

Four Texts On Socrates Euthyphro Apology Crito Aristophanes Clouds

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translations of four major works of ancient greek literature which treat the life and thought of socrates focusing particularly on his trial and defense and on the charges against him

this book offers translations of four major works of ancient greek literature which treat the life and thought of socrates focusing particularly on his trial and defense the platonic dialogues euthyphro apology of socrates and crito and on the charges against socrates aristophanes comedy the clouds this is the only collection of the three platonic dialogues which also includes the clouds a work that is fundamental for understanding the thought of socrates in relation to the athenian political community and to greek poetry thomas g west s introduction provides an overview of the principal themes and arguments of the four works there are extensive explanatory notes to the translations

more than 2 400 years after his death socrates remains an iconic but controversial figure to his followers he personified progressive greek ideals of justice and wisdom to his detractors he was a corruptor of the young during wartime and one of the reasons athens had suffered a humiliating defeat to sparta in 404 bc socrates story is one of historic proportions and his unyielding pursuit of truth remains controversial and relevant to the present day socrates on trial presents the story of socrates as told to us by aristophanes plato xenophon and others the play uses fresh language to emphasize what is important in the works of these ancient authors while at the same time remaining faithful to the general tenor and tone of their writings andrew irvine has created a script that not only fits comfortably into the space of a single theatrical performance but is also informative and entertaining suited for informal dramatic readings as well as regular theatrical performances socrates on trial will undoubtedly appeal to instructors and students and its informative introduction enhances its value as a resource complete with production and classroom notes this modern recasting of the socrates story will make riveting reading both inside and outside the classroom

for socrates philosophy is not like christian conversion from error to truth but rather it is like the pagan process whereby a young man is initiated into cult mysteries by a more experienced man the mystagogos who prepares him and leads him to the sacred precinct in greek cult religion the mystagogos prepared the initiate for the esoteric mysteries revealed by the hierophant socrates treats traditional wisdom with scepticism and this makes him appear ridiculous or dangerous in the eyes of cultural conservatives nevertheless his scepticism is not radical custom is not something on which we must turn our backs if we are to pursue the truth socrates assumes an epistemology and employs a method by which he induces his companions to begin the critical and self critical process of philosophical inquiry not ignoring conventional wisdom but thinking through and reinterpreting it as they make constructive progress towards the truth he provides conclusive and convincing arguments in support of controversial answers to some of the most important moral

questions he poses

lampooned in 406 b c e in a blistering aristophanic satire socrates was tried in 399 b c e on a charge of corrupting the youth convicted by a jury of about five hundred of his peers and condemned to death glimpsed today through the extant writings of his contemporaries and near contemporaries he remains for us as compelling enigmatic and elusive a figure as jesus or buddha although present day like ancient greek opinion on the real socrates diverges widely six classic texts that any informed judgment of him must take into account appear together for the first time in this volume those of plato and xenophon appear in new previously unpublished translations that combine accuracy accessibility and readability that of aristophanes clouds offers these same qualities in an unbawdlerized translation that captures brilliantly the bite of aristophanes wit an introduction to each text and judicious footnotes provide crucial background information and important cross references

great trials and the law in the historical imagination a law and humanities approach introduces readers to the history of law and issues in historical legal and artistic interpretation by examining six well known historical trials through works of art that portray them great trials provides readers with an accessible non dogmatic introduction to the interdisciplinary law and humanities approach to law legal history and legal interpretation by examining how six famous notorious trials in western history have been portrayed in six major works of art the book shows how issues of legal historical and artistic interpretation can become intertwined the different ways we embed law in narrative how we bring conscious and subconscious conceptions of history to our interpretation of law and how aesthetic predilections and moral commitments to the law may influence our views of history the book studies well known depictions of the trials of socrates cicero jesus thomas more the salem witches and john scopes and provides innovative analyses of those works the epilogue examines how historical methodology and historical imagination are crucial to both our understanding of the law and our aesthetic choices through various readings of harper lee s beloved character atticus finch the first book to employ a law and humanities approach to delve into the institution of the trial and what it means in different legal systems at different historical times this book will appeal to academics students and others with interests in legal history law and popular culture and law and the humanities

a reissue of a classic text norms and nobility is a provocative reappraisal of classical education that offers a

workable program for contemporary school reform David Hicks contends that the classical tradition promotes a spirit of inquiry that is concerned with the development of style and conscience which makes it an effective and meaningful form of education dismissing notions that classical education is elitist and irrelevant Hicks argues that the classical tradition can meet the needs of our increasingly technological society as well as serve as a feasible model for mass education

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