of original sin become evident; Adam and Eve wonder what to do.
XI-XII	11. Michael gives Adam and Eve a preview of history before leading them out of Eden.

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

21L.705 Major Authors: John Milton  
Spring 2008

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.