**Milton’s Paradise Lost synopsis**

The story of Adam and Eve's temptation and fall is a fundamentally different, new kind of epic: a domestic one. Adam and Eve are presented for the first time[[*citation needed*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)] in Christian literature as having a full relationship while still being without [sin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sin). They have passions and distinct personalities. Satan, disguised in the form of a serpent, successfully tempts Eve to eat from the Tree by preying on her vanity and tricking her with [rhetoric](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhetoric). Adam, learning that Eve has sinned, knowingly commits the same sin. He declares to Eve that since she was made from his flesh, they are bound to one another so that if she dies, he must also die. In this manner, Milton portrays Adam as a [heroic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heroic) figure, but also as a greater sinner than Eve, as he is aware that what he is doing is wrong.

After eating the fruit, at first, Adam is convinced that Eve was right in thinking that eating the fruit would be beneficial. However, they soon fall asleep and have terrible nightmares, and after they awake, they experience [guilt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guilt_(emotion)) and [shame](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shame) for the first time. Realizing that they have committed a terrible act against God, they engage in mutual recrimination.

Eve's pleas to Adam reconcile them somewhat. Her encouragement enables Adam and Eve both to approach God, to "bow and sue for grace with suppliant knee", and to receive grace from God. Adam is shown a vision by the angel Michael, in which Adam witnesses everything that will happen to mankind until the [Great Flood](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flood_myth). Adam is very upset by this vision of humankind's future, and so Michael also tells him about humankind's potential redemption from original sin through [Jesus Christ](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus) (whom Michael calls "King Messiah").

Adam and Eve are cast out of Eden, and Michael says that Adam may find "a paradise within thee, happier far". Adam and Eve also now have a more distant relationship with God, who is omnipresent but invisible (unlike the tangible Father in the [Garden of Eden](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garden_of_Eden)).