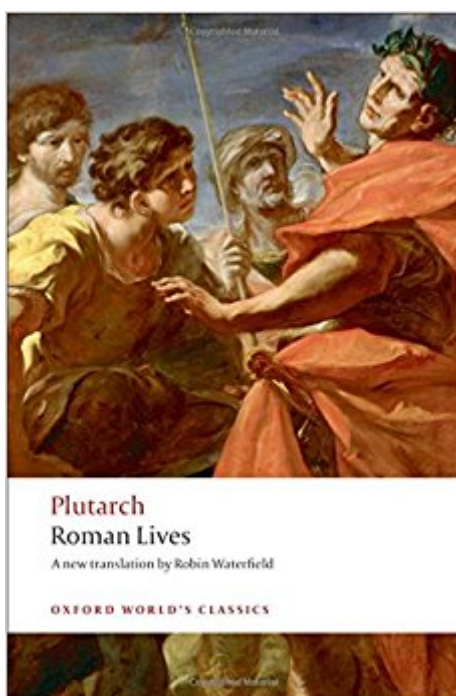


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Roman Lives: A Selection Of Eight Roman Lives (Oxford World's Classics)



Synopsis

'I treat the narrative of the Lives as a kind of mirror...The experience is like nothing so much as spending time in their company and living with them: I receive and welcome each of them in turn as my guest.' In the eight lives of this collection Plutarch introduces the reader to the major figures and periods of classical Rome. He portrays virtues to be emulated and vices to be avoided, but his purpose is also implicitly to educate and warn those in his own day who wielded power. In prose that is rich, elegant and sprinkled with learned references, he explores with an extraordinary degree of insight the interplay of character and political action. While drawing chiefly on historical sources, he brings to biography a natural story-teller's ear for a good anecdote. Throughout the ages Plutarch's Lives have been valued for their historical value and their charm. This new translation will introduce new generations to his urbane erudition. The most comprehensive selection available, it is accompanied by a lucid introduction, explanatory notes, bibliographies, maps and indexes. About the Series: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the broadest spectrum of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, voluminous notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

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Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Greek --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Philip A Stadter is Falk Professor in the Humanities at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

This is a very easy to read translation of Plutarch's classic work. Nice cover. Clear printing. Well bound. If you haven't read these short works on the Greeks and Romans, you should. There is much to learn from their triumphs and their failures. For future leaders, scholars and politicians, much can be learned from those who came before. Recommended. (As well as, Greek Lives)

Fine translation; good introductions; excellent notes & bibliographies.

Simply the single best translation of Plutarch that I've ever read. Highly readable and recommended.

All as expected!

College text

Great Classic

Needed this book for class

This is the best single translation of Plutarch I've seen to date. Waterfield's selection of lives traces the final years of the Roman Republic very well. My only complaint is that Waterfield's edition excludes some major Roman lives -- Brutus, Cicero, Cato the Younger, to name a few. Plutarch writes history as a tale, which is why "Roman Lives" will appeal to fiction lovers and historians alike. The battles are well told, especially Caesar & Pompey's. To this reviewer's mind, Aumilius Paullus is the most noble of all, while Antony is the worst. But the greatest life of all, no doubt, is Caesar. The life of Caesar (read along with those of Pompey and Marc Antony) are the richest depiction of the "lust to dominate" imaginable. Caesar is genuinely admirable, remarkable in every way, and Plutarch kind of likes him. But he is Rome incarnate, for good or ill.

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