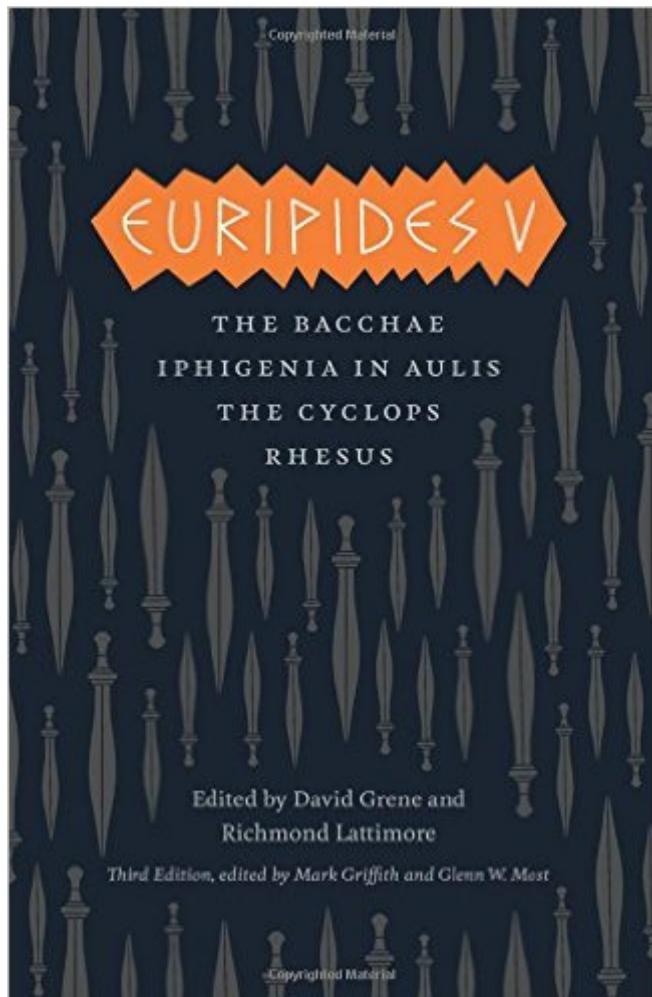


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Euripides V: Bacchae, Iphigenia In Aulis, The Cyclops, Rhesus (The Complete Greek Tragedies)



Synopsis

Euripides V includes the plays *œThe Bacchae,â* • translated by William Arrowsmith; *œelphigenia in Aulis,â* • translated by Charles R. Walker; *œThe Cyclops,â* • translated by William Arrowsmith; and *œRhesus,â* • translated by Richmond Lattimore. Sixty years ago, the University of Chicago Press undertook a momentous project: a new translation of the Greek tragedies that would be the ultimate resource for teachers, students, and readers. They succeeded. Under the expert management of eminent classicists David Grene and Richmond Lattimore, those translations combined accuracy, poetic immediacy, and clarity of presentation to render the surviving masterpieces of Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides in an English so lively and compelling that they remain the standard translations. Today, Chicago is taking pains to ensure that our Greek tragedies remain the leading English-language versions throughout the twenty-first century. In this highly anticipated third edition, Mark Griffith and Glenn W. Most have carefully updated the translations to bring them even closer to the ancient Greek while retaining the vibrancy for which our English versions are famous. This edition also includes brand-new translations of Euripidesâ™ *Medea*, *The Children of Heracles*, *Andromache*, and *Iphigenia among the Taurians*, fragments of lost plays by Aeschylus, and the surviving portion of Sophoclesâ™s satyr-drama *The Trackers*. New introductions for each play offer essential information about its first production, plot, and reception in antiquity and beyond. In addition, each volume includes an introduction to the life and work of its tragedian, as well as notes addressing textual uncertainties and a glossary of names and places mentioned in the plays. In addition to the new content, the volumes have been reorganized both within and between volumes to reflect the most up-to-date scholarship on the order in which the plays were originally written. The result is a set of handsome paperbacks destined to introduce new generations of readers to these foundational works of Western drama, art, and life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I guess I'm a prole, but I liked this much better than Aeschylus because the pace is better, the story is leaner and tighter, and it's not stuffy. It gives considerable insight into the lunacy ancient Greeks were driven to by their worship of cruel, infantile false gods. Don't look for depth here. There is no complexity. It's about like an episode of The Andy Griffith Show or Barney Miller. In fact, you could pretty much take the play as-is and turn it into a short TV movie anyone could understand.

This edition of the presented four plays sets the gold standard for Euripedes translations. Personally, I consider Iphigenia in Aulis and Bacchae are the gems in this volume, though Rhesus and the Cyclops are included (and worthwhile for scholarly reasons). Bacchae is a steadily escalating pressure-cooker of a play, from its opening to its maddening climax (the rewards of impiety in the classical world are often brutal, see Capaneus, but denying a god's divinity to their face is courting disaster). Iphigenia in Aulis is a beautiful, yet sadly altered, story of the sacrifice of Agamemnon's daughter, required to get the Black Ships underway to their army's destiny at Troy. This sacrifice sets Clytemnestra's hatred for her husband boiling, leading to the events of the Oresteia when he returns. It leads to Achilles' disdain for the Atreides, shown further in the Iliad. It shows Menelaus and Agamemnon at loggerheads, and how tenuous Agamemnon's grip over the army is and will remain. Unfortunately, we do not have the entirety of Euripedes' plays, what we do have is a good sampling of some of the best. This is not the first volume I would purchase of Euripedes (as Medea is my favorite of his), this has two of his best and shows his mastery of dramatic tension.

Purchased this book for my theater class and this version of translation was awesome and easy to read. Like the fact that line numbers are listed so it becomes easy to follow up. I also like the huge twist in the plot of Bacchae - it is a must read Greek tragedy and I would love to see it performed on stage.

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