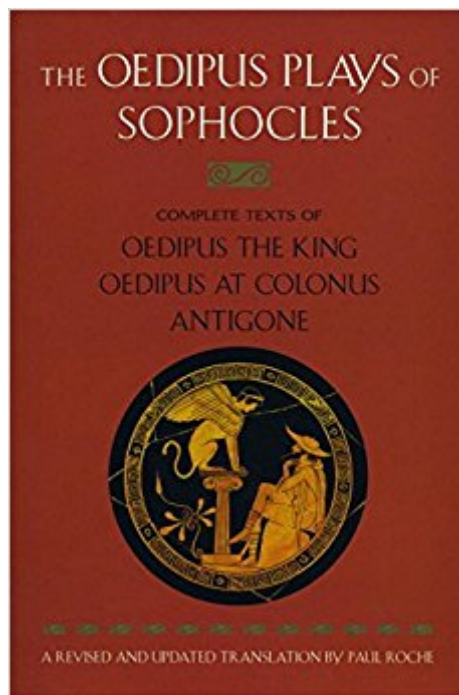


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The Oedipus Plays Of Sophocles: Oedipus The King; Oedipus At Colonus; Antigone



Synopsis

Revising and updating his classic 1958 translation, Paul Roche captures the dramatic power and intensity, the subtleties of meaning, and the explosive emotions of Sophocles' great Theban trilogy. In vivid, poetic language, he presents the timeless story of a noble family moving toward catastrophe, dragged down from wealth and power by pride, cursed with incest, suicide, and murder.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sophocles was born at Colonus, just outside Athens, in 496 BC, and lived ninety years. His long life spanned the rise and decline of the Athenian Empire; he was a friend of Pericles, and though not an active politician he held several public offices, both military and civil. The leader of a literary circle and friend of Herodotus, he was interested in poetic theory as well as practice, and he wrote a prose treatise *On the Chorus*. He seems to have been content to spend all his life at Athens, and is said to have refused several invitations to royal courts. Sophocles first won a prize for tragic drama in 468, defeating the veteran Aeschylus. He wrote over a hundred plays for the Athenian theater, and is said to have come first in twenty-four contests. Only seven of his tragedies are now extant, these being *Ajax*, *Antigone*, *Oedipus the King*, *Women of Trachis*, *Electra*, *Philoctetes*, and the posthumous *Oedipus at Colonus*. A substantial part of *The Searchers*, a satyr play, was recovered from papyri in Egypt in modern times. Fragments of other plays remain, showing that he drew on a wide range of themes; he also introduced the innovation of a third actor in his tragedies. He died in

406 BC. Paul Roche, a distinguished English poet and translator, is the author of *The Bible's Greatest Stories*. His other translations include *Euripides: Ten Plays* (Signet), *Oedipus Plays of Sophocles* (Meridian) and *The Orestes Plays of Aeschylus* (Meridian).

Not for everyone, but two thumbs up

Can't beat free

Came as expected and on time

As someone else has pointed out this is NOT the Paul Roche translation of *The Oedipus Plays of Sophocles* - shame on you for advertising this awful version with the front cover of the Roche translation! If you haven't read the Roche version, do so, and you will understand my disappointment. Now that I've got over that rant, the format of this electronic version is atrocious. It's almost as if someone took a versified form of the play and smushed it into paragraphs. The beginning passage reads like: "OEDIPUS My children, latest born to Cadmus old, Why sit ye here as suppliants, in your hands Branches of olive filleted with wool? What means this reek of incense everywhere, And everywhere laments and litanies? Children, it were not meet that I should learn From others" It goes on-and on. Notice the incorrect capitalization (Branches, And, From) and you will understand my distress at the copy-editing. The Paul Roche version (from the paperback version) reads: OEDIPUS My children, scions of the ancient Cadmean line, what s the meaning of this thronging round my feet, this holding out of olive boughs all wreathed in woe? The city droops with elegiac sound and hymns with palls of incense hang ... Compare the two translations and you will see the better translation that Roche does.

This is a gorgeous translation of the Oedipus plays! I love it a lot and keep going back to it!

average tragic greek novel.

Great for school

gud product !

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