antigone robert fagles

antigone robert fagles is a renowned translation that has captivated readers and scholars with its powerful rendition of Sophocles' classic Greek tragedy. This article provides an in-depth exploration of Robert Fagles' translation of Antigone, examining its literary significance, thematic depth, historical context, and the translation's impact on contemporary audiences. Readers will gain insight into Fagles' unique approach, the enduring relevance of Antigone, and how this translation compares to others. Whether you are a student, educator, or literature enthusiast, this comprehensive guide delivers everything you need to understand why Antigone by Robert Fagles stands out in the realm of classical literature. Discover the lasting legacy of Sophocles' masterpiece, the artistry of Fagles' translation, and the crucial themes that continue to resonate today.

- Overview of Antigone and Robert Fagles' Translation
- Key Themes in Antigone by Robert Fagles
- Fagles' Approach to Translating Greek Drama
- Comparisons with Other Antigone Translations
- Reception and Impact of Fagles' Antigone
- Antigone in Modern Education and Culture
- Frequently Asked Questions about Antigone Robert Fagles

Overview of Antigone and Robert Fagles' Translation

Antigone, written by Sophocles around 441 BCE, is one of the most influential Greek tragedies, exploring themes of law, family, and moral responsibility. Robert Fagles, a distinguished classics scholar and translator, brought new life to this timeless play with his acclaimed translation. Fagles' Antigone is praised for its clarity, poetic resonance, and accessibility, making it a preferred choice for both academic study and general reading. His version maintains the intensity of the original text while rendering it in fluid, contemporary English, allowing modern readers to appreciate the emotional depth and philosophical complexity of the play.

The tragedy centers on Antigone, a courageous young woman who defies King Creon's decree to honor her brother with a proper burial. Her actions prompt a conflict between divine law and human law, leading to catastrophic consequences. Fagles' translation skillfully conveys the drama's stark confrontations, moral dilemmas, and tragic inevitability. This section sets the stage for understanding the importance of Fagles' contribution to classical literature and why his Antigone remains a cornerstone in the study of Greek drama.

Key Themes in Antigone by Robert Fagles

Moral Conflict and Divine Law

One of the most prominent themes in Antigone is the clash between individual conscience and state authority. Antigone's determination to bury her brother Polynices, despite Creon's edict, elevates her as a symbol of moral integrity. Fagles' translation amplifies the tension between human law and divine law, emphasizing Antigone's steadfast belief in higher justice. This theme invites readers to consider the limits of political power and the obligations individuals hold to family, tradition, and the gods.

Fate, Free Will, and Tragedy

Sophocles' Antigone is deeply rooted in notions of fate and free will. The protagonists struggle against destiny, yet their choices seem to fulfill a tragic pattern. Fagles' language highlights the inevitability of suffering and the consequences of pride and stubbornness. The interplay between personal responsibility and destiny remains a compelling aspect of the play, provoking reflection on human agency and the tragic nature of existence.

Gender and Power Dynamics

Antigone's defiance of masculine authority and societal norms is a central focus in Fagles' translation. Her challenge to Creon's rule and her unwavering resolve portray the complexities of gender roles in ancient Greek society. Fagles brings out the emotional intensity and courage of Antigone, making her an enduring figure in feminist literary studies. The confrontation between Antigone and Creon exposes the limitations placed on women and the consequences of resisting patriarchal power.

- Conflict between personal beliefs and societal laws
- The inevitability of tragic outcomes
- The role of women in Greek tragedy
- Consequences of pride and hubris

Fagles' Approach to Translating Greek Drama

Stylistic Choices and Poetic Language

Robert Fagles is celebrated for his ability to balance fidelity to the original text with engaging, modern prose. His translation of Antigone preserves the poetic structure of Sophocles' language,

using rhythmic phrasing and evocative imagery. Fagles avoids archaic expressions, opting for clarity and emotional resonance that connects with contemporary readers. His stylistic choices enhance the dramatic impact and accessibility of the play.

Maintaining Cultural and Historical Context

Fagles incorporates explanatory notes and introductions to help readers understand the historical and cultural background of Antigone. He contextualizes key references, mythological allusions, and social customs, ensuring that modern audiences grasp the significance of the narrative. This approach provides depth and enriches the reading experience, making the ancient tragedy relevant and comprehensible.

Balancing Literal and Interpretive Translation

Fagles strikes a careful balance between literal translation and interpretive adaptation. He honors the original intent of Sophocles while making necessary adjustments for modern readability. This method respects the play's nuances, allowing readers to engage with its philosophical and emotional dimensions without losing the essence of the Greek original.

Comparisons with Other Antigone Translations

Literary Style and Accessibility

Antigone has been translated by numerous scholars, each offering a distinct perspective. Compared to earlier versions by translators such as E.F. Watling and David Grene, Fagles' Antigone is noted for its vivid language and approachable style. His translation bridges the gap between academic rigor and general enjoyment, making it suitable for a wide readership.

Philosophical Interpretation

While some translations focus on strict adherence to the original text, Fagles prioritizes the philosophical and emotional undertones of the play. His Antigone explores the ethical dilemmas with greater clarity, providing insight into the motivations and inner conflicts of the characters. This interpretive depth distinguishes Fagles' work from more literal or formal translations.

Reception Among Scholars and Educators

Fagles' Antigone has become a staple in university syllabi and literature courses. Educators appreciate its readability, while scholars commend its accuracy and sensitivity to the play's complexity. The translation's popularity underscores its effectiveness as both a teaching tool and a literary achievement.

1. Fagles' translation is praised for emotional resonance.

- 2. Other versions may offer stricter literalism but less accessibility.
- 3. Fagles combines academic excellence with popular appeal.

Reception and Impact of Fagles' Antigone

Cultural and Literary Legacy

Since its publication, Robert Fagles' Antigone has influenced how readers perceive Greek tragedy and its relevance to modern issues. The translation's success is evident in its widespread adoption in educational settings and its role in shaping scholarly discourse. Fagles' work has contributed to renewed interest in classical literature and the continued study of Sophocles' plays.

Critical Acclaim and Awards

Fagles has received numerous accolades for his translations of ancient Greek works, including Antigone. Critics praise his ability to capture the spirit of the original while making it accessible for today's readers. His translation is frequently cited as one of the best available, recognized for its literary merit and enduring influence.

Influence on Contemporary Theater

Fagles' Antigone has been adapted for stage productions, influencing directors, actors, and audiences. The translation's dynamic language and emotional depth lend themselves to compelling performances, ensuring that the play remains a vital part of the theatrical canon.

Antigone in Modern Education and Culture

Use in Academic Curriculum

Antigone by Robert Fagles is widely taught in high schools, colleges, and universities. Its clarity, thematic richness, and scholarly notes make it an ideal choice for introducing students to Greek tragedy. Educators rely on Fagles' translation to facilitate discussions about ethics, justice, and the human condition.

Relevance to Contemporary Issues

The themes explored in Antigone—civil disobedience, gender equality, moral responsibility—remain pertinent in today's society. Fagles' translation highlights these issues, allowing readers to draw connections between ancient dilemmas and modern challenges. The play continues to inspire

debates on law, authority, and personal conviction.

Cultural Adaptations and Influence

Antigone's story has inspired countless adaptations in literature, theater, film, and art. Fagles' translation serves as a foundation for reinterpretations that reflect contemporary values and perspectives. The play's enduring influence underscores its universal appeal and ongoing relevance.

Frequently Asked Questions about Antigone Robert Fagles

Q: What makes Robert Fagles' translation of Antigone stand out?

A: Robert Fagles' translation is distinguished by its poetic language, clarity, and ability to communicate the emotional intensity of Sophocles' original while remaining accessible to modern readers.

Q: How does Fagles balance literal accuracy and readability in his Antigone translation?

A: Fagles achieves balance by preserving the play's core themes and dramatic structure, while adapting language and phrasing for contemporary audiences, making the text both faithful and engaging.

Q: What are the central themes in Antigone by Robert Fagles?

A: Central themes include the conflict between personal conscience and state authority, fate and free will, gender roles, family loyalty, and the consequences of pride.

Q: Why is Antigone by Robert Fagles commonly used in schools?

A: The translation's clarity, scholarly notes, and approachable style make it ideal for educational settings, fostering understanding and discussion of classical literature.

Q: How does Fagles contextualize the historical and mythological background in Antigone?

A: Fagles provides introductions and explanatory notes that clarify cultural references, mythological

allusions, and social customs, helping readers grasp the play's deeper meanings.

Q: What impact has Fagles' Antigone had on modern theater?

A: Fagles' translation has influenced contemporary stage productions, offering directors and actors a dynamic and emotionally resonant script for performance.

Q: How does Antigone by Robert Fagles address gender and power?

A: The translation highlights Antigone's challenge to patriarchal authority and explores the complexities of gender roles in ancient Greece, making it relevant to feminist literary studies.

Q: Are there major differences between Fagles' Antigone and other translations?

A: Fagles' translation is noted for its vivid, poetic language and accessibility, while other versions may prioritize literal accuracy or formalism, resulting in varying interpretations.

Q: What literary techniques does Fagles use in his translation?

A: Fagles employs rhythmic phrasing, evocative imagery, and careful word choices to preserve the dramatic and poetic qualities of Sophocles' original text.

Q: Is Antigone by Robert Fagles suitable for self-study?

A: Yes, Fagles' Antigone is ideal for self-study due to its clear language, informative notes, and ability to engage readers with the timeless themes of the play.

Antigone Robert Fagles

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Antigone Robert Fagles: A Deep Dive into Sophocles'

Masterpiece

Are you fascinated by Greek tragedy? Do you crave a translation of Antigone that captures both the lyrical beauty and the brutal power of Sophocles' original? Then you've come to the right place. This in-depth exploration of Robert Fagles' translation of Antigone will delve into its strengths, its interpretations, and its enduring impact on modern readers. We'll examine Fagles' choices, explore critical analyses, and ultimately help you understand why this particular version resonates so deeply with audiences worldwide. Prepare to journey into the heart of ancient Thebes and grapple with the timeless conflicts of law, family, and conscience.

The Power of Fagles' Translation: Why it Stands Out

Robert Fagles' translation of Antigone isn't just a linguistic conversion; it's a masterful reimagining for a modern audience. His version successfully navigates the complex task of balancing fidelity to the original Greek text with the need for accessibility and poetic resonance in English.

A Commitment to Poetic Language

Fagles is renowned for his ability to imbue his translations with a powerful, evocative poetic voice. He doesn't shy away from the lyrical qualities of Sophocles' language, crafting lines that are both impactful and emotionally resonant. This commitment to poetic language elevates the reading experience, transforming a potentially dry academic exercise into a visceral and emotionally charged encounter with the text.

Accuracy and Interpretation

While Fagles prioritizes poetic expression, he doesn't sacrifice accuracy. His deep understanding of the Greek language and the cultural context of the play ensures that his translation remains faithful to the original meaning. However, this doesn't mean his translation is a mere mechanical transposition. Fagles' interpretation shines through, highlighting certain themes and nuances that might be overlooked in a more literal translation.

Engaging Modern Readers

Perhaps Fagles' greatest accomplishment is his ability to make Antigone accessible and relevant to a 21st-century readership. His language is clear, powerful, and avoids archaic diction that might

alienate modern readers. This accessibility doesn't come at the cost of sophistication; instead, it makes the profound themes of the play available to a broader audience.

Key Themes Explored in Fagles' Antigone

Fagles' translation illuminates the enduring themes that make Antigone such a compelling work:

The Conflict Between Divine Law and Human Law

This is arguably the central conflict of the play. Antigone's defiance of Creon's decree to leave her brother's body unburied highlights the clash between religious duty and civil authority. Fagles' translation emphasizes the intensity of this conflict, capturing the moral weight of Antigone's decision and the tragic consequences that follow.

Family Loyalty vs. State Authority

The play explores the complexities of familial obligations and their conflict with the demands of the state. Antigone's unwavering loyalty to her brother clashes directly with Creon's assertion of his absolute power. Fagles masterfully portrays the emotional turmoil of both characters, highlighting the human cost of rigid adherence to either side of this conflict.

The Nature of Justice and Fate

Antigone is a tragedy, and the characters' fates are intertwined with the concept of justice, both human and divine. Fagles' translation draws attention to the irony and inevitability of the tragic outcome, leaving the reader to ponder the nature of justice and the power of fate.

The Role of Prophecy and Fate

The presence of prophetic warnings and the inevitability of tragic outcomes underscore the weight of fate in ancient Greek drama. Fagles' version skillfully integrates these elements, underscoring the sense of doom that hangs over the characters and their actions.

Critical Reception and Lasting Impact

Fagles' Antigone has been widely praised for its poetic strength and accuracy. It has become a standard translation used in classrooms and enjoyed by readers interested in classical literature. Its accessibility makes it a gateway for many to experience the power of Greek tragedy, ensuring that Sophocles' masterpiece remains relevant and engaging for generations to come.

Conclusion

Robert Fagles' translation of Antigone is a triumph of poetic skill and scholarly accuracy. It stands as a testament to his ability to bridge the gap between ancient Greek and modern English, bringing the timeless power of Sophocles' drama to a contemporary audience. By engaging with Fagles' work, readers gain access to a vibrant and emotionally charged experience of this classic text, grappling with its timeless themes and profound implications.

FAQs

- 1. What makes Fagles' translation superior to others? Fagles' translation excels due to its poetic language, accurate rendition of the original Greek, and accessibility for modern readers without sacrificing depth or nuance.
- 2. Is Fagles' translation suitable for students? Absolutely. Its clarity and engaging language make it ideal for classroom use and self-study.
- 3. Are there any significant interpretive differences between Fagles' translation and others? While generally faithful, Fagles' choices in emphasizing certain words or phrases subtly shape the reader's understanding, often highlighting the emotional and psychological dimensions.
- 4. Where can I purchase Fagles' translation of Antigone? It's widely available online and at most bookstores, both in print and digital formats.
- 5. What other works has Robert Fagles translated? Robert Fagles is renowned for his translations of Homer's Iliad and Odyssey, as well as works by Euripides and Aeschylus, establishing him as a leading translator of classical Greek literature.

antigone robert fagles: The Three Theban Plays Sophocles, 1984-02-07 The heroic Greek dramas that have moved theatergoers and readers since the fifth century B.C. Towering over the rest of Greek tragedy, the three plays that tell the story of the fated Theban royal family—Antigone, Oedipus the King and Oedipus at Colonus—are among the most enduring and timeless dramas ever

written. Robert Fagles's authoritative and acclaimed translation conveys all of Sophocles's lucidity and power: the cut and thrust of his dialogue, his ironic edge, the surge and majesty of his choruses and, above all, the agonies and triumphs of his characters. This Penguin Classics edition features an introduction and notes by the renowned classicist Bernard Knox. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

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antigone robert fagles: *Three Theban Plays* Sophocles, 2014-06-26 The tyrant is a child of PrideWho drinks from his sickening cup Recklessness and vanity,Until from his high crest headlongHe plummets to the dust of hope.Theses heroic Greek dramas have moved theatergoers and readers since the fifth century B.C. They tower above other tragedies and have a place on the College Board AP English reading list.

antigone robert fagles: Plays of Sophocles: Oedipus The King; Oedipus At Colonus; Antigone Sophocles, 2021-01-01 To Laius, King of Thebes, an oracle foretold that the child born to him by his queen Jocasta would slay his father and wed his mother. So when in time a son was born the infant's feet were riveted together and he was left to die on Mount Cithaeron. But a shepherd found the babe and tended him, and delivered him to another shepherd who took him to his master, the King of Corinth. Polybus being childless adopted the boy, who grew up believing that he was indeed the King's son. Afterwards doubting his parentage he inquired of the Delphic god and heard himself the word declared before to Laius. -Preface

antigone robert fagles: The Theban Plays Sophocles, 1973-04-26 King Oedipus/Oedipus at Colonus/Antigone Three towering works of Greek tragedy depicting the inexorable downfall of a doomed royal dynasty The legends surrounding the house of Thebes inspired Sophocles to create this powerful trilogy about humanity's struggle against fate. King Oedipus is the devastating portrayal of a ruler who brings pestilence to Thebes for crimes he does not realize he has committed and then inflicts a brutal punishment upon himself. Oedipus at Colonus provides a fitting conclusion to the life of the aged and blinded king, while Antigone depicts the fall of the next generation, through the conflict between a young woman ruled by her conscience and a king too confident of his own authority. Translated with an Introduction by E. F. WATLING

antigone robert fagles: The Theban Plays Sophocles, 2001-12-01 This anthology includes English translations of three plays of Sophocles' Oidipous Cycle: Antigone, King Oidipous, and Oidipous at Colonus. The trilogy includes an introductory essay on Sophocles life, ancient theatre, and the mythic and religious background of the plays. Each of these plays is available from Focus in a single play edition. Focus Classical Library provides close translations with notes and essays to provide access to understanding Greek culture.

antigone robert fagles: Antigonick Anne Carson, 2015-05-29 An illustrated new translation of Sophokles' Antigone. Anne Carson has published translations of the ancient Greek poets Sappho, Simonides, Aiskhylos, Sophokles and Euripides. Antigonick is her seminal work. Sophokles' luminous and disturbing tragedy is here given an entirely fresh language and presentation. This paperback edition includes a new preface by the author, "Dear Antigone."

antigone robert fagles: *Oedipus the King* Sophocles, 2015-08-09 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other

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antigone robert fagles: Sophocles' Antigone , 2011-04-18 Sophocles' Antigone comes alive in this new translation that will be useful for both academic study and stage production. Diane Rayor's accurate yet accessible translation reflects the play's inherent theatricality. She provides an analytical introduction and comprehensive notes, and the edition includes an essay by director Karen Libman. Antigone begins after Oedipus and Jocasta's sons have killed each other in a battle over the kingship. The new king, Kreon, decrees that the brother who attacked with a foreign army remain unburied and promises death to anyone who defies him. The play centers on Antigone's refusal to obey Kreon's law and Kreon's refusal to allow her brother's burial. Each acts on principle colored by gender, personality, and family history. Antigone poses a conflict between passionate characters whose extreme stances leave no room for compromise. The highly charged struggle between the individual and the state has powerful implications for ethical and political situations today.

antigone robert fagles: Aeneid Virgil, 1889

antigone robert fagles: Electra and Other Plays Sophocles, 1953 Provides translation of four Greek dramas by Sophocles.

antigone robert fagles: Ten Plays by Euripides Euripides, 1990-08-01 The first playwright of democracy, Euripides wrote with enduring insight and biting satire about social and political problems of Athenian life. In contrast to his contemporaries, he brought an exciting--and, to the Greeks, a stunning--realism to the pure and noble form of tragedy. For the first time in history, heroes and heroines on the stage were not idealized: as Sophocles himself said, Euripides shows people not as they ought to be, but as they actually are.

antigone robert fagles: *Oedipus the King and Antigone* Sophocles, 2014-09-08 Translated and edited by Peter D. Arnott, this classic and highly popular edition contains two essential plays in the development of Greek tragedy-Oedipus the King and Antigone-for performance and study. The editor's introduction contains a brief biography of the playwright and a description of Greek theater. Also included are a list of principal dates in the life of Sophocles and a bibliography.

antigone robert fagles: Bacchylides Richard C Jebb, 2019-09-22 This book has been considered by academicians and scholars of great significance and value to literature. This forms a part of the knowledge base for future generations. So that the book is never forgotten we have represented this book in a print format as the same form as it was originally first published. Hence any marks or annotations seen are left intentionally to preserve its true nature.

antigone robert fagles: Three Theban Plays Sophocles, 2004 The story of Oedipus has captured the human imagination as few others. It is the story of a man fated to kill his father and marry his mother, a man who by a cruel irony brings these things to pass by his very efforts to avoid them. But these plays are not about fate, and not about irony. They are about character, choice and consequence. In Antigone we see a woman who will defy human law, and die for it, rather than transgress the eternal, unwritten laws of the gods. Oedipus the Tyrant is the story of a ruler destroyed by those qualities - pride, determination and belief in his own abilities - which made him ruler in the first place. Finally, in Oedipus at Colonus, written late in Sophocles' life, the aged and blinded king achieves a personal reconciliation, but at a cost - a son who will die in battle against his country, and a daughter who will die burying her brother.

antigone robert fagles: *Antigone's Claim* Judith Butler, 2002-05-23 The celebrated author of Gender Trouble here redefines Antigone's legacy, recovering her revolutionary significance and liberating it for a progressive feminism and sexual politics. Butler's new interpretation does nothing

less than reconceptualize the incest taboo in relation to kinship—and open up the concept of kinship to cultural change. Antigone, the renowned insurgent from Sophocles's Oedipus, has long been a feminist icon of defiance. But what has remained unclear is whether she escapes from the forms of power that she opposes. Antigone proves to be a more ambivalent figure for feminism than has been acknowledged, since the form of defiance she exemplifies also leads to her death. Butler argues that Antigone represents a form of feminist and sexual agency that is fraught with risk. Moreover, Antigone shows how the constraints of normative kinship unfairly decide what will and will not be a livable life. Butler explores the meaning of Antigone, wondering what forms of kinship might have allowed her to live. Along the way, she considers the works of such philosophers as Hegel, Lacan, and Irigaray. How, she asks, would psychoanalysis have been different if it had taken Antigone—the postoedipal subject—rather than Oedipus as its point of departure? If the incest taboo is reconceived so that it does not mandate heterosexuality as its solution, what forms of sexual alliance and new kinship might be acknowledged as a result? The book relates the courageous deeds of Antigone to the claims made by those whose relations are still not honored as those of proper kinship, showing how a culture of normative heterosexuality obstructs our capacity to see what sexual freedom and political agency could be.

antigone robert fagles: The Burial at Thebes Seamus Heaney, 2011-12-15 Commissioned to mark the centenary of the Abbey Theatre in Dublin in 2004, The Burial at Thebes is Seamus Heaney's new verse translation of Sophocles' great tragedy, Antigone - whose eponymous heroine is one of the most sharply individualized and compelling figures in Western drama. Faithful to the 'local row' and to the fierce specificity of the play's time and place, The Burial at Thebes honours the separate and irreconcilable claims of its opposed voices, as they enact the ancient but perennial conflict between family and state in a time of crisis, pitching the morality of private allegiance against that of public service. Above all, The Burial at Thebes honours the sovereign urgency and grandeur of the Antigone, in which language speaks truth to power, then and now.

antigone robert fagles: The Oresteian Trilogy Aeschylus, 2016-10-26 The Oresteia is a trilogy of Greek tragedies written by Aeschylus concerning the end of the curse on the House of Atreus and the pacification of the Erinyes. The name derives from the character Orestes, who sets out to avenge his father's murder. The only extant example of an ancient Greek theater trilogy, the Oresteia won first prize at the Dionysia festival in 458 BC. When originally performed, it was accompanied by Proteus, a satyr play that would have followed the trilogy. Proteus has not survived, however. In all likelihood the term Oresteia originally referred to all four plays; today it generally designates only the surviving trilogy. Many consider the Oresteia to be Aeschylus' finest work. Principal themes of the trilogy include the contrast between revenge and justice, as well as the transition from personal vendetta to organized litigation.

antigone robert fagles: <u>Oedipus at Thebes</u> Bernard Knox, 1998-01-01 Examines the way in which Sophocles' play Oedipus Tyrannus and its hero, Oedipus, King of Thebes, were probably received in their own time and place, and relates this to twentieth-century receptions and interpretations, including those of Sigmund Freud.

antigone robert fagles: The Greek Plays Sophocles, Aeschylus, Euripides, 2017-09-05 A landmark anthology of the masterpieces of Greek drama, featuring all-new, highly accessible translations of some of the world's most beloved plays, including Agamemnon, Prometheus Bound, Bacchae, Electra, Medea, Antigone, and Oedipus the King Featuring translations by Emily Wilson, Frank Nisetich, Sarah Ruden, Rachel Kitzinger, Mary Lefkowitz, and James Romm The great plays of Ancient Greece are among the most enduring and important legacies of the Western world. Not only is the influence of Greek drama palpable in everything from Shakespeare to modern television, the insights contained in Greek tragedy have shaped our perceptions of the nature of human life. Poets, philosophers, and politicians have long borrowed and adapted the ideas and language of Greek drama to help them make sense of their own times. This exciting curated anthology features a cross section of the most popular—and most widely taught—plays in the Greek canon. Fresh translations into contemporary English breathe new life into the texts while capturing, as faithfully as possible,

their original meaning. This outstanding collection also offers short biographies of the playwrights, enlightening and clarifying introductions to the plays, and helpful annotations at the bottom of each page. Appendices by prominent classicists on such topics as "Greek Drama and Politics," "The Theater of Dionysus," and "Plato and Aristotle on Tragedy" give the reader a rich contextual background. A detailed time line of the dramas, as well as a list of adaptations of Greek drama to literature, stage, and film from the time of Seneca to the present, helps chart the history of Greek tragedy and illustrate its influence on our culture from the Roman Empire to the present day. With a veritable who's who of today's most renowned and distinguished classical translators, The Greek Plays is certain to be the definitive text for years to come. Praise for The Greek Plays "Mary Lefkowitz and James Romm deftly have gathered strong new translations from Frank Nisetich, Sarah Ruden, Rachel Kitzinger, Emily Wilson, as well as from Mary Lefkowitz and James Romm themselves. There is a freshness and pungency in these new translations that should last a long time. I admire also the introductions to the plays and the biographies and annotations provided. Closing essays by five distinguished classicists—the brilliant Daniel Mendelsohn and the equally skilled David Rosenbloom, Joshua Billings, Mary-Kay Gamel, and Gregory Hays—all enlightened me. This seems to me a helpful light into our gathering darkness."—Harold Bloom

antigone robert fagles: Sophocles Sophocles, 1891

antigone robert fagles: Classical Mythology A to Z Annette Giesecke, 2020-10-06 A beautifully illustrated, wonderfully engaging A-to-Z guide to more than 700 major and minor gods and goddesses, characters, creatures, and places of classical Greek and Roman mythology. Classical Mythology A-to-Z is a comprehensive and engrossing guide to Greek and Roman mythology. Written by Annette Giesecke, PhD, Professor of Classics and Chair of Ancient Greek and Roman Studies at the University of Delaware, this brilliant reference offers clear explanations of every character and locale, and captures the essence of these timeless tales. From the gods and goddesses of Mount Olympus and the heroes of the Trojan War to the nymphs, monsters, and other mythical creatures that populate these ancient stories, Giesecke recounts, with clarity and energy, the details of more than 700 characters and places. Each definition includes cross-references to related characters, locations, and myths, as well their equivalent in Roman mythology and cult. In addition to being an important standalone work, Classical Mythology A-to-Z is also written, designed, and illustrated to serve as an essential companion to the bestselling illustrated 75th-anniversary edition of Mythology by Edith Hamilton, including 10 full-color plates and 2-color illustrations throughout by artist Jim Tierney.

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antigone robert fagles: Antigone; Oedipus the King; Electra Sophocles, 2008-08-14 Love and loyalty, hatred and revenge, fear, deprivation, and political ambition: these are the motives which thrust the characters portrayed in these three Sophoclean masterpieces on to their collision course with catastrophe. Recognized in his own day as perhaps the greatest of the Greek tragedians,

Sophocles' reputation has remained undimmed for two and a half thousand years. His greatest innovation in the tragic medium was his development of a central tragic figure, faced with a test of will and character, risking obloquy and death rather than compromise his or her principles: it is striking that Antigone and Electra both have a woman as their intransigent 'hero'. Antigone dies rather neglect her duty to her family, Oedipus' determination to save his city results in the horrific discovery that he has committed both incest and parricide, and Electra's unremitting anger at her mother and her lover keeps her in servitude and despair. These vivid translations combine elegance and modernity, and are remarkable for their lucidity and accuracy. Their sonorous diction, economy, and sensitivity to the varied metres and modes of the original musical delivery make them equally suitable for reading or theatrical peformance. ABOUT THE SERIES: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the widest range 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, helpful notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

antigone robert fagles: The Heroic Temper Bernard M. Knox, 2023-11-10 The first two chapters of this book isolate and describe the literary phenomenon of the Sophoclean tragic hero. In all but one of the extant Sophoclean dramas, a heroic figure who is compounded of the same literary elements faced a situation which is essentially the same. The demonstration of this recurrent pattern is made not through character-analysis, but through a close examination of the language employed by both the hero and those with whom he contends. The two chapters attempt to present what might, with a slight exaggeration, be called the formula of Sophoclean tragedy. A great artist may repeat a structural pattern but he never really repeats himself. In the remaining four chapters, a close analysis of three plays, the Antigone, Philoctetes, and Oedipus at Colonus, emphasizes the individuality and variety of the living figures Sophocles created on the same basic armature. This approach to Sophoclean drama is (as in the author's previous work on the subject) both historical and critical; the universal and therefore contemporary appeal of the plays is to be found not by slighting or dismissing their historical context, but by an attempt to understand it all in its complexity. The play needs to be seen as what it was, to be understood as what it is.

antigone robert fagles: Feminist Readings of Antigone Fanny Söderbäck, 2012-02-01 Feminist Readings of Antigone collects the most interesting and provocative feminist work on the figure of Antigone, in particular looking at how she can figure into contemporary debates on the role of women in society. Contributors focus on female subjectivity and sexuality, feminist ethics and politics, questions of race and gender, psychoanalytic theory, kinship, embodiment, and tensions between the private and the public. This collection seeks to explore and spark debate about why Antigone has become such an important figure for feminist thinkers of our time, what we can learn from her, whether a feminist politics turning to this ancient heroine can be progressive or is bound to idealize the past, and why Antigone keeps entering the stage in times of political crisis and struggle in all corners of the world. Fanny Söderbäck has gathered classic work in this field alongside newly written pieces by some of the most important voices in contemporary feminist philosophy. The volume includes essays by Judith Butler, Adriana Cavarero, Tina Chanter, Luce Irigaray, and Julia Kristeva.

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antigone robert fagles: The Oresteia Aeschylus,, 2014-04-24 First performed in 458BC, Aeschylus's trilogy of plays - known collectively as The Oresteia - remains perhaps the great masterpiece of Ancient tragic drama. Telling the bloody story of the House of Atreus, Aeschylus's tragedy stages an eternal debate about justice and revenge that remains relevant more than two millenia later. Now available in the Bloomsbury Revelations series in this classic and authoritative translation by Hugh Lloyd-Jones, this book contains the text of all three plays - Agamemnon, The Libation Bearers and The Eumenides - with extensive scholarly annotation throughout.

antigone robert fagles: Antigone Sophocles,, 2015-03-13 When her dead brother is decreed a traitor, his body left unburied beyond the city walls, Antigone refuses to accept this most severe of punishments. Defying her uncle who governs, she dares to say 'No'. Forging ahead with a funeral alone, she places personal allegiance before politics, a tenacious act that will trigger a cycle of destruction. Renowned for the revelatory nature of his work, Ivo van Hove first enthralled London audiences with his ground-breaking Roman Tragediesseen at the Barbican in 2009. Drawing on his 'ability to break open texts calcified by tradition' (Guardian), the director now turns to a classic Greek masterpiece.

antigone robert fagles: Recapturing Sophocles' Antigone William Blake Tyrrell, Larry J. Bennett, 1998-08-13 In this book, Wm. Blake Tyrrell and Larry J. Bennett examine Sophocles' Antigone in the context of its setting in fifth-century Athens. The authors attempt to create an interpretive environment that is true to the issues and interests of fifth-century Athenians, as opposed to those of modern scholars and philosophers. As they contextualize the play in the dynamics of ancient Athens, the authors discuss the text of the Antigone in light of recent developments in the study of Greek antiquity and tragedy, and they turn to modern Greek rituals of lamentation for suggestive analogies. The result is a compelling book which opens new insights to the text, challenges the validity of old problems, and eases difficulties in its interpretation.

antigone robert fagles: The Oresteia of Aeschylus Aeschylus, 2022-10-27 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for

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antigone robert fagles: *Plays* Sophocles, 2018-02-04 Sophocles (born c. 496 bc, Colonus, near Athens [Greece]-died 406, Athens) was an ancient Greek tragedy playwright. Not many things are known about his life other than that he was wealthy, well educated and wrote about one hundred and twenty three plays (of which few are extant). One of his best known plays is 'Oedipus the King' (Oedipus Rex).

antigone robert fagles: Story Patterns in Greek Tragedy Richmond Alexander Lattimore, Richmond Lattimore, 1969

antigone robert fagles: A Dictionary of Classical Greek Quotations Marinos Yeroulanos, 2016-06-30 'Human wisdom is of little or no value', wrote Plato in his Apology. And yet the ancient Greeks, including Plato himself, more than any other people of antiquity were fascinated by the pursuit of the wisdom they called philosophia. That search for knowledge involved an extensive use of maxims and quotations, as we can see from those expressions of Homer prefaced by the phrase 'as people say'. Homer, the Seven Sages and the Pre-Socratic philosophers are still extensively quoted in all the major western languages. Yet for all their popularity, until now there has been no single resource to which interested readers might turn. This unique reference book offers one of the most comprehensive selections of Greek quotations ever committed to print. With its English text matched by the original Greek, the volume collects 7500 entries, ranging from the archaic period to late antiquity, and across philosophy, drama, poetry, history, science and medicine, each indexed with key words to enable fast sourcing. Together, these selections provide an incomparable insight into the glories of Greek civilization.

antigone robert fagles: Antigone's Sisters Lenart Škof, 2021-05-01 In Antigone's Sisters, Lenart Škof explores the power of love in our world—stronger than violence and, ultimately, stronger even than death. Focusing on Antigone, Savitri, and Mary, the book offers an investigation into various goddesses and feminine figures from a variety of philosophical, mythological, theological, and literary contexts. The book also elaborates on the feminine aspects of selected concepts from modern philosophical texts, such as the Matrix in Jakob Böhme, Clara in F. W. J. Schelling, beyng in Martin Heidegger, chóra in Jacques Derrida, and breath in Luce Irigaray's thought. Drawing on Bracha M. Ettinger's concept of matrixiality, Škof proposes a new matrixial theory of philosophy, cosmology, and theology of love. Despite its many usages and appropriations, love remains a neglected topic within Western philosophy. With its new interpretation of Antigone and related readings of Irigaray, Kristeva, and Ettinger, Antigone's Sisters aims to identify some of the reasons for this forgetting of love, and to show that it is only love that can bring peace to our ethically disrupted world.

antigone robert fagles: The Returns of Antigone Tina Chanter, Sean D. Kirkland, 2014-10-07 Examines Antigone influence on contemporary European, Latin American, and African political activism, arts, and literature. Despite a venerable tradition of thinkers having declared the death of tragedy, Antigone lives on. Disguised in myriad national costumes, invited to a multiplicity of international venues, inspiring any number of political protests, Antigone transmits her energy through the ages and across the continents in an astoundingly diverse set of contexts. She continues to haunt dramatists, artists, performers, and political activists all over the world. This cutting-edge, interdisciplinary collection explores how and why, with essays ranging from philosophical, literary,

and political investigations to queer theory, race theory, and artistic appropriations of the play. It also establishes an international scope for its considerations by including assessments of Latin American and African appropriations of the play alongside European receptions of the play.

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