



Greek Tragedies, Vol. 2: Aeschylus: The Libation Bearers; Sophocles: Electra; Euripides: Iphigenia in Tauris, Electra, The Trojan Women

David Grene (Editor, Translator) , David Grene (Editor, Translator) , Aeschylus , Sophocles , Euripides

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What a bizarre take on the Electra story. There are elements of what is to come in the Aeschylus telling, but the action in this Electra is very earth-bound and intensely mundane. The murders of Aegisthus and Clytemnestra are not couched in the epic diction of the other tragedians. Electra's situation is homespun and not tragic like in Sophocles or even Hoffmannsthal.

The bizarre take on legend that you would expect from Euripides.

Calvin says

Took me a bit too get through them, even in translation it was difficult to understand at point. Probably because there were really characters and the chorus had most of the lines

Nora says

I love greek myths, its like a soap opera but with singing choruses.

Bill V says

I enjoyed the book. All the plays are short reads without too many characters. It's good to see that Greek mythology has contradictions and inconsistencies. The best example of this would be Odysseus, who is depicted as noble, clever, valorous and brave in the Odyssey yet cruel in The Trojan Women play. Even within the collection, characters such as Orestes have some differences in what they do or say.

Andy Biggs says

five plays

Aeschylus: The Libation Bearers

Sophocles: Electra

Euripides: Iphigenia in Tauris

Euripides: Electra

Euripides: The Trojan Women

Barbara says

I'm sticking with the on-line Ian Johnston translation of the Oresteia, in this case The Libation Bearers.... It was short and quick; direct. Definitely a middle to a story.

Amy says

If you have thought Shakespeare is a must read for everyone, than I think you would agree that these Three Playwrights must also be read. I am surprised how relevant I found them to be. Euripides was especially a surprise for me. Known as a misogynist, I found him to be the first feminist writer. His woman are round, powerful, and often evil. But more importantly he delineates the female plight in his culture. I loved much of his work.
