

robert fagles antigone

robert fagles antigone stands as a celebrated translation of Sophocles' iconic tragedy, offering readers a vivid and accessible rendering of the ancient Greek masterpiece. This article explores Fagles' approach to translating Antigone, highlighting the historical and literary context, key themes, character analysis, and the significance of his translation for modern audiences. Readers will discover the distinct qualities of Fagles' style, the impact his work has had in both academic and theatrical circles, and how his version compares to other translations. With a comprehensive breakdown of major motifs and a look at the enduring legacy of Antigone, this article serves as a detailed guide for anyone interested in classical literature, translation studies, or the powerful narrative at the heart of this timeless play.

- Understanding Robert Fagles and His Legacy
- Overview of Sophocles' Antigone
- Robert Fagles' Translation Approach
- Major Themes in Robert Fagles Antigone
- Character Analysis in Fagles' Version
- Comparing Robert Fagles Antigone to Other Translations
- Reception and Impact of Fagles' Translation
- Enduring Relevance of Antigone in Modern Times

Understanding Robert Fagles and His Legacy

Robert Fagles is widely recognized as one of the most influential translators of ancient Greek literature into English. His works, including translations of the Iliad, Odyssey, and Sophocles' plays, have garnered praise for their clarity, poetic resonance, and accessibility. Fagles' translation of Antigone is celebrated for capturing both the emotional depth and philosophical complexity of Sophocles' original text, making it accessible to contemporary readers without sacrificing the essence of the ancient play. His legacy is marked by an ability to bridge the gap between classical antiquity and the modern world, making Greek tragedies relevant to new generations of readers and students.

Overview of Sophocles' Antigone

The Story of Antigone

Antigone, written by Sophocles around 441 BCE, is the final play of the Theban trilogy. The narrative centers on Antigone, the daughter of Oedipus, who defies the edict of King Creon in order to bury her brother Polyneices, deemed a traitor. The play explores themes of civil disobedience, familial duty, and the clash between human and divine law. Robert Fagles' translation brings out the tragic tension and moral dilemmas faced by the characters, highlighting the play's enduring relevance.

Historical Context

Sophocles' *Antigone* was staged during a period of political and social upheaval in ancient Athens. The conflict between personal conscience and state authority reflected contemporary debates about governance and individual rights. Fagles' translation preserves these historical tensions, providing modern readers with insight into the play's original significance while drawing parallels to current societal issues.

Robert Fagles' Translation Approach

Style and Language Choices

Robert Fagles' unique translation approach emphasizes both fidelity to the source material and poetic creativity. He carefully balances the rhythms, tone, and emotional intensity of Sophocles' language, ensuring that the text is both accurate and engaging. Fagles employs vivid imagery, dynamic dialogue, and clear phrasing, making the play approachable for contemporary audiences while retaining its dramatic impact.

Challenges of Translating Greek Tragedy

Translating ancient Greek drama involves navigating complex linguistic, cultural, and historical nuances. Fagles addresses these challenges by researching the context, consulting scholarly interpretations, and employing a sensitive ear for both meaning and musicality. His translation of *Antigone* is praised for preserving the play's tension and lyricism, allowing readers to experience the emotional resonance of the original text.

- Maintaining poetic structure and meter
- Conveying cultural references and allusions
- Balancing literal accuracy with readability
- Capturing character voices and dramatic tone

Major Themes in Robert Fagles Antigone

Conflict between Law and Conscience

One of the central themes in *Antigone* is the conflict between state law and personal moral duty. Antigone's decision to bury her brother, in defiance of Creon's decree, raises questions about justice, authority, and individual responsibility. Fagles' translation captures the intensity of this ethical struggle, emphasizing the complex motivations and consequences faced by each character.

Fate and Free Will

The theme of fate versus free will is evident throughout the play. Characters grapple with destiny, prophecy, and the limits of human agency. Fagles' rendering accentuates the tragic dimensions of these choices, highlighting the inevitability of suffering and the role of divine intervention in shaping outcomes.

Power and Leadership

Creon's leadership is scrutinized in *Antigone*, as his rigid adherence to the law leads to personal and communal tragedy. Fagles' translation exposes the dangers of unchecked power and the importance of wisdom, compassion, and humility in governance.

Character Analysis in Fagles' Version

Antigone

In Fagles' translation, Antigone emerges as a determined and principled protagonist. Her unwavering commitment to family and religious duty is conveyed through poignant dialogue and emotional depth. Fagles portrays her as courageous yet vulnerable, embodying the timeless struggle between personal conviction and societal demands.

Creon

Creon's character in Fagles' *Antigone* is marked by authority, pride, and eventual remorse. The translation brings out the complexities of his role as king, revealing both his strengths and tragic flaws. Readers witness Creon's transformation from steadfast ruler to a figure haunted by loss and regret.

Supporting Characters

Fagles gives voice to supporting characters such as Ismene, Haemon, and the Chorus, enriching the narrative's emotional landscape. Each character's perspective adds layers to the central conflict,

illuminating the broader implications of the play's themes.

Comparing Robert Fagles Antigone to Other Translations

Distinctive Qualities of Fagles' Translation

Compared to other English translations, Robert Fagles' Antigone stands out for its poetic fluency and emotional immediacy. His version is often favored in academic settings and theatrical productions for its ability to capture the spirit and drama of the original Greek text.

Notable Differences

While earlier translators may prioritize literal accuracy or archaic language, Fagles adopts a more contemporary style without sacrificing depth. His translation is characterized by:

- Accessible language and modern phrasing
- Faithfulness to dramatic structure
- Emphasis on character psychology
- Retaining lyrical qualities of Greek poetry

Reception and Impact of Fagles' Translation

Academic and Critical Praise

Robert Fagles' Antigone has been widely adopted in literary curricula and praised by scholars for its readability and interpretive depth. Critics commend his ability to make classical drama accessible while preserving its philosophical and aesthetic dimensions. The translation has inspired new generations of students to engage with Greek tragedy.

Theatrical Influence

Fagles' translation has been staged in numerous productions, both in educational and professional settings. Directors and actors appreciate the clarity and emotional power of his version, which lends itself well to live performance and adaptation.

Enduring Relevance of Antigone in Modern Times

Contemporary Interpretations

Antigone remains a touchstone for discussions about civil rights, justice, and moral courage. Fagles' translation contributes to its ongoing relevance, allowing audiences to explore the play's themes in light of current social and political issues. The story's universal questions about authority, duty, and conscience continue to resonate across cultures and eras.

Educational Significance

Fagles' Antigone serves as a foundational text in literature and humanities courses, introducing students to classical drama and the art of translation. Its influence extends beyond the classroom, shaping public discourse and inspiring artistic reinterpretation.

Questions and Answers about robert fagles antigone

Q: Who is Robert Fagles and why is his translation of Antigone significant?

A: Robert Fagles was an acclaimed American translator and scholar known for his English renditions of classic Greek texts. His translation of Antigone is significant because it combines poetic beauty with accessibility, making the ancient play relevant and engaging for modern readers and students.

Q: What are the main themes explored in Robert Fagles' Antigone?

A: The main themes include the conflict between civil law and personal conscience, fate versus free will, the exercise of power and leadership, and the consequences of pride and stubbornness. Fagles' translation highlights these themes with emotional depth and clarity.

Q: How does Robert Fagles' translation differ from other versions of Antigone?

A: Fagles' translation stands out for its modern language, poetic style, and ability to capture the emotional and dramatic essence of the original Greek text, making it more accessible without losing depth.

Q: What challenges did Robert Fagles face when translating

Antigone?

A: Fagles faced challenges such as maintaining the poetic structure, conveying cultural references, balancing literal accuracy with readability, and capturing the diverse voices and tones of the characters.

Q: Why is Antigone still relevant today according to Robert Fagles' translation?

A: Fagles' translation keeps Antigone relevant by emphasizing timeless issues like moral courage, resistance to unjust authority, and the struggle between individual rights and state power—topics still pertinent in contemporary society.

Q: Which characters are central in Robert Fagles' Antigone?

A: The central characters include Antigone, Creon, Ismene, and Haemon. Fagles' translation brings out their distinct personalities, motivations, and roles in the unfolding tragedy.

Q: How has Robert Fagles' Antigone influenced academic and theatrical circles?

A: Fagles' Antigone is frequently used in educational settings for its clarity and depth, and it has inspired numerous theatrical productions due to its powerful dialogue and dramatic structure.

Q: What makes Fagles' translation suitable for students and general readers?

A: Its accessible language, clear phrasing, and faithful rendering of the play's dramatic tension make it an ideal choice for both students and general readers seeking to understand Greek tragedy.

Q: How does Fagles handle the lyrical elements of Greek drama in his translation?

A: Fagles retains the musicality and rhythm of the original Greek poetry, ensuring that the lyrical elements of the Chorus and key speeches are preserved in English.

Q: What impact has Robert Fagles' translation had on the legacy of Antigone?

A: Fagles' translation has helped solidify Antigone's status as a foundational work in Western literature, making its themes and artistry accessible to new audiences and ensuring its continued study and appreciation.

Robert Fagles Antigone

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Robert Fagles' Antigone: A Fresh Perspective on a Timeless Tragedy

Are you intrigued by Sophocles' *Antigone*, but feel intimidated by the complexities of the original Greek? Or perhaps you've already tackled the classic and are looking for a deeper understanding through a masterful translation? Then you've come to the right place. This in-depth exploration delves into Robert Fagles' acclaimed translation of *Antigone*, examining its strengths, its impact on modern readers, and its enduring contribution to our understanding of this timeless tragedy. We'll unpack Fagles' choices, exploring how his translation breathes new life into Sophocles' masterpiece.

The Enduring Power of Sophocles' Antigone

Before we dive into Fagles' work, it's crucial to acknowledge the enduring power of Sophocles' original play. *Antigone* grapples with fundamental questions of human nature: the clash between individual conscience and state authority, the conflict between divine law and human law, and the agonizing consequences of unwavering loyalty. The play's themes resonate deeply across cultures and generations, making it a cornerstone of Western literature.

Robert Fagles: A Translator's Vision

Robert Fagles (1928-2008) was a renowned classicist and translator known for his ability to capture both the lyrical beauty and the dramatic intensity of ancient Greek texts. His translations of Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey* cemented his reputation, and his *Antigone* follows suit, offering a translation that is both accessible and faithful to the original.

Fagles' Approach: Balancing Accuracy and Readability

Fagles' translation of *Antigone* is remarkable for its balance between accuracy and readability. He avoids overly literal renderings, opting instead for a fluid, poetic style that maintains the emotional impact of Sophocles' original Greek. He successfully navigates the challenge of translating ancient

Greek idioms and imagery into contemporary English without sacrificing the nuances of meaning. He doesn't shy away from archaic vocabulary where appropriate, yet never at the expense of clarity.

Key Strengths of Fagles' Translation

Poetic Language: Fagles employs rich, evocative language that captures the tragic grandeur of the play. His verse retains a metrical structure, echoing the original's rhythmic beauty, making it a pleasure to read aloud.

Accessibility: While maintaining the poetic quality, Fagles' translation is surprisingly accessible to modern readers. His clear and concise prose avoids overly academic language, allowing the narrative to flow smoothly.

Faithfulness to the Original: Despite his stylistic choices, Fagles demonstrates a deep respect for Sophocles' original text. He doesn't impose his own interpretations but rather strives to convey the meaning and emotional weight of the original Greek.

Emphasis on Character Development: Fagles' translation effectively portrays the complex personalities of Antigone, Creon, Haemon, and Ismene. Their internal struggles and motivations are rendered with clarity and emotional depth.

The Impact of Fagles' Antigone

Fagles' translation has significantly contributed to the accessibility and appreciation of Antigone for a wider audience. It's frequently used in academic settings, allowing students to engage more readily with the text. Its publication has introduced many readers to the enduring power of Sophocles' masterpiece, broadening the reach and impact of this ancient tragedy.

Beyond the Translation: Engaging with Antigone

Reading Fagles' Antigone is more than just experiencing a translation; it's about engaging with a powerful story that continues to resonate with contemporary issues. The play's exploration of individual conscience versus state authority, religious devotion versus societal norms, and the tragic consequences of inflexible adherence to one's beliefs remain intensely relevant today.

Conclusion

Robert Fagles' translation of *Antigone* stands as a testament to the power of skilled translation to bridge the gap between ancient worlds and modern audiences. His work allows readers to appreciate the enduring power of Sophocles' masterpiece while offering a fresh perspective on its timeless themes. Fagles' careful balance of accuracy and readability makes his *Antigone* an essential text for anyone seeking to engage with this classic Greek tragedy.

FAQs

1. Is Fagles' translation the only good translation of *Antigone*? No, there are many excellent translations of *Antigone* available. Fagles' is widely praised for its balance of accuracy and accessibility, but other translators offer unique perspectives and strengths.
2. Is Fagles' translation suitable for students? Absolutely! Its clarity and readability make it an excellent choice for students studying *Antigone* in academic settings.
3. What makes Fagles' translation stand out from others? Fagles' translation is praised for its poetic language, accessibility, and faithfulness to the original Greek while still maintaining a contemporary feel.
4. Are there any criticisms of Fagles' translation? While widely acclaimed, some critics might argue for a more literal translation in certain passages, prioritizing fidelity over readability.
5. Where can I find Robert Fagles' translation of *Antigone*? Fagles' translation of *Antigone* is widely available in bookstores, online retailers, and libraries. You can easily find it through a quick online search.

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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

robert fagles antigone: Antigone Sophocles, 1984 The Pearson Education Library Collection offers you over 1200 fiction, nonfiction, classic, adapted classic, illustrated classic, short stories, biographies, special anthologies, atlases, visual dictionaries, history trade, animal, sports titles and more

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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

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robert fagles antigone: Antigone 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. Antigone 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."

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

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: Aeneid Virgil, 1889

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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).

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: *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.

robert fagles antigone: Medea & Alcestis Euripides, 2003

robert fagles antigone: *The Greek Plays* Sophocles, Aeschylus, Euripides, 2016-08-23 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

robert fagles antigone: Sophocles Sophocles, 1891

robert fagles antigone: Think in Public Sharon Marcus, Caitlin Zaloom, 2019-06-25 Since 2012, Public Books has championed a new kind of community for intellectual engagement, discussion, and action. An online magazine that unites the best of the university with the openness of the internet, Public Books is where new ideas are debuted, old facts revived, and dangerous illusions dismantled. Here, young scholars present fresh thinking to audiences outside the academy, accomplished authors weigh in on timely issues, and a wide range of readers encounter the most vital academic insights and explore what they mean for the world at large. Think in Public: A Public Books Reader presents a selection of inspiring essays that exemplify the magazine’s distinctive approach to public scholarship. Gathered here are Public Books contributions from today’s leading thinkers, including Jill Lepore, Imani Perry, Kim Phillips-Fein, Salamishah Tillet, Jeremy Adelman, N. D. B. Connolly, Namwali Serpell, and Ursula K. Le Guin. The result is a guide to the most exciting contemporary ideas about literature, politics, economics, history, race, capitalism, gender, technology, and climate change by writers and researchers pushing public debate about these topics in new directions. Think in Public is a lodestone for a rising generation of public scholars and a testament to the power of knowledge.

robert fagles antigone: Oedipus at Thebes 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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 performance. 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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.

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robert fagles antigone: The Three Theban Plays Sophocles, Bernard Knox, Robert Fagles, 2003-05

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robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: 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.

robert fagles antigone: *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 being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

robert fagles antigone: *The Three Theban Plays* Sophocles (495-406 B.C.), 1980

robert fagles antigone: *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.

robert fagles antigone: *Four Tragedies and Octavia* Lucius Annaeus Seneca, 1966-10-30 Dramas by the classical playwright and philosopher are accompanied by a modern work to demonstrate the Roman's impact on the development of the tragedy.

robert fagles antigone: *The Erratics* Vicki Laveau-Harvie, 2020-08-25 Two sisters reckon with their toxic parents through the decline and death of their outlandishly tyrannical mother and with the care of their psychologically terrorized father, all relayed with dark humor and brutal honesty in this award-winning "brilliantly-written memoir... [that] reads like a novel" (best-selling author Margaret Atwood via Twitter). When her elderly mother is hospitalized unexpectedly, Vicki Laveau-Harvie and her sister travel to their parents' ranch home in Alberta, Canada, to help their father. Estranged from their parents for many years, they are horrified by what they discover on their arrival. For years their mother has camouflaged her manic delusions and savage unpredictability, and over the decades she has managed to shut herself and her husband away from the outside world, systematically starving him and making him a virtual prisoner in his own home. Rearranging their lives to be the daughters they were never allowed to be, the sisters focus their efforts on helping their father cope with the unending manipulations of their mother and encounter all the pressures that come with caring for elderly parents. And at every step they have to contend with their mother, whose favorite phrase during their childhood was: I'll get you and you won't even know I'm doing it. Set against the natural world of the Canadian foothills (in winter the cold will kill you, nothing personal), this memoir—at once dark and hopeful—shatters precedents about grief, anger, and family trauma with surprising tenderness and humor.

robert fagles antigone: *The Watch* Joydeep Roy-Bhattacharya, 2012-05-17 'The first great

novel of the war in Afghanistan' Wall Street Journal You've had no sleep since the firefight last night. The morning fog beyond the walls of your base lifts to reveal a lone woman approaching the gate. She says she has come to claim the body of her brother killed in last night's attack. Is she a terrorist? A spy? A lunatic? Or what she says she is – a grieving sister? What should you do? What do you do? Shortlisted for the Criticos Prize and the Boeke Prize and longlisted for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award and the DSC Asian Literature Prize. One of Publishers Weekly's Ten best contemporary war novels.

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

robert fagles antigone: The Trojan Women: A Comic Euripides, Anne Carson, 2021-05-25 A fantastic comic-book collaboration between the artist Rosanna Bruno and the poet Anne Carson, based on Euripides's famous tragedy A NEW YORK TIMES BEST GRAPHIC NOVEL OF 2021 Here is a new comic-book version of Euripides's classic The Trojan Women, which follows the fates of Hekabe, Andromache, and Kassandra after Troy has been sacked and all its men killed. This collaboration between the visual artist Rosanna Bruno and the poet and classicist Anne Carson attempts to give a genuine representation of how human beings are affected by warfare. Therefore, all the characters take the form of animals (except Kassandra, whose mind is in another world).

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