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Greek Tragedies, Volume 3



Synopsis

In three paperback volumes, the Grene and Lattimore editions offer a selection of the most important and characteristic plays of Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides from the nine-volume anthology of The Complete Greek Tragedies. Over the years these authoritative, critically acclaimed editions have been the preferred choice of more than three million readers for personal libraries and individual study as well as for classroom use.

Book Information

Series: Greek Tragedies (Book 3)

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: University of Chicago Press; 2 edition (February 15, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226307913

ISBN-13: 978-0226307916

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #476,635 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Dramas & Plays > Medieval #64 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Dramas & Plays > Tragedy #160 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Ancient & Medieval Literature > Greek

Customer Reviews

If you're a fan of the culture and/or literature of Ancient Greece, then this book is pretty much a must-read. It has five of the greatest surviving Greek tragedies from three of the most famous playwrights of the ancient world. More than that, the translations are superb and the notes, when needed to be included, are quite helpful, resulting in some of the best versions of these works that can be found anywhere. For those unfamiliar, I can also say that the stories are truly good in their own right, even all these centuries after they were written.

"The Greek Tragedies" is a compelling read. Translators Richmond Lattimore, David Grene, and William Arrowsmith bring the ancient world to life. Lattimore, whose translation of The Iliad of Homer (translated and introduction by Richmond Lattimore) is one of the authoritative, also brings Aeschylus' tragedy of matricide, revenge, and justice to life. Aeschylus foreshadows the deus ex machina of Euripides, since Apollo is a major character in "Eumenides." It's a visceral tragedy.

Sophocles' "Philoctetes" is more reflective. It's about Philoctetes reclaiming his place in society. Wounded, living as an exile, Odysseus and Neoptolemus (Achilles' son) try to bring Philoctetes back to his rightful place. It's a celebration of the natural world, as well as reflections on old age (it is repeated in Sophocles' "Oedipus at Colonus") Finally, there is the powerful "Bacchae." Arrowsmith's translation perfectly captures the impassioned nature of the play. The repressed, prudish Pentheus finds himself confronted with the wildness of Dionysus, who wants to be affirmed as a god. "Bacchae" is surprisingly contemporary. Pentheus' hatred of the wild side of his own humanity- his embarrassment over his own family- leads him headlong to destruction. "The Greek Tragedies" brings the classics to life.

first i want to say thank you for sending me this book, when i read this book, i was taking a course about the grecolatin culture specially the myths and more, i received the book in an excellent condition, and the best was, it arrived before the course started.thanks a lot.

A teacher suggested it to me since English is not my main language. It was good finding such an enjoyable and comprehensible translation.

I have all the parts of this set and I kept them long after my classes ended. Worth buying and worth keeping for later reference.

I needed to read this for a class and have to say it's a Great classic work. Well worth reading this.

very interesting to read and understand how certain myths never changed throughout history!!!

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