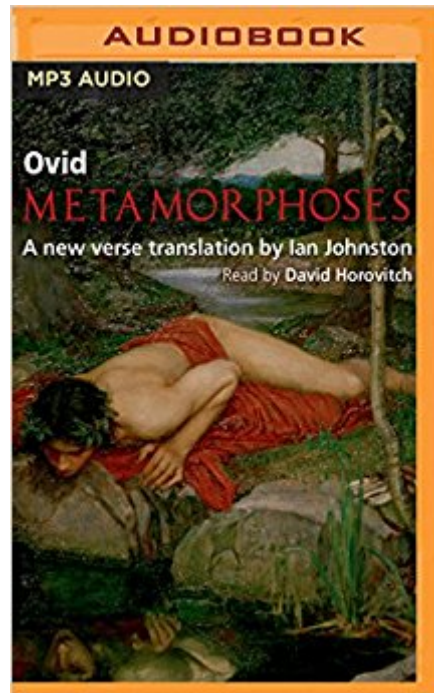


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Metamorphoses



Synopsis

The *Metamorphoses*, by Publius Ovidius Naso (43 BC - AD 17) has, over the centuries, been the most popular and influential work from our classical tradition. This extraordinary collection of some 250 Greek and Roman myths and folk tales has always been a popular favourite and has decisively shaped western art and literature from the moment it was completed in AD 8. The stories are particularly vivid when read by David Horovitch in this new lively verse translation by Ian Johnston.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'This translation will quickly establish itself as the translation for English speaking readers and students of this great Augustan epic.' Dr A.H.F. Griffin, University of Exeter 'a work of the highest quality which provides pleasure and information in generous measure.' JACT Review --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Tractor historian Ian M. Johnston is the author of three books, including *Agricultural Tractors*. He was born in Edinburgh in 1935. In the late 1960s, he was the General Manager of Cumberland Tractors Pty Ltd, one of the largest Massey Ferguson dealerships. In retirement, he has continued his research, writing and broadcasting with regional radio.

Am glad to have this as a Kindle edition of Ovid's telling of ancient myths. Currently (Summer, 2013) am engaged in an online discussion of these myths. Am complimenting Martin's translation with two others, one in prose and the other by Mandelbaum -- which I rather prefer to Martin for the rendering

of the poetry. Seldom can any one translation of an ancient language or document be sufficient to render meaning into terms adequate both to the original author and the modern reader; one can be grateful when time and translations are adequate and available to explore alternatives.

Great story telling from the Ancient Greco-Roman era told by Ovid from how the world began to when Augustus reigned all with a moral or a "transformation" in the end when the characters offended the gods or the gods took pity, or showed their loved to mankind. Why we frogs, certain birds spiders, trees, flowers. You know it's not true however Ovid's storytelling is so entertaining it makes you wonder..is it? Must read for everyone at some point in your life. Highly enjoyed!

I read a very standard translation of the Metamorphoses in high school. My daughter is a fan of YA fantasy books that feature reworking of myths (e.g., the Rick Riordan series) and I thought she would like having the source material for them, with index. She does. I have looked through the book myself and find the translation very compelling. I particularly liked the story of Actaeon, and how he was torn apart by his own hounds as punishment for being a peeping tom. It was brutal yet emotional.

I bought this ancient classic because I am guiding in an art museum, and this work has inspired so many artists. It's full of drama of the same kind we see in special-effects movies aimed at thrill-seeking youngsters these days. Beautiful young women turn into trees, gods cheat on their goddesses, virile young men speed through the sky seeking vengeance - that sort of thing. Really, it reminded me that human folly and frailty don't change over the centuries. All a great storyteller like Ovid needs is a good translator like this one.

I took a class over classic Greek and Roman literature and this was among the assigned reading. We were only accountable for half or so of the book, but I found I couldn't put it down. One of my favorite pieces of literature I've ever read, and comparing other translations, I found Lombardo's to be very readable.

Ovid's Metamorphoses is an astonishingly brilliant rendering of Greek myths in Roman form. This is, in my opinion, the best translation of this classic. It reads like poetry and is dynamic in its pace never missing a beat - a great piece of translation.

The entire book is a compilation of different stories that Ovid thought to be less recognized among the Greek culture. My Greek Mythology professor explained that if you can draw a strong connection between each story then you are reading it wrong, haha. The stories are quite interesting though and I remember most of them. The translation is pretty good and easy to read.

Honestly, I'm only reading this for a Classical Mythology course, it's not a bad book, but it isn't a total bore for a Mechanical Engineering major. The Kindle version is lighter and I can highlight in it endlessly.

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