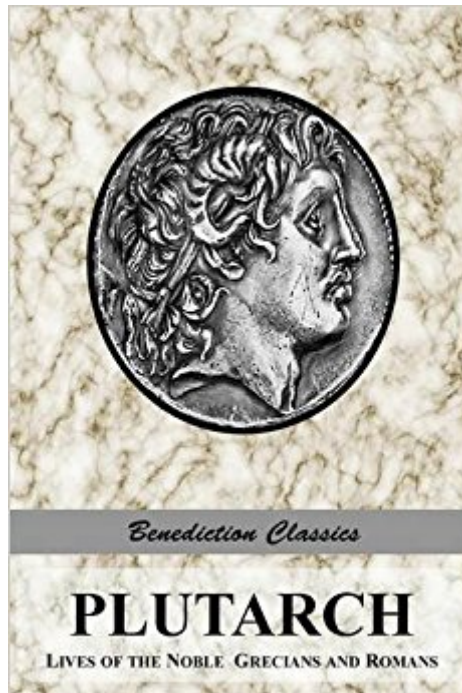


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PLUTARCH: Lives Of The Noble Grecians And Romans (Complete And Unabridged)



Synopsis

The complete text of Clough's edition of Plutarch's Lives; containing fifty lives and eighteen comparisons.

Book Information

Paperback: 1008 pages

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Customer Reviews

I really don't know what to say to one who is unfamiliar with this book. It moves from the mythical of Romulus and Theseus to the historical of Caesar and Alexander with several enlightening figures between and after. Along with Herodotus, Suetonius, and perhaps Livy, you must read this to have any understanding of the foundations of Western civilization Oh, I forgot to mention these minibios of famous men are racy, adventurous, and humorous. Get hip to the Classics

This e-version doesn't have all the great foot notes of the Loeb Classical Library version but it is in a very convenient form and true to the original text. The content is timeless. Should you be so inclined, you might find modern examples of matching or contrasting personalities, styles and situations.

This translation is hard to follow. I would recommend getting the other bite-sized versions, which are much clearer than this version. Look up "Plutarch's Lives, Volume I".

This is a review of the free Kindle edition. It has the text in an OK translation, but the table of contents is very awkwardly presented, and it is not linked to the chapters. Thus it is more or less

impossible (in this very long book) to find the chapter you want. It's like looking for a needle in a haystack. Unless you are desperate, do not bother with this.

After reading Montaigne's essays, I wanted to see the original Plutarch for myself. He is fascinating and full of stories, some of which I had heard of before, like the Spartan boy who didn't flinch as a fox he had hidden under his cloak ate his stomach out and killed him. I'm not done with Plutarch yet, but I love what I've read and will now go and read some more. He makes the ancient world of the Greeks and Romans come alive for me, as he did for Montaigne.

How does one rate greatness? My words might last for 15 minutes (if I am lucky), but the words of Plutarch have originated when the nature of our present society was in its infancy. Even though I am fortunate to read and understand at an academic level, I found it difficult to keep everything in the perspective that Plutarch had in mind when he wrote them. Part of the problems that I think I am having is that this is the first book that I read by this author or even from this era. I am not familiar with most of the folks that he talked about, and it sounds like the author had difficulty in ascertaining the truth about some of the persons he described. Often Plutarch had only the places or celebratory events named after the individual that he wrote about. Second, I found it difficult to keep in mind that he was comparing the Greek great figures with the respective Roman great figures from a historical perspective. IMHO his writing leads to our modern society's idea that our young should study and emulate the greats in our modern society in order to become a better person - mind you, we often need to overlook their human weaknesses, as we all have some. So I came to the conclusion that Plutarch was not only a great writer, but a historian and also a philosopher. The difficulty I had in reading and understanding Plutarch's work had to do with weakness on my part, and not on the author's. I hope that one of my grandchildren studies Plutarch in college, so that I will have someone to discuss and analyze Plutarch's work with.

This particular translation uses very stilted language. I recall a much easier to read translation when I had a version printed by Black Reader Service in the 70's. I think I will try and find out what that translation was and get that version. This one is nearly unreadable.

Plutarch is someone who should be read by anyone who is a history buff, especially if they are interested in the Romans and Greeks. He gives a really fine comparison between similar types of people in both of these societies. Remember these were the societies which formed our western

civilization. I would have to imagine that this is required reading in an ancient history studies. If it isn't, it should be. It's free, so try it. You can always erase it if you don't find it as interesting as I did.

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