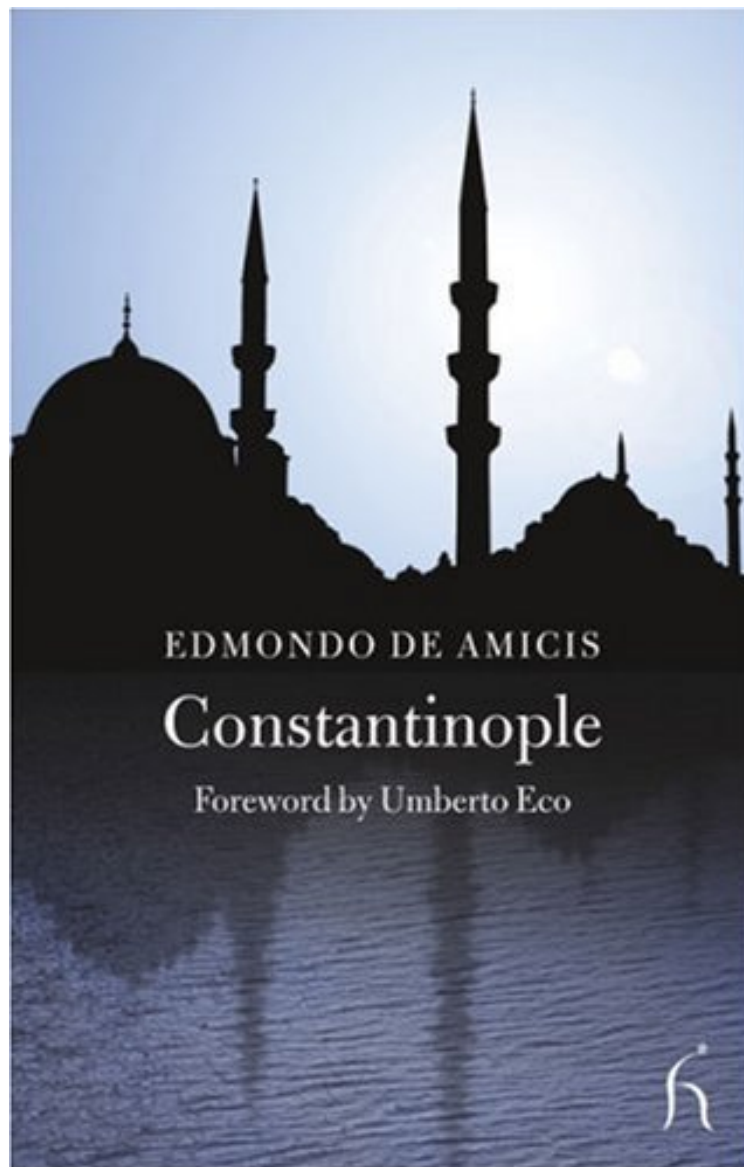


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Constantinople (Hesperus Classics)

Edmondo de Amicis

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Here in its first English translation, Constantinople is one of the most evocative accounts ever written about an exotic

city. With a Foreword by Umberto Eco. *Journeying to Constantinople by boat*, Edmondo de Amicis is initially dismayed to discover that his first glimpse of this much-awaited city will be one obscured and distorted by fog. Yet as they travel nearer, he comes to appreciate that this slow "unveiling" with rooftops, domes, and minarets revealed one by one, in fact, perhaps the best introduction to the city he could wish for. As he moves around this most cosmopolitan of cities, he sees Greeks side by side with Turks, Armenians with Gypsies, and Catholics with Jews, and comes to a new understanding of the patchwork nature of life. Italian poet, novelist, and travel writer Edmondo de Amicis (1846-1908) is best known for his children's story, *Cuore*.

"An impressively chosen list." -- Simon Schama
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