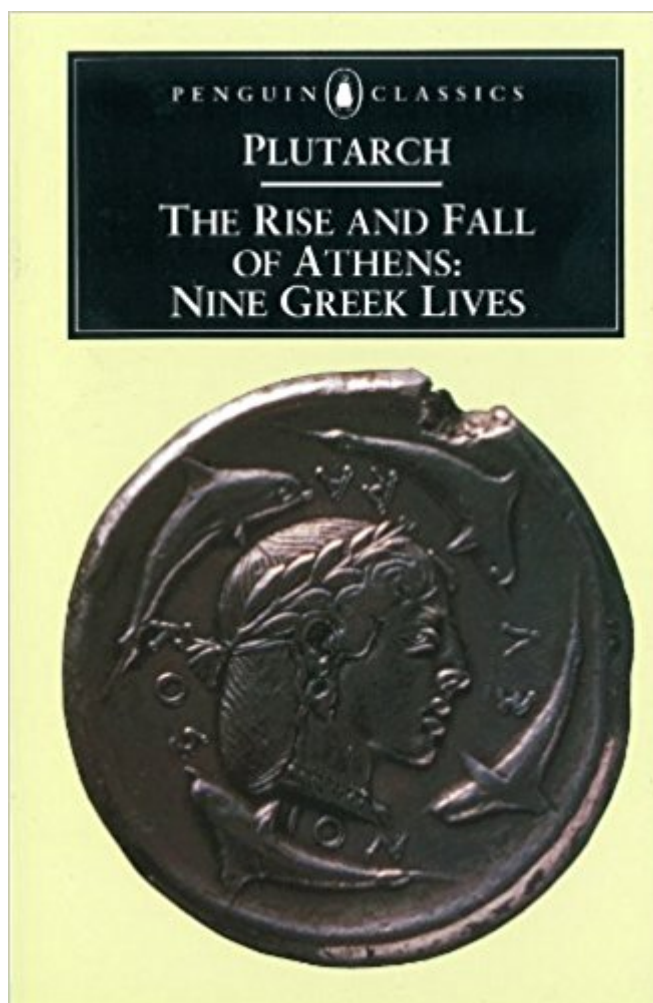


The book was found

The Rise And Fall Of Athens: Nine Greek Lives



Synopsis

Nine Greek biographies illustrate the rise and fall of Athens, from the legendary days of Theseus, the city's founder, through Solon, Themistocles, Aristides, Cimon, Pericles, Nicias, and Alcibiades, to the razing of its walls by Lysander. 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.

Book Information

Series: Classics

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Penguin Classics; New Impression edition (September 30, 1960)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140441026

ISBN-13: 978-0140441024

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #78,387 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Biographies &

Memoirs > Historical > Europe > Greece #101 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History &

Criticism > Movements & Periods > Ancient & Classical #132 in Books > Literature & Fiction >

History & Criticism > Movements & Periods > Medieval

Customer Reviews

Plutarch (c.50-c.120 AD) was a writer and thinker born into a wealthy, established family of Chaeronea in central Greece. He received the best possible education in rhetoric and philosophy, and traveled to Asia Minor and Egypt. Later, a series of visits to Rome and Italy contributed to his fame, which was given official recognition by the emperors Trajan and Hadrian. Plutarch rendered conscientious service to his province and city (where he continued to live), as well as holding a priesthood at nearby Delphi. His voluminous surviving writings are broadly divided into the "moral" works and the Parallel Lives of outstanding Greek and Roman leaders. The former (Moralia) are a mixture of rhetorical and antiquarian pieces, together with technical and moral

philosophy (sometimes in dialogue form). The Lives have been influential from the Renaissance onwards.

very good condition

very good

Very nice binding in this edition looks great on the shelf. They don't make books like this anymore. Worth getting if you like old prints.

It's a classic and it's Plutarch.

I just got back from the Greek Isles last year. This book is better than those I bought and looked at there.

This book does a disservice to the academic community. Obviously intended for undergraduates or those who may have some interest in the classics, Penguin has chopped up some of Plutarch's Parallel Lives of the Greeks and Romans and presented them as a history of the Rise and Fall of Athens. There are two primary problems with this method of presentation. First, Plutarch's aim in writing this work was to highlight the parallels between Greek and Roman public figures and show in each the importance of a virtuous character. By selecting only the Greek lives Penguin deliberately subverts the author's explicit intention. Second, Plutarch's lives are meant, not as history, but as moral exemplars. By no means is this text anything like an account of The Rise and Fall of Athens. The reader will gain no insight into what made Athens so distinctive and important to Western civilization. Even Thucydides' account of the Peloponnesian war gives more insight into Athens' distinctiveness (see Pericles' Funeral Oration) and, moreover, is a work of real history. I am not sure what the editors at Penguin were thinking in selecting these lives and selling the book as the Rise and Fall of Athens (a hackneyed phrase if ever there was one). Interested readers should turn to one of the many versions of the Lives available on the internet before wasting their money on this dismemberment of Plutarch.

The nature of the polis has been floating around my head of late. The clear decline of American democracy has been chronicled from the Classical perspective by the late Senator Robert C. Byrd

in his "The Senate of the Roman Republic: Addresses on the History of Roman Constitutionalism". It is a look at the failure of republicanism from a distance of 2000 years. This excerpt from Plutarch's "Parallel Lives" covers the rise and fall of not just the Athenian Empire but Athenian democracy from Plutarch's perspective of 400 years. Covering the lives, intrigues, and machinations of eight Athenians and one Spartan it follows the heights of honor and patriotism, and the lows of avarice and traitorous behavior. As one reads the work one realizes that the capacity of brilliance and darkness is a commonality of the human experience. While the Ancients are alien to us, they are also still lurking within for better and worst. As Plutarch envisioned in his original historiography these individuals are meant to provide a moral lesson on the nature of the body politic. It is as applicable today as it was 2000 years ago. As we regard the antics and corruption of our democracy at all levels we see the same repugnant behaviors and greed acting as a disintegrating process including wars, recessions, trading and military alliances, and irrational partisanship. Hopefully, through the positive insights we can find a way to redeem our politics and our nation.

The sketches contained here of nine influential Greeks are fascinating on their own account even though they were originally written as part of the parallel lives of Greeks and Romans. I don't pretend to be a scholar of Ancient Greece but I do have a keen interest in it and I found Plutarch's writing in this interpretation and Penguin Edition quite accessible and as I became more engrossed actually very engaging and exciting in sections. Organized chronologically he covers Theseus the founder of Athens, Solon the lawgiver, and various military and political figures who follow most notably Pericles. I found the sections on Nicias, Alcibiades and Lysander absolutely fascinating in their descriptions of later military campaigns, particularly the campaign in Sicily against the Syracusians. Alcibiades emerged for me as one of the more interesting characters who combines great military leadership with personal flaws to an astonishing degree. I've had this book on the shelf for a long time and now that I finally picked it up it was much more of an exciting read than I had expected. Highly recommend it.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Athens: The best Athens Travel Guide: The Best Travel Tips About Where to Go and What to See in Athens (Athens tour guide, Athens travel ... Travel to Greece, Travel to Athens) Greek: Greek Recipes - The Very Best Greek Cookbook (Greek recipes, Greek cookbook, Greek cook book, Greek recipe, Greek recipe book) The Rise and Fall of Athens: Nine Greek Lives The Rise and Fall of Athens: Nine Greek Lives (Classics) GREEK MYTHOLOGY: Greek Gods Of Ancient Greece And Other Greek Myths - Discovering Greek History & Mythology - 3rd Edition - With Pics (Greece,

Greek, Egyptian ... Greek History, Mythology, Myths Book 1) Athens 25 Secrets - The Locals Travel Guide For Your Trip to Athens 2017 (Greece): Skip the tourist traps and explore like a local : Where to Go, Eat & Party in Athens 2017 Athens in 3 Days - A 72 Hours Perfect Plan with the Best Things to Do in Athens (Travel Guide 2017): 3 Days Itinerary,Where to Stay,What to See,Food Guide,How to Get to the Greek Islands&10 Day-Trips Greece: Greece Travel Guide: 101 Coolest Things to Do in Greece (Athens Travel Guide, Rhodes Travel, Crete Travel, Santorini Travel, Corfu Travel, Greek History, Greek Islands) Greek Mythology: Greek Gods of Ancient Greece and Other Greek Myths Greek Mythology: A Concise Guide to Ancient Gods, Heroes, Beliefs and Myths of Greek Mythology (Greek Mythology - Norse Mythology - Egyptian Mythology Book 1) National Geographic Traveler: Athens and the Island (National Geographic Traveler Athens & the Island) Top 20 Things to See and Do in Athens - Top 20 Athens Travel Guide (Europe Travel Series Book 8) Greek Cookbook Series:- Delicious Greek Appetizers: Delicious Homemade Greek Appetizer Recipe one can make from scratch with Detailed Instructions for ... (General Cookbook, healthy, appetizers The Pocket Oxford Greek Dictionary : Greek-English English-Greek Greek Mythology for Kids: From the Gods to the Titans: Greek Mythology Books (Children's Greek & Roman Myths) Frommer's Athens Past & Present (Frommer's Athens Past & Present) Streetwise Athens Map - Laminated City Center Street Map of Athens, Greece - Folding pocket size travel map with metro map Athens Travel Guide: The Top 10 Highlights in Athens (Globetrotter Guide Books) Athens Sights 2011: a travel guide to the top 30 attractions in Athens, Greece (Mobi Sights) Athens PopOut Map: pop-up city street map of Athens city center - folded pocket size travel map with transit map included (PopOut Maps)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)